

CULMSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on 9th January 2019 in Culmstock Village Hall at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs. Miss L Jones (Chairman), M Plastow, G Bass, E Box, Mrs J Saunders, County Cllr. R Radford and the Clerk. One member of the public were present up until 11.2, and one member of the public was present for the entire meeting

1. The Parish defibrillator was confirmed as in working order as at the meeting date.
2. Democratic Period: A member of the public was present to voice concerns over the incorrect information given from DCC Highways regarding roadworks on 03/01/19. Cllr. Bass reported that there had been an error in communication between the contractor and DCC Highways. Thanks were given to Cllr. Bass for his endeavours to rectify the situation at the time.
3. Apologies: Cllrs. Mrs J Zebedee, Mrs E Artus and District Cllr. G Hughes.
4. Co-option of Parish Councillors: Two parishioners have made contact regarding possible co-option. One parishioner will endeavour to attend a future meeting shortly.
5. Declarations of Interest: Cllr. Miss Jones (DPI as an immediate neighbour) planning application 18/01981/HOUSE.
6. The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 05/12/18 were approved and duly signed by the Chairman.
7. **Matters Arising:** Cllr. Bass suggested that the Parish Council consider the purchase of an all-inclusive swing for the play area at some point in the future.
8. **Planning and Planning Correspondence/Information.**
 - 8.1 **Applications considered by the Parish Council:**
 - [18/01812/FULL](#) Conversion of barn to ancillary accommodation and re-roofing of existing barn. Land and Buildings at NGR 309085 114434 Silver Street Farm, Prescott, Uffculme. No objections.
 - [18/01813/LBC](#) Listed Building Consent for conversion of barn to ancillary accommodation and re-roofing of existing barns. Land and Buildings at NGR 309085 114434. Silver Street Farm, Prescott, Uffculme. No objections.
 - [18/01981/HOUSE](#) Erection of single storey side and rear extensions. Lower Walnut Cottage, Culmstock, EX15 3JU. *See declarations, Cllr. Miss Jones left the meeting for this item and took no part in the discussion.* No objections.
 - [18/01972/CLU](#) Certificate of lawfulness for the existing dwelling built not in accordance with the terms of Planning Permission EN.4213/26417 (Agricultural Tie) for a period in excess of 4 years. Rexmead. Culmstock. EX15 3JX. No objections.
 - 8.2 **Results of applications from Mid Devon District Council.**
 - 8.3 Update on planning application -[18/01634/MFUL](#) Erection of 19 dwellings (6 affordable). Land at NGR 310020 113953, Linhay Close, Culmstock. The date for submission of responses was extended by MDDC at the request of the Clerk and it was noted that a number of objections to the application had been raised. It was agreed to request that the District Councillor “call” the application in to be considered by the MDDC Planning Committee, in the event that the Officer is minded to approve the application.
 - 8.4 Details have been received from a member of the public regarding a proposal for a natural burial ground near Hackpen Hill – the application is yet to be validated by MDDC.
 - 8.5 Mid Devon Local Plan Review Hearings – it was noted that the hearing programme for the examination of The Mid Devon Local Plan Review has been published; the main hearings will be held on 14/02, 15/02, 19/02 and 20/02/19 at the District Council Offices.
 - 8.6 Any other planning matters: Cllr. Bass reported on details contained within the MDDC Corporate Plan regarding the targets of affordable housing within the district.
9. **Maintenance Contracts.**
 - 9.1 Parish Grounds Maintenance Contract: Some interest has been received and a few tender documents have been sent out. It was agreed to ask the Cemetery/Park warden to monitor the grass cutting.
 - 9.2 MDDC verges maintenance provision 2019-20: A price of £895.14 was agreed for amendments to the schedule. Additional revisions were discussed, and the Clerk will liaise further with MDDC and report back.

10. Finance.

- 10.1** The bank balance was noted as £33,771.55 as at 30/11/18, which includes a credit of £130 in respect of cemetery fees on 06/11/19.
- 10.2** It was noted **that** cheque number 01304 has been cancelled by the Clerk with Lloyds Bank; re-issued below as 01311.
- 10.3** The following payments were approved:
- Chq 1306 £ 36.00 CPRE. Membership renewal.
 - Chq 1307 £ 502.75 M Shore-Quinain. Salary & expenses.
 - Chq 1308 £ 72.00 S Marrison. Salary.
 - Chq 1309 £ 41.60 HMRC. Quarterly PAYE.
 - Chq 1310 £ 13.80 SMA Services Ltd. Payroll provider.
 - Chq 1311 £ 125.00 The Culmstock Chilli Company. Quarterly invoice re: war memorial maintenance. *(note: cheque made out to C N Sampson).*
 - Chq 1312 £ 12.00 Culmstock Village Hall. Room hire.
- 10.4** The monthly payment to Nest was reported.
- 10.5** The Council went into Part Two for a review of salaries and expenses.
- 10.6** Vision ICT website: (i) The cost for an SSL Certificate for the website (this shows that websites are encrypted) was quoted of £125 for year 1 and £50pa each year thereafter– it was considered that this was not necessary, as users were not normally entering personal information. (ii) A cost for “Operation London Bridge” of £35 has been quoted to cover the costs for the website to be appropriately dressed on the occasion of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II; it was agreed not to go ahead.
- 10.7** Precept 2019/20- to agree on a figure for the Parish Precept. Following an informal meeting of the financial advisory group and circulation to all of suggested figures to cover financial needs for the coming year, a report was given and it was resolved to set the precept for 2019/20 at £29,218. It was agreed for MDDC to deduct the subscription for DALC from the precept. A contingency fund/ general reserve will be held of £10,000 and a fund will be held towards the Collier’s bridge project. Councillors were unanimous in their decision to set the precept at £29,218.
- 10.8** Any other financial matters. Following agreement of a quotation at minute 181.6 for replacement cradle swing seats, it was agreed for new seats opposed to second hand seat, and it was further suggested that if possible, one standard swing and one cradle swing be fitted – the Clerk will report next month.

11. Reports.

- 11.1** MDDC Cllr. G Hughes: None.
- 11.2** DCC Cllr. R Radford: Details were given of The Locality Budget and The Invest in Devon Budget will be passed on to the village hall. The contract for bus service Number 20 has been awarded to a new contractor from 28/05/19, with no changes to the route, schedule or fare. The budget is under discussion in preparation for a full council meeting in February.
- 11.3** The Clerk: Notification of the DALC Garden Party nominations – noted. Details received of The Government Boundary Commission for Mid Devon, with a meeting on 30/01/19 at the MDDC Council Offices, Phoenix House, Tiverton - noted.
- 11.4** The Chairman: None.
- 11.5** P3/Footpaths P3 Co-ordinator Mr M Barrow (via Cllr. Bass): The P3 co-ordinator attended the P3 annual workshop. A stile and gate have been replaced near Scotts Shute. Part of a tree which fell across the lane along FP6 has been partly cleared. The new footpath from Pitt Farm towards Hemyock and into Blackwater Road is now open. Mesh has been put on parts of the boardwalk below the beacon (FP1A).
- 11.6** Access: None.
- 11.7** Highways: Cllr. Bass reported on the error in communication regarding the roadworks on 03/01/19, and had spent some time liaising with DCC to try and rectify the matter.
- 11.8** Culmstock News (Catherine Bass): The Culmstock News would like to contribute towards the cost of replacing the village hall noticeboard, and the Parish Council agreed to arrange for installation.
- 11.9** Blackdown Hills Parish Network (Catherine Bass): Invoices for the annual subscription will be sent out shortly.
- 11.10** Culmstock Playing Field: An electrician is to carry out a minor repair at the pavilion. Latches and springs have been replaced as required. It was noted that Mr Box had estimated a figure to treat the large picnic tables and this work is still to be done.

11.11 Collier's bridge: None.

11.12 Any other reports: None.

12. Culmstock Village Hall.

12.1 Provision of a new lighting bar. Works are progressing and an update will be given next month.

12.2 Any other matters: The committee will be reminded of the deadline for applications to The Communities Together Fund.

13. Culmstock Cemetery: EdgeIT Systems has offered to hold a presentation and has asked the Clerk to assemble local clerks – extra time will be involved but no cost for the session or venue hire.

14. Annual Parish Meeting. It was agreed to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on 15/05/19. As in previous years, representatives from Parish organisations will be invited to provide information or a display.

15. Correspondence. Letters of thanks: TNMWD Citizens Advice, The Blackdown Support Group.

16. Items for information and future agenda items.

17. Dates of future meetings: 06/02/19, 13/03/19, 03/04/19, 08/05/19, 12/06/19 and 17/07/19.