

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of Silverton Parish Council
held Monday 5th October 2020 at 7.30 p.m. via Zoom

Present: Parish Cllrs A Melville (Chairman), F Derbyshire, S Cross, V Maylan, L Trebble, & S Roach

District Cllrs J Wright and B Deed

Mr Marcus and Mrs Sarah Hilton also joined the meeting

Minute 113234 Applications for Co-option to Parish Council

Two applications have been received:

(a) District Cllr Josh Wright addressed the Parish Council and confirmed his willingness to be co-opted onto the Council. After discussion he indicated that if co-opted he would not participate in the planning discussions at Parish level in order to be independent. The Chairman proposed District Cllr Wright be co-opted onto the Parish Council. Cllr S Roach seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous

Cllr Wright thereafter read out the Declaration of Acceptance of Office to the meeting and would sign this during the month with the Clerk witnessing his signature

(b) An application had been received from Mr Vincent Miller of Oak Close. After discussion it was agreed to ask Mr Miller to virtually attend the November meeting when his application would be considered further.

Minute 113235 To note any Declarations of Interest

None declared

Minute 113236 To note any apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr G Perkins, K Faulhaber and County Cllr M Squires

Minute 113237 Meeting open to any questions from members of the public – 10 mins

Mrs Hilton explained they had attended the meeting in order to give the Parish Council an opportunity to raise any questions they may have in relation to their planning application at Greenslinch House which was being considered at this meeting. Mrs Hilton stated they were moving to the village from Manchester and giving a background to the application and confirmed they had consulted with their neighbours throughout the process. The Parish Council had no questions to raise and the Chairman thanked Mr and Mrs Hilton for their attendance.

Minute 113238**Minutes of the meeting held on the 7th September 2020**

The Chairman proposed the Minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting. Cllr Derbyshire seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous

Minute 113239**Review of Action Plan**

Bus Shelter The bus shelter had now been repaired and thanks were expressed to Cllr Wright for arranging for the work to be carried out.

Neighbourhood Plan Cllr Trebble stated that Locality had contacted the Committee to encourage them to forward the Plan to the Government due to the fact that the planning procedure is due to be made easier in the near future with the result Neighbourhood Plans may be overridden now.

Jubilee Garden It was noted that as the new grass was now growing the Council would need to consider having this cut. This to be an Agenda item for November.

Disabled Access This work had now been concluded.

Old Skate Ramp It was noted that children had been seen playing behind the Harris Fencing and it was agreed the Clerk and Chairman would draft a Notice pointing out that anyone gaining access to the old skate ramp did so at their own risk. Notices to be placed on Facebook, Silverleigh Newsletter and the Noticeboard.

Tennis Net The Chairman thanked Cllr Wright for recently erecting the new net

Minute 113240**Discussion with District Cllrs J Wright and B Deed and County Cllr M Squires**

It was noted that prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated a monthly update from County Cllr Squires

District Cllr Wright informed the Council that the District Council was currently very busy and had an experienced Cabinet now in place. He confirmed he would keep his eye on the new Planning Regulations. With regard to the Public Space Protection Order, and in particular "dog walking", District Cllr Wright confirmed he would ensure the inclusion of the Children's Play Park on the Schedule to this Order. The District Council is moving forward and looking at budgeting with regard to being Zero Carbon by 2030.

District Cllr Deed stated there had been Cabinet changes and an extraordinary meeting of the Full Council had been called to consider having no confidence in the Leader. He confirmed he continued to be the Leader of the District Council. The Cabinet included 4 Conservative members who are very experienced. He

said that East Devon District Council had decided not to support the Exeter Strategic Plan. District Cllr Deed said he was Chair of leaders of the District Councils and is looking to co-operate. MDDC, North Devon, East Devon and Teignbridge District Council need to double the houses built from circa 7,000 to circa 13,000. Exeter only has a 5% uplift which means it will build its quota within their own limits whereas MDDC has a 95% uplift.

With regard to the Three Rivers, it is hoped the main contractor will move asap to the site in Tiverton.

A lot of work is being undertaken with regard to COVID-19. The spike in Exeter is mainly at the University which is being very stringent. Currently there are 5 cases of COVID 19 in the Thorverton/Silverton/Bradninch area and the RD&E is at level "Opal 3" with the highest level being "Opal 4".

The Planning White Paper has two parts with the first deadline for responses having been last Thursday. The Paper can be viewed on the MDDC Website.

With regard to the Devolution and Reorganisation, this has been shelved until after Christmas. If a Unitary Council is adopted it is likely a lot of issues will be passed down to Parish Council levels.

With regard to the Climate Strategy and Action Plan a Climate Officer has been employed.

Minute 113241 Planning

Cllr J Wright took no part in the discussions as he is a District Councillor for the Ward and wishes to remain independent of the Parish Council so as to be able to represent parishioners if asked

(a) Applications:

20/01315/CAT – 20/01550/CAT – notification of intention to dismantle 1 Ash tree to ground level and reduce the canopies of 1 Copper Maple and 1 Variegated Maple tree by 1m in the Conservation Area – The Berry Barn 4 Church Road, Silverton

Cllr Roach proposed that the Parish Council supported the above application. Cllr Derbyshire seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with 7 in favour and one abstention

20/01489/CAT – Notification of intention to reduce limbs of 1 Sycamore tree, 1 Ash tree and 1 Horse Chestnut tree overhanging by 4 metres within a Conservation Area – land to the South of 72 Wyndham Road, Silverton

Cllr Maylan proposed that the Parish Council supported the above application. Cllr Cross seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with 7 in favour and 1 abstention

20/01472/HOUSE – extension and alterations to existing garage – Bycott, School Road, Silverton

Concerns were raised as the description in the notification from MDDC differed from that given in the Planning Application and the materials being used. The Planning Application does not confirm the property is in a Conservation Area and also refers to a “store” whereas the classification on planning is a “house” application.

The Chairman proposed that District Cllr Wright seek clarification as to the proposed works being carried out. Cllr Derbyshire seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with 7 in favour and 1 abstention.

20/01488/CAT – Notification of intention to reduce the crown of 1 Sycamore tree by approximately 6m within the Conservation Area – 9 Fore Street, Silverton

Cllr Roach proposed that the Parish Council supported the above application. Cllr Cross seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with 7 in favour and 1 abstention.

20/01455/HOUSE – erection of single storey side extension and removal of existing conservatory – Greenslinch House, Silverton

Cllr Derbyshire proposed that the Parish Council supported the above application. Cllr Roach seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with 7 in favour and 1 abstention.

20/01449/CAT – Notification of intention to cut back 1 Ash tree to 3m, 1 Birch tree and 1 Copper Beech tree by 1.5m and main branch of 1 Eucalyptus tree by 3m and remove subsidiary branch within a Conservation Area – Bycott, School Road, Silverton

It was noted that with regard to the garage application (20/00472) this mentions that no trees will be affected however in this application permission is required to cut back trees. It was agreed to ask District Cllr Wright to also seek clarification on this application.

(b) Approvals / Refusals

APPROVAL – Variation of Condition 13 of Planning Permission 18/02000/FULL to extend the opening hours to Monday-Saturday 0700-2200 and Sunday/Bank Holidays 0700-1800 – Exe Valley Farm Shop, Thorverton

NO OBJECTION relating to the intention to lift the crown of 1 English Elm by 1.5m within the Conservation Area – Little Hayes, 1 Tuns Lane, Silverton

(c) Any other Planning matters

The Clerk stated that she had requested an extension of time to comment on Reference 20/01102/PNCOU – change of use of an agricultural building to 1 dwelling under Class Q at Underleigh Farm, Butterleigh. However, she had been informed by the Planning Officer that this was not possible as the application would be determined prior to the Parish Council meeting. The Clerk to forward a copy of the email from the Planning Officer to District Cllr Deed.

Minute 113242 Finances

(a) Monthly invoices

Mrs S Woodland – Clerk's monthly wages (£583.50) + expenses (£73.94 – Tennis Net) £657.44

Mr D Marsden – Contractor's monthly invoice - £300

HMRC - Clerk's Tax - £437.60

A D Isaac Landscape Services – disabled access to Little Rec - £1,690.00

Marbles F D Limited – replacement cheque re internal audit - £480.00

Mr L C Sanders – gilding of Parish Clock - £1,194.00

The chairman explained that the cheque in payment of the internal audit had been sent to the Auditor's office in London as requested on the invoice but since COVID-19 restrictions the office had not been open. It was noted the Internal Auditor had confirmed he would destroy the original cheque and the revised cheque would be sent to his Silverton address.

The Chairman proposed the above accounts be passed for payment. Cllr Wright seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous.

(b) Other financial matters

(i) Consider cost of new Football Posts

It was noted that the Contractor had reported the current posts were beginning to rot and new posts would be required. Various figures had been obtained by the Clerk from the internet which varied greatly. Cllr Wright stated that he could make enquiries at his School as to the cost of the goal posts they have. After discussion the Chairman proposed that Cllr Wright obtain 3 quotes to replace the current football goal posts if the cost will be in excess of £250.00. If the cost is less than £500.00 Cllr Wright be given authority to proceed. Cllr Maylan seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous

(ii) Consider cost of new post for fencing at the sump.

The Contractor had indicated his son would carry out the work to attach the post to the wall for the sum of £100.00. Cllr Roach proposed the Parish Council accept this quote subject to a written quotation being received direct from the Contractor's son. The Chairman seconds the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous.

(iii) Annual review of Financial Regulations

Cllr Roach proposed the Financial Regulations remain unaltered. The Chairman seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous.

Minute 113243 **Annual review of Statement on Internal Control**

The Chairman proposed the Statement on Internal Control remains unaltered. Cllr Derbyshire seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous

Minute 113244 **Update re “20 is Plenty” Campaign**

The Chairman confirmed this campaign is progressing and he thanked Cllrs Perkins and Wright for their work to date.

Cllr Wright stated that the “20 is plenty” signs do make you think about the speed you are driving through the village.

Minute 113245 **Request from C Martin for a gate to be placed in the railings behind the War Memorial**

It was noted that due to COVID-19 restrictions the service will have to take place on the Little Rec this year. The request for a gate in the railings can be discussed during the year and is not a request for this year. As the War Memorial is listed a query was made as to whether any grants would be available to carry out this work.

A request had also been made to place a table on the Little Rec on the 24th October in order to sell poppies. All necessary social distancing will be carried out and hand sanitisers will be available. Cllr Roach proposed the Parish Council agree to this request. Cllr Derbyshire seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which was unanimous

Minute 113246 **Public consultation for Devon’s Updated Local Flood Risk Management Strategy**

It was agreed the Parish Council would make no response

Minute 113247 **Matters brought forward by the Chairman**

Cllr Maylan stated that Cllr Steer was organising a Silverton Speed Watch. Currently there was herself and one other volunteer.

Cllr Wright informed the meeting that the Highway Code was being reviewed and it may be that the Local Authorities powers will be extended in relation to vehicles parking on pavements. He stated this might be a possible future Agenda Item as it tied in with the “20 is Plenty” Campaign.

Meeting closed at 21:05