

CULMSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council on 24th July 2019 in Culmstock Village Hall at 7pm

Present: Cllrs. Miss L Jones (Chairman), E Box, G Bass, Mrs J Saunders, Mrs J Zebedee, T Platel, M Chugg and the Clerk (part of meeting). One member of the public was present for the entire meeting and two members of the public were present for the democratic period.

Due to the late arrival of the Clerk (approved in advance by the Chairman), Mrs J Saunders took the minutes up until agenda item 8.

- 116.** The Parish defibrillator was confirmed as is in working order as at the meeting date.
- 117. Democratic Period:** The part-landowner of in respect of land at Blackdown and Sampford Common was present with his agent to help with queries in respect of the Countryside Stewardship Scheme.
- 118. Apologies:** Cllrs. Miss B Davies, Mrs R Balchin, M Plastow, G Hughes, R Radford & S Clist.
- 119. Declarations of Interest:** As the applicant, Cllr. Box declared a DPI in planning applications 19/00936/Full and 19/00935/LBC.
- 120. Approval of Minutes:** the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 10/06/19 were approved and duly signed by the Chairman.
- 121. Culmstock Beacon, Blackdown and Sampford Common - Countryside Stewardship Scheme:** It was resolved to sign the Internal Management Agreement. It was resolved not to sign the Land Ownership and Control form as it was not applicable.
- 122. Matters Arising:** (i) Cllr. Bass is looking into the provision of a multi-use bin at Blackdown Gate. (ii) A parishioner has been looking into possibilities of erecting a brazier to mark events on Culmstock Beacon – it was reported that the matter is quite complex. (iii) Following communication from Culmstock First Brownies regarding sole use of the village hall, the Chairman will discuss possible solutions with the village hall committee and the Brownies.
- 123. Planning and Planning Correspondence/Information.**
- 123.1** Applications to be considered:
-19/00936/FULL Permission (Revised scheme) and Listed Building Consent -19/00935/LBC for conversion of outbuilding/storage barn to holiday accommodation. Building at NGR 310090 113825 (Adj. to Bridge Mews) Culmstock. See declarations – Cllr. Box left the room for this item. No objections.
- 123.2** Results of applications from Mid Devon District Council.
-19/00779/CAT Notification of intention fell 1 Elder tree and reduce the crown of 8 Plum trees within the Conservation Area. Woodside, Millmoor, Culmstock. EX15 3HA. Approved.
-19/00780/NMA Non Material Amendment for 18/00562/HOUSE to allow the addition of a new window at first floor level on the East elevation. Town Hill Cottage, Town Hill, Culmstock. Permitted with conditions to discharge.
-19/00478/HOUSE Erection of a two storey rear extension. Marshalls Farm, Burlescombe. Approved.
-19/00517/FULL Erection of agricultural storage and livestock shed. Land at NGR 310237 115108 (West of Bartletts), Culmstock. Permission granted.
- 123.3** Any other planning matters. (i) The Clerk is to attend a DCT Neighbourhood Planning Course in September on behalf of Kentisbeare Parish Council. (ii) MDDC Planning Department is currently experiencing delays in responding to customers and processing planning applications due to a high volume of work.
- 124. Finance.**
- 124.1** The bank balance was reported as £38,242.21 as at 28/06/19. One credit received of £700 on 05/06 in respect of cemetery fees and a direct debit to Nest on 07/06/19 for £59.76.
- 124.2** Payments were resolved:
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| -Chq 1360 £ 120.00 | Eagle Plant Ltd. Portable toilet hire. |
| -Chq 1361 £ 10.00 | Culmstock Methodist Church. Room hire. |
| -Chq 1362 £ 1202.14 | Came and Company. Insurance Renewal. |
| -Chq 1363 | Spoilt cheque. |

Finance continued:

-Chq 1364 £ 90.14	Parish Warden. Salary & expenses.
-Chq 1365 £ 558.51	Clerk. Salary & expenses.
-Chq 1366 £ 90.00	Vision ICT Ltd. Training.
-Chq 1367 £ 125.00	The Culmstock Chilli Company. Quarterly payment for war memorial maintenance.
-Chq 1368 £ 87.50	Internal auditor. Internal audit fee.
-Chq 1369 £ 15.00	Culmstock Village Hall. Room Hire.
-Chq 1370 £ 135.20	HMRC. Quarterly PAYE.
-Chq 1371 £ 40.98	Devon Association of Local Councils. Booklets.
-Chq 1372 £ 90.14	Parish Warden. Salary & expenses for July.
-Chq 1373 £ 502.94	Parish Clerk. Salary & expenses for July.
-Chq 1374 £ 146.69	MDC Exports Ltd. Dog bags.
-Chq 1375 £ 8.72	South West Water. Cemetery water.
-Chq 1376 £ 100.00	Culmstock First Scout Group. Donation for cleaning of play equipment.
-Chq 1377 £ 27.60	SMA Services Ltd. Payroll provider.
-Chq 1378 £ 690.00	MNR Projects Ltd. Playing field maintenance/work.
-Chq 1379 £	Blackdown Tree and Countryside. Grounds maintenance contract.

(Note: payment deferred due to no invoice being received)

- 124.3** S106 funds – an update was given and the possibility of a trim trail and/or zip wire were discussed for the park.
- 124.4** Purchase of Christmas lights: Cllr. Box and the Clerk will request an invoice so that a deposit can be arranged.
- 124.5** Audit 2018/19: All documents have been submitted to the external auditor, and the Notice of Public Rights has been displayed with the necessary documents as required; dates run from 21/06/19 to 01/08/19.
- 124.6** Any other financial matters: The Nest deduction for June and July was reported.
- 125. Reports. To receive reports:**
- 125.1** DCC Cllr. R Radford: A report was circulated to all. Details include a consultation regarding the Fire Authority. DCC continue to lobby and meet with ministers regarding fairer funding for schools. Potholes can be reported on-line, the definition of a pothole is 40mm by 300mm. Surface dressing is carried out between April and September.
- 125.2** The Clerk. Details were given of training provided for new councillors by DALC. The DALC annual conference will take place on 23/10/19.
- 125.3** The Chairman: None.
- 125.4** P3/Footpaths. (i) Footpath 3 – following communication from a parishioner regarding the end of footpath 3 at the Hemyock road, the Chairman will speak to the landowner about possible solutions for easier and safer access on to the road. (ii) Vegetation cutting continues.
- 125.5** Access: (i) Cllr. Bass is looking into information boards at the five various entrances to Blackdown Common. It is proposed to take this forward together with a councillor from Hemyock and two councillors from Clayhidon, and to apply for a grant as a joint venture. The purpose of boards is to protect the SSSI environment on the common and to inform walkers and horse-riders of the special aspects of the environment. (ii) Restriction of Public Rights of Access on Maidendown Common: Following a report of a regular dog walker being warned off on the western path through the common, it was noted that the area was free to access after 11am.
- 125.6** Highways: The Clerk has spoken to the district council regarding overgrown vegetation at Harts Row and Great Meadow.
- 125.7** Culmstock News (Catherine Bass): None.
- 125.8** Blackdown Hills Parish Network (Catherine Bass): There was a good turnout at the AGM held recently.
- 125.9** Culmstock Playing Field: A quotation for fixing the picnic bench is required.
- 125.10** Culmstock Village Hall: The grass contractor has been informed that the village hall hedge needs attention.
- 125.11** Culmstock Cemetery: Works should start to the renovation of the gates shortly. It was agreed that renovation was the best option opposed to purchasing new gates.
- 125.12** Any other reports: None.
- 126. Appointment of additional representatives to advisory groups:** (i) Cllr. Miss Davies-deferred.
(ii) Cllr. Chugg – Access and Collier’s bridge project.

127. Blackdown Hills Parishes Network.

- 127.1** Call for BHPN Nominations for representative to Blackdown Hills AONB Management Group: Noted, details circulated to all.
- 128.** Collier's bridge project: It was noted that works should commence by 28/06/20. The advisory group will meet for an update and discuss applying for grants.
- 129.** Culmstock Methodist Church: Due to a low response from the Parish it was resolved not to pursue leasing or purchasing the building. *Cllr. Chugg left the meeting.*
- 130.** Proposed Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service Changes - 12 Week Consultation. Noted, details circulated to all.
- 131. Assets of Community Value:** MDDC has advised of an application to list The Culm Valley Inn on 27/6; the nominating body is Culm Valley Community Group. A decision will be made by 22/08/19.
- 132.** Correspondence: None.
- 133.** Items for information and future agenda items: Picnic bench at the Parish park.
- 134.** Dates of future meetings: September 2019.