

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of Silverton Parish Council
held Monday 7th December 2020 at 7.30 p.m. via Zoom

Present: Parish Cllrs A Melville (Chairman), F Derbyshire, S Cross, V Maylan, V Miller, L Trebble (joined late), G Perkins, S Steer, J Wright (as Parish & District Councillor), K Faulhaber & S Roach

District Cllrs B Deed, J Wright and County Councillor M Squires

Minute 113262 **To note any Declarations of Interest**

None

Minute 113263 **To note any apologies**

None

Minute 113264 **Meeting open to any questions from members of the public – 10 mins**

No members of the public attended the Zoom meeting

Minute 113265 **Minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd November 2020**

The Chairman proposed the Minutes be accepted as a true record. Cllr Derbyshire seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with 7 in favour and 3 abstentions

The Chairman advised that at the previous meeting Cllr Deed had indicated that a proposition by a Chairman did not require a seconder. Advice had been taken from Devon Association of Parish Council who stated that as the Parish Council Standing Orders were silent on this point the vote could be taken in any form the Parish Council wished. The Chairman suggested that the procedure remain as current but to review the position when the Standing Orders were next considered.

Minute 113266 **Review of Action Plan**

Cllr Derbyshire queried if the new roundabout had been installed and Cllr Maylan stated the base had been installed and Harris fencing erected and therefore she anticipated the work would be completed in the near future.

Cllr Steer pointed out the transfer of various grassed areas in the village had been discussed back in 2018 and no progress appears to have been made since then. The Chairman explained to new Councillors that the Parish Council were to have talks with MDDC with a view to the Parish Council taking over responsibility for the grass cutting of these areas. Due to the National

Lockdown this year a meeting had not as yet been possible but the Clerk would contact MDDC to see the earliest a meeting could be scheduled.

Cllr Trebble joined the meeting at this point.

The Chairman proposed the Action Plan circulated by the Clerk be accepted. Cllr Maylan seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with all Councillors in favour.

Minute 113267 Discussion with District Cllrs J Wright and B Deed and County Cllr M Squires

A report provided by County Cllr Squires had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. County Cllr Squires stated she had noticed that problems were currently being encountered at Ellerhayes in relation to inconsiderate parking of vehicles when people are walking at Killerton. The Police had suggested double yellow lines in this area and if the Parish Council supported this suggestion she could note this on her annual list of suggested double yellow lines. With regard to a Speed Watch in the parish County Cllr Squires stressed that a need must be established as to what is safe and what is not. She reiterated that “20 is plenty” signs need to be green in colour as red signs contradict National Speed Signage. County Cllr Squires confirmed provision was being made by Devon County Council for children throughout Devon for meals during the Christmas period and the Half-Term and Easter periods. District Cllr Deed stated that £1k had been put aside for Devon County Council and 15,000 vouchers valued at £15 each per qualifying children had been provided to date.

Cllr Steer raised a question regarding the state of the road from Park Road to Red Cross and pointed out previously parishioners had been asked to log any faults on the DCC Website. He stated that when he had viewed the Website prior to the meeting no faults were logged and he logged a pothole which is dangerous along that stretch of road. County Cllr Squires reiterated that the quickest way to report a dangerous pothole is on line. She pointed out Devon has an enormous number of roads and repairs are prioritised centrally with “A” roads being repaired first and minor roads at a later date and she has no input whatsoever into these decisions. She confirmed she would speak to the Highways Officer and request a further site meeting.

The Chairman reminded the meeting that County Cllr Squires had reported back to the Parish Council earlier in the year and confirmed works had been approved for this stretch of road and there is a scheme already in place. County Cllr Squires confirmed she would ask for an update.

Cllr Perkins stated that a contractor had marked out depth markings throughout the village some 8 weeks ago.

It was generally felt this stretch of road was dangerous and the possibility of traffic lights was discussed and the Chairman suggested that County Cllr

Squires be asked to clarify the position with regard to the scheme on this stretch of road to ascertain if the works are likely to be carried out during this financial year. It was noted the delay in repair work had created a more dangerous situation. County Cllr Squires will also ask if another site visit had been carried out and any appropriate action required from that meeting taken. The pot hole defect reference number for this area is “**W201375179**”.

Cllr Roach raised concerns that potholes which had previously been filled and now breaking down again.

District Cllr Wright confirmed the MDDC Covid-19 Grant was ongoing and anyone needing additional help can apply. A new officer had been appointed to the Climate Change Committee. He had attended a Governance meeting recently. The Three Rivers Developments Limited were being checked by the Scrutiny Committee to ensure all was in order.

District Cllr Deed stated that all MDDC residents pay to have services provided both by MDDC and DCC and other services via their Council Tax. He does not subscribe to problems now being caused by COVID-19 especially where potholes have been a problem for many years. If any problems are being experienced with MDDC as a result of COVID-19 then parishioners should report this to their District Councillors direct.

District Cllr Deed confirmed 2 external members had been appointed to the Three Rivers and it is anticipated works will be approved in February.

Car parking during December in the three main car parks in Tiverton, Crediton and Cullompton will be free during Saturdays and Sundays in December 2020 and Saturdays during January 2021 in order to boost local trade. District Cllr Deed confirmed £20k in subsidies had already been given to traders throughout the three towns/.

The District Council were currently looking at a £3k shortfall in budget for the current year which could result in reduced services and an increase in Council Tax for the forthcoming year. He pointed out Local Authorities do not have the budget to maintain current services and the forthcoming year will not be easy.

With regard to vaccinations these should be available for care homes but currently the nearest vaccination centres are Yeovil or Plymouth.

Minute 113268 Planning

Cllr J Wright took no part in the following planning 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:

20/01875/HOUSE – Conversion and side extension to existing garage to form annex and front extension to form new garage – 26 Ellerhayes Hele

Cllr Faulhaber proposed the Parish Council supports the above application. Cllr Cross seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with all Councillors in favour

20/01803/HOUSE – Erection of single storey side extension – 1 Ellerhayes, Hele

Cllr Faulhaber proposed the Parish Council supports the above application. Cllr Cross seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with all Councillors in favour.,

20/01807/OUT – Outline for the erection of 3 dwellings including access and associated works with some matters reserved – Land and buildings North of St Mary's View, Wyndham Road, Silverton

After considering various issues (additional traffic on Wyndham Road, access onto Wyndham Road, need for larger homes in the village, carbon neutral) Cllr Steer proposed the Parish Council supports the above application. Cllr Faulhaber seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with 10 Councillors in favour and 1 against.

20/01921/TPO – Application to remove dead branches of 1 Oak tree protected by TPO – 17 Hederman Close, Silverton

Cllr Derbyshire proposed the Parish Council supports the above application. Cllr Perkins seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with all Councillors in favour.

20/01893/TPO – Application to remove overhanging branches of 1 Oak tree protected by TPO – 19 Hederman Close, Silverton

Cllr Derbyshire proposed the Parish Council supports the above application. Cllr Trebble seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with all Councillors in favour.

(b) Approvals / Refusals

APPROVAL – Extension and alterations to existing garage – Bycott, School Road, Silverton

APPROVAL – Demolition of garage, erection of single storey side extension, open front porch and covered veranda – 4 Old Butterleigh Road Silverton

(c) Any other Planning matters

None

Minute 113269 **Finances**

(a) Monthly invoices

Mrs S Woodland – Clerk's wages (£583.30) + expenses (Internet security £49.99 + rivets for Skate Ramp repairs, rivet Gun and drill bit £50.79

Mr D Marsden – public liability insurance (£228.00)

Mr D Marsden – Contractor's monthly invoice (£300.00)

Mrs E Trebble – repayment of Neighbourhood Plan Zoom expenses (£43.17)

Mr D Marsden – repairs to sump wall in Recreation Field (£100.00)

The Chairman proposed the above invoices be accepted for payment. Cllr Maylan seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with all Councillors in favour.

(b) Other financial matters

(i) **Grass cutting – Jubilee Gardens update**

It was agreed the Clerk would chase the contractor for the quotation and also point out that the grass in the parish was very long.

(ii) **Update re old skate ramp – to consider any tenders received**

The Chairman thanked Cllr Faulhaber for preparing the specification. Only one tender had been received and that was from Mr Stuart Luxton at a cost of £3,650.00.

Cllr Maylan reiterated that there would be both top soil and sub soil available in the New Year when works are carried out at her property which the Parish Council could use.

After discussion the Chairman proposed the Parish Council go back to tender and amend the specification (1) the concrete ramp would not be broken up (2) the soil to infill would be sourced locally and (3) the works to be completed in the Spring when the weather conditions would hopefully be improved. Cllr Roach seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with 10 in favour and 1 abstention.

(iii) **Neighbourhood Plan printer**

Cllr Trebble indicated that the Neighbourhood Plan were not using the printer due to the amount of printing which was required and the cost of replacement inks which were circa £22.00 for a pack of 2. One pack prints circa 100 sheets. She pointed out that when the Consultation is arranged the printing will cost somewhere in the region of £88. Cllr Steer queried if the printing was necessary but Cllr Trebble pointed out the information has to be available for everyone in the Parish and not all parishioners have access to computers. A question was raised regarding external printing and Cllr Trebble confirmed this was to be discussed at the next Neighbourhood Plan meeting.

The Parish Council noted additional printing costs may be incurred in due course.

Minute 113270 Consideration of adopting the telephone box/bus shelter for community use

District Cllr Deed pointed out that Bickleigh were well on their way to adopting their telephone box for local use. It was noted that there is a formal closure procedure to enter into when BT would relinquish all its rights and liabilities towards the telephone box and these would become the responsibility of the owner of the box. This is a Listed Building and it was agreed it is a decision the Parish Council should not take lightly as although the box may not be used frequently it is still an amenity in the village.

With regard to the bus shelter, it was noted this was also a Listed Building and consists of two different buildings with neighbours.

The Chairman suggested that this discussion be treated as a preliminary meeting and Councillors should speak with parishioners to try and ascertain their views. Further time was required for the Parish Council to consider the proposals in detail.

Minute 113271 **Silverton Speed Watch**

It was noted Devon & Cornwall Constabulary are not currently taking on any new schemes with the consequence that no new training is taking place. Cllr Steer confirmed that he had made his initial application for a Silverton Speed Watch in his capacity as a parishioner and not a Parish Councillor.

After discussion the Chairman proposed that the Parish Council supports a Silverton Speed Watch Committee which would be led by Cllr Steer in consultation with Cllr Perkins. Cllr Wright seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with all Councillors in favour.

Minute 113272 **Update re “20 is Plenty” Campaign**

Cllr Perkins confirmed he had been in email contact with volunteers but a face to face meeting is really needed as soon as possible to move the campaign forward.

Cllr Steer suggested that the Committee follow Bradninch’s lead in getting support from local companies and suggested that maybe 20/20 Properties or Whitton and Laing may agree to produce similar signs.

County Cllr Squires reiterated that all non-statutory signs are required to be on private land. She reported that Newton Abbot are currently trialling a “20 mph” scheme and if successful this may be rolled out over the County in due course. Cllr Perkins stated that once the Community Speed Watch was approved this will have a beneficial knock-on for other signage.

Minute 113273 **Neighbourhood Plan update**

Cllr Trebble indicated that the Committee were currently working their way through their Policies as the MDDC Local Plan had been accepted and the Neighbourhood Plan needs to be tied in with the Local Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan cannot move forward until such time as it is linked to the Local Plan.

Minute 113274 **Agree date for January 2021 Budget Meeting**

It was noted the Precept application had to be submitted to MDDC by 22nd January 2021

It was agreed the 2021 Budget Meeting will be held by Zoom on Monday 18th January 2021 at 7.30 p.m.

Minute 113275 **Correspondence**

(a) email received from the owners of The Lamb re “Take away” food vans attending the village

Cllr Wright confirmed that MDDC do not set zones where food can be served and therefore these vans can visit the village.

Cllr Perkins asked County Cllr Squires that as there are no designated area for the sale of food if there were any regulations on safety grounds – i.e. children running into the road in the dark between vehicles. County Cllr Squires confirmed she would make enquiries but believed this would probably be a police issue.

It was agreed the Parish Council would keep a watching brief on this point.

(b) Inconsiderate parking at junction of Meadow Lea/Wyndham Road

The email received from the Police was noted

(c) Inconsiderate parking at Ellerhayes Bridge

Various correspondence on this point was noted and it was agreed the Parish Council would review the position after COVID-19 restrictions had been lifted.

Cllr Derbyshire pointed out that cars parking right up to corner on the wrong side of the road just past the bridge was incredibly dangerous and asked if bollards could be requested to prevent this parking.

(d) Footpath between Silverdale and High Street – poor condition

It is believed MDDC maintain this footpath. The Clerk will email details to District Cllr Wright who will then follow up.

Minute 113276 **Matters brought forward by the Chairman**

Electric Car Charing Points)
Community Car Sharing) on Agenda for January 2021
Enhanced Recycling)

Cllr Steer queried possible vaccination sites and also pointed out free internet security is available.

Meeting closed at 21:15