

CULMSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on 9th March 2022 in Culmstock Village Hall at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs. Miss L Jones (Chairman), C Kay, Mrs J Saunders, Mrs R Balchin, J Doody, G Bass, Mrs J Zebedee, G Barr, MDDC Cllr. S Clist (present from item 44.2) and the Clerk. Four members of the public were present up until item 18.

38. Democratic Period: None.
39. Apologies: Cllr. T Platel.
40. Co-option of a Parish Councillor: None.
41. Declarations of Interest: Cllr. Miss L Jones (DPI as employee of Supacat Ltd.) cheque number 1655 and Cllr. J Doody (DPI as the applicant) planning application 22/00144/FULL.
42. Approval of Minutes: of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 09/02/22.
43. Matters Arising: None.
- 44 Planning and Planning Correspondence/Information.**
- 44.1** Applications considered.
- 22/00144/FULL Change of use of former orchard to domestic garden; erection of porch, garage/workshop and garden shed. Little Orchard Barn, Culmstock. EX15 3JX. No objections. *Cllr. Doody left the room for this item and took no part in the discussion - see declarations.*
- 22/00257/FULL Erection of timber cabin for use as holiday let. Land at NGR 311278 112257 Road from Tedburrow Cross to Beechlands Farm Cross, Hemyock. No objections.
- 22/00435/CLU Certificate of lawfulness for the existing use of building as a single dwelling for a period in excess of 4 years. Blackwater Nursery, Blackwater Road, Culmstock. EX15 3HG. No objections.
- 44.2** Results of applications from Mid Devon District Council.
- 21/02163/FULL Change of use of agricultural land to siting of 2 shepherd huts, 3 glamping tents, toilet/shower hut, kitchen hut and ancillary parking. Land at Brookshill Farm, Uffculme. EX15 3AZ. Approved.
- 22/00075/FULL Change of use from Church (Class D1) to commercial, business and service (Class E). The Methodist Church, Millmoor, Culmstock. EX15 3HA. Approved.
- For Information Only, the following application has been withdrawn: 21/01682/HOUSE Erection of rear extension and front porch and alterations to create first floor accommodation within the roof. The Shieling, Silver Street, Culmstock. EX15 3JE. *MDDC Cllr. S Clist arrived.*
- 44.3** MDDC - Plan Mid Devon Issues Consultation Regulation 18. A few councillors reported on an informal meeting where the consultation was looked at - the full council then discussed a response to the 58 questions. A copy will be circulated to all before submission. Concern was raised over development in rural areas. Suggestions were made regarding development, available housing - including affordable housing - infrastructure and facilities in the area amongst other suggestions including renewable/clean energy and transport issues.
- 44.4** Housing Needs Survey (HNS): The Clerk reported on a meeting with an Officer at MDDC where it was confirmed that funding would be available to cover the majority of the costs. It was agreed to confirm with MDDC that the Parish Council is interested in potentially looking at Community Led Housing and therefore wishes to undertake a HNS. A questionnaire is yet to be agreed (a draft had previously been circulated).
- 44.5** Any other planning matters: Notification of further online training via MDDC - Planning re: S106 07/04. Arrangements will be made for the Development Manager to attend a Parish Council meeting.
- 45. Finance.**
- 45.1** The bank balance was noted as at 28/02/22 as £40,639.63. Credits received in respect of cemetery fees: 17/02 £750 (2 transfers), 22/02 £500 (500167). Direct Debits taken: 04/02 Nest £90.66.
- 45.2** Payments were approved:
- Chq 1650 £ 17.08 SMA Services Ltd. Payroll provider.
 - Chq 1651 £ 714.72 Clerk salary & expenses.
 - Chq 1652 £ 171.89 Parish warden salary & expenses.
 - Chq 1653 £ 335.01 MDDC. Play area inspections and annual inspection.
 - Chq 1654 £ 2941.20 T J McCabe Ltd. Fencing at pavilion and play area.
 - Chq 1655 £ 2304.00 Supacat Ltd. Digital cemetery map. *See declarations.*
 - Chq 1656 £ 16.00 Culmstock Village Hall. Room hire.

Finance Continued:

-Chq 1657 £ 1913.01 M Delamain. Works to Bier House and maintenance in the play area and pavilion.

-Chq 1658 £ 78.00 C Houghton. Lengthsman - Parish maintenance.

45.3 Annual Review of Fixed Asset Register: The Register was updated and approved.

45.4 Any other financial matters: It was noted that cheque number 001641 has been cancelled with Lloyds Bank and is replaced with cheque number 1659- £175.87.

46. Reports.

46.1 The Clerk. Slides following a presentation by Airband to ward councillors at MDDC have been circulated.

46.2 Highways: Details of any upcoming road closures have been circulated to Cllrs. Bass and Mrs Balchin who will arrange to publicise where necessary.

46.3 Flooding and Sewerage: Cllr. Bass reported on upcoming works to be carried out by South West Water (SWW) which includes replacing sections of the main sewer in Culmstock which have failed. As there is a section of the sewer which runs down the road outside of The Culm Valley Inn, the road will be shut for around four weeks from 04/05/2022. Works which are to take place in the private property of Bridge House are due to start next month (early April 2022). Cllr. Bass notified the meeting of a report regarding pollution in the River Culm. With reference to flooding, SWW have been visiting various properties in the village to determine where flood water has been going.

46.4 P3/Footpaths: The P3 Co-ordinator will respond to an application to divert part of footpath No.18, Hemyock, at Pithayne Farm.

46.5 Any other reports: (i) Cllr. Mrs Zebedee reported that a grant of £49,000 has been awarded to the village hall for works to the toilets which are due to take place in July and August. (ii) Cllr. Miss Jones reported that works to the permissive path are imminent. (iii) MDDC Cllr. Clist: The budget was passed at the last full council meeting. The State of the District Debate will take place on 08/04/22. The annual Civic service is to be held in Hemyock. The Planning Committee recently voted to approve plans to build 6 energy efficient homes in Cullompton.

47. Collier's bridge project: The Clerk will enquire about a fund recently publicised and report back.

48. Culmstock Play Area and Pavilion.

48.1 Portable Toilet: Arrangements will be made for the toilet to be installed in early April.

48.2 Any other matters: The Parish Warden will monitor the problem of moles which appear to be minimal.

49. Culmstock Cemetery: A working digital map has been produced. The map needs to be updated which will take some time.

50. Replacement Bench on Culmstock Beacon: It is hoped that three quotations will be received by the deadline of 31/03/22. Consent is being obtained from Natural England.

51. The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

51.1 NACO Tree Planting Day: NACO (National Association of Civic Officers) is hoping that as many civic leaders as possible will all, on the same day, plant a tree to mark The Queen's Platinum Jubilee on 11/03/22 - the 70th day of the year in which The Queen marks the 70th anniversary of her accession. It has the full support of The Queen's Green Canopy project organisers. It was agreed for Cllrs. Miss Jones and Mrs Zebedee as Chairman and Vice-Chairman to plant a tree in the play area and at Collier's Meadow. Payment for the trees and plaques to be invoiced and paid at a future meeting.

51.2 Celebrations in the Parish: A few councillors are helping to lead a team of community volunteers and Cllr. Mrs Zebedee gave details of planned celebrations and possible sources of funding, which includes the meat draw.

51.3 Possible funding: It was agreed for the Parish Council to grant £2000 towards celebrations for the Jubilee; funds be taken from reserve.

52. Letter from Cullompton Neighbourhood Policing Team: A letter has been received with reference to police consulting with communities when decisions about policing priorities are made - a link to an interactive crime map was provided together with a link to collision data as recorded in partnership with DCC. Following an

invitation for a Parish Councillor to accompany officers on their patrols to see first hand what takes place, Cllr. Kay expressed an interest in attending.

53. **Culmstock Parish Flower, Fruit and Craft Show:** A new committee has not yet been formed. Cllr. Miss Jones reported that there will be a table where people can discuss the future of the show at the upcoming Plant Sale on 30/04/22.
54. **Annual Parish Meeting:** It was agreed to hold the Annual Parish meeting immediately before the next Parish Council meeting.
-MDDC Cllr. Clist gave a report here (see 46.5 iii)

The Council went into Part 2 for the next item and the members of the public left the meeting.

55. **Renewal of Grounds Maintenance Contract:** Following publicising of the renewal, details had been sent to interested parties and four quotations had been received. It was agreed to accept the quotation from Countrywide Grounds Maintenance (CGM) with a review early in 2023 as specified by CGM.
56. **Correspondence & Any Other Consultations.** Thank you from Blackdown Support Group. Clerks & Councils Direct.
57. **Items for information, future agenda items, and future meeting dates.** 13/04/22. 18/05/22.