

**Minutes of the Meeting of Silverton Parish Council**  
**held Monday 2021 at 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2021 at 7.30 p.m. in the Silverton Community**  
**Hall**

**Present:** Parish Cllrs A Melville (Chairman), F Derbyshire, V Maylan, S Cross, E Trebble and S Roach

**Minute 113378**      **To note any Declarations of Interest**

None

**Minute 113379**      **To note any apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs K Faulhaber, J Wright (also in capacity of District Councillor) and A Webb

At this point the Chairman advised the parish councillors that Mr Bob Vanneck, who had been a parish councillor some years ago, had passed away. A minute's silence was held to reflect on Mr Vanneck's contribution to the parish.

**Minute 113380**      **Meeting open to any questions from members of the public – 10 mins**

Louise Sleep attended the meeting following up from an email she sent the Parish Council at the beginning of July regarding the state of public areas in the village, especially the play park. Louise feels the play park needs attention as it is starting to look a little tired and at least one piece of equipment has been broken for a while. She also mentioned that the pathways on the Rec are getting overgrown with weeds and brambles and the entrance to the Rec from Coach Road, by the sump, is in disrepair with potholes and is unpassable for wheelchairs and buggies. She felt that in general the grass cutting is not being done very well and weeds are not being strimmed. She asked whether the wooden fence could be removed from where the old skate ramp had been filled in and replaced with a pergola or picnic benches. She asked if the Parish Council could allocate money for this when the next budget is set. The Chairman explained that in this year's budget the Parish Council were only able to allocate money to maintaining and repairing play equipment. He also said that if a group would like to fund raise then the Parish Council would support that and look at plans to see where we could help with new play equipment. He explained that each year the Parish Council has a fresh look at the finances and requests are considered. The comments on grass cutting will be passed back. He thanked Louise for coming and said this would be an item for discussion on the September agenda.

Mr Wise was concerned that with the recent inclement weather the books in the Book Swap had got wet. He feels that this is an essential service and asked if a reading room facility could be incorporated into the Community Hall. The Chairman explained that the Book Swap was a community venture and the Parish Council had not been involved, other than to give permission for it to be located on the little Rec. When it was moved from the bus stop, there was strong community feeling that it should stay in the Square. Cllr Roach advised that Mr Wise would need to

approach the Trustees of the community Hall with his idea. The Clerk will pass this on to the Community Hall Trustees via the minutes.

Mr Wise also asked whether Section 106 money could be used on play equipment. The Chairman explained that this is possible and some Section 106 money was used to purchase the new roundabout. However, some Section 106 money has not yet been collected from developers. It is possible for individuals to look on the MDDC website to see Section 106 money that has been collected and what it has been spent on. District Cllr Deed commented that Section 106 money is available to any organisation in the Parish to apply for funds. County Cllr Squires advised that grant funding is available from Viridor if the parish is in their catchment area. She may be also be able to give Locality funding alongside this.

## **Minute 113381      Planning**

### **(a) Applications:**

21/001202/LBC – Listed Building Consent for the removal of part of wall to create rear entrance with door – 1 Newcourt Road, Silverton

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

20/01807/OUT – outline for the erection of 1 dwelling, including access, appearance, landscaping, layout, scale and associated works – land and buildings at NGR 295666 102940 (North of St Marys View), Wyndham Road, Silverton

After discussion Cllr Cross proposed the Parish Council supports the above application. Cllr Trebble seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with 4 in favour and 2 abstentions. Cllr Roach and Cllr Maylan abstained.

21/00649/FULL – Erection of a second agricultural workers dwelling – land at NGR 297625 103438 (Silverhay Farm), Silverton

On discussion, it was felt by councillors that Silverton Parish Council had received this application late, as it was made in March 2021 and Bradninch Town Council had already commented. This could be because the site is on the border of the two parishes. After discussion, Cllr Derbyshire proposed that the Parish Council does not support the above application, as the distribution of land and stock causes us to question whether there is a need for an agricultural worker's dwelling on arable land. Also, the visual impact of overdevelopment of the site on open countryside in that area was of concern. Cllr Roach seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with all in favour.

(the above applications can be viewed at <https://planning.middevon.gov.uk/online-applications/>)

### **(b) Approvals/Refusals (received from MDDC)**

**APPROVAL** – erection of shed – 6 Church Road, Silverton

**AGRICULTURAL/FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT – NO OBJECTION** – prior notification for the proposed formation of new access and hardstanding – land at NGR 296324 101725 (South of Waterleat House) Silverton

**AGRICULTURAL/FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT – NO OBJECTION** – prior notification for the proposed formation of a track – Land at NGR 296324 101725 (South of Waterleat House) Silverton

(b) **Any other planning matters**

None

At this point the Chairman thanked District Cllr Deed and County Cllr Squires for coming to the meeting, even though there was not an agenda slot for them. He asked if they had anything to report that was urgent before the next meeting. District Cllr Deed explained that the LGA are working on a consultation between parish councillors and district councillors to improve communication. If anyone has any ideas on this, the LGA would be grateful to receive them.

County Cllr Squires told us Steve Tucker (Highways) has broken his foot, so will be working from home and unable to do his usual driving around the area assessing road issues. County Cllr Squires asked that any issues are reported in the normal way via the website. The Chairman asked County Cllr Squires to give Steve our best wishes for a swift recovery.

**Minute 113382**      **Finances**

(a) **Monthly invoices**

- (i) Mrs S Woodland – Clerk's wages (£631.79) + expenses (if any)
- (ii) Mr D Marsden – Contractor's monthly invoice (£300.00)
- (iii) EON – electricity to Recreation Field - £46.93

Any other invoices since date of Agenda

- (i) Mr D Marsden – Guttering for Old Fire Station roof (£20)
- (ii) Mr D Marsden – Cutting apple tree back, digging out soil behind back wall of the Old Fire Station and fixing the guttering (£300)

Cllr Derbyshire queried whether the EON payment was higher than usual. The Chairman stated that it was an estimated reading. EON are unable to gain access to the meter to read it, as it is in a locked building. Cllr Roach suggested the possibility of a smart meter being installed to remove the need for meter reading. The Clerk will contact EON regarding this.

The Chairman proposed the Parish Council accept the above payments. Cllr Maylan seconded the proposal. A vote was taken with all in favour.

Meeting closed at 8.06 p.m.