

**Present:** Cllrs Bright, Turner, Waldron, Hodge, Lawson, Crang, Reygate, Sims and Spivey.

**In attendance:** the Clerk, D/Cllr Deed, C/Cllr Squires, PCSO Roberts.

Standing Orders suspended

**Open Session:** no members of the public were present. D/Cllr Deed suggested that, contrary to reports, not all members of the public who attended the recent meeting regarding the new Cemetery were in favour of the plans.

**Reports:**

- i) D/Cllr Deed** reported that MDDC is currently concentrating on the plans to expand local Towns and that a meeting will take place, at Phoenix House, on Saturday morning to which all are welcome to attend. One such expansion is Cullompton's new Garden City. D/Cllr Deed went on to report that he will be away from next week and until further notice but that he could still be contacted at the usual address.
- ii) C/Cllr Squires** reported that she is settling back into County Council work, after being re-elected, and thanked everyone for their support. C/Cllr Squires advised that she is now more involved with Children's Services, rather than other Committee work, and that she can be contacted by e-mail, phone, or post.
- iii) PCSO Roberts** told the PC that there had been no crimes reported in the village in May and that no calls to the Police had been received. During her foot patrol today she had heard about three men being seen trying to get into a couple of camper vans, near Lynch Close, and urged the public to be aware especially as Tiverton had seen several thefts from unlocked vehicles recently. PCSO Roberts advised that she is now part time and so may not be able to attend meetings very often but that she can be contacted as usual. She reported that the Community Speed Watch is progressing with a further three volunteers being vetted, lasting for three years, after which the scheme can move onto the next stage. Cllr Sims raised the issue of car parking by the Baptist Chapel making it difficult for drivers to see clearly at the junction of The Glebe. PCSO Roberts said that if the vehicles were not parking illegally there is little that can be done. Two posters were left with the Clerk, regarding Terrorism, for the noticeboard.

D/Cllr Deed left the meeting.

Standing Orders resumed

**17/25 Apologies** for absence were received from Cllr Lane due to a holiday.

**17/26 Declarations of interest:** Cllr Bright declared an interest in item 17/30f below due to his wife being President of the WI. Cllrs Hodge and Reygate declared an interest regarding the same matter due to being members of the Memorial Hall Committee.

**17/27 Dispensation requests:** none

**17/28 Confirmation of Minutes of the meeting of Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2017:** It was RESOLVED that the minutes be signed as a correct record of the meeting (Cllrs Turner and Spivey).

**17/29 Planning Applications** received to the date of the meeting:

**a) 17/00837/FULL** Change of use - vehicle storage to self-storage facility at C&R Repairs, Thorverton.

It was RESOLVED that the PC would support this application (Cllrs Lawson and Waldron).

**b) 17/00467/HOUSE and LBC** Revised drawings and additional information - conversion of barn at Court Barton, Thorverton. The PC RESOLVED not to comment on this application (Cllrs Spivey and Turner).

**Planning Decisions** notified to the date of the meeting:

**c) 17/00223/HOUSE** Installation - replacement package treatment plant, Dunsaller, Thorverton. Approved.

**d) 17/00667/HOUSE** Erection of side and rear extensions at 33 Silver Street, Thorverton. Approved.

- a. E-mail from a resident regarding increased parking along Berrysbridge Road, by the Baptist Chapel, causing safety concerns - the Clerk had already replied advising the resident of the PC's decision not to take parking matters further. PCSO Roberts had confirmed that if the vehicles are taxed, MOT'd, insured and if there are no double yellow lines or similar restrictions then nothing can be done by the Police.
- b. Further e-mail from a resident requesting a basketball hoop at the Rec - after discussion it was proposed by Cllr Bright, seconded by Cllr Spivey and RESOLVED, that the resident be advised of the PC's feelings in that there is currently no great justification to look into this matter further but that the PC would be willing to do so if a need became evident. The sites suggested by the resident had been reviewed and were not suitable. Alternative sites – not necessarily in the Rec – would, therefore, need to be found.
- c. E-mail from a resident advising of retrospect Planning Permission at Yellowford Farm – noted.
- d. Letter from Exe Valley Federation advising of proposed changes – Cllr Bright proposed that the actions be supported. Seconded by Cllr Spivey and RESOLVED.
- e. E-mail from DALC detailing new issues of the Good Councillor and Neighbourhood Planning Guides at £3.49 each. After discussion Cllr Bright proposed that 7 hard copies of the Good Councillor Guide and 3 hard copies of the NP Guide be purchased. This was seconded by Cllr Turner and RESOLVED. Clerk would e-mail all Cllrs a copy of the Good Councillor Guide.
- f. Letter from the Memorial Hall regarding hall hire fees – Cllr Crang took the Chair due to Cllr Bright's declared interest. Cllrs Hodge and Reygate also declared an interest in this matter and all refrained from discussion and voting. It was RESOLVED that the PC would continue to meet at the Memorial Hall up to and including April 2018. It would then alternate, 6 monthly, between the WI Hut and the Memorial Hall until further notice, subject to availability, so as to support both venues (Cllrs Sims and Turner).
- g. Solicitors letter regarding the transfer of garage 5b – the Clerk had completed the papers which had been signed and returned to the Solicitors by the Chairman.
- h. Invite to the Home Choice Seminar – Cllr Lane had volunteered to attend and a place had been booked.

PCSO Roberts left the meeting.

It was agreed that Highways matters should be brought forward at this stage.

**17/31 Highways -**

- **Hulk Lane** – Cllr Lawson reported that the work start date had been put back to 19<sup>th</sup> June, that an application for funding of £2,000 had been made to Leonard Trust, and that everything else is on track.
- **School Lane** – Cllr Bright reported that the road had been re-surfaced and that the zig zag lines had been removed. New zig zag lines are due to be painted nearer to the junction with Bullen Street. The verge work had been postponed until October due to birds nesting in the hedge.
- **Wall in Dark Lane** – Cllr Bright reported that the measurements taken last month do not appear to show any movement in the wall but that mortar had fallen from the wall onto the road. Cllr Bright had spoken to Steve Tucker, Highways, who agreed to chase the DCC Engineers with regards to looking at the wall. He stated that if the wall was said to be unstable the road may be closed. There is still no confirmation on who owns the wall. The PC would now await the Engineers report before taking further action.
- **Thorverton bridge** – an update had been received indicating that work is due to start this week.
- **Replacement lamp posts** – it was noted that the cobbles around three new lamp posts had been re-laid but the work was unacceptable and especially in a Conservation Area. Cllr Hodge suggested the same of the re-laid cobbles outside Pynes House, Silver Street, and the Exeter Inn. It was also noted that cementing in of lamp posts had taken place in Dinneford Street instead of using matching paving slabs. It was RESOLVED that Cllr Spivey would take photos of the unacceptable work and that the Clerk would e-mail DCC Highways, SSC and Open Reach, copying in C/Cllr Squires and the MDDC Conservation Officer, stating that the repairs are not good enough and that the matter should be addressed (Cllrs Bright and Lawson).

C/Cllr Squires left the meeting.

**17/32 Handyman/Road Warden:**

- a) it was RESOLVED that payment for hours worked, see below, be made (Cllrs Lawson and Turner)
- b) duties for June were RESOLVED as being those still pending from May plus the spraying of the Barliabins plantation, cementing the capping stones along the Leigh Garden wall – Cllr Crang donated the cement for this, and cutting back the growth behind the garages in the Quarry Car Park (Cllrs Bright and Waldron). The Clerk was asked to e-mail DCC regarding the cutting back of the hedge along Silver Street which has grown over the footpath, and includes nettles, causing safety issues to the public and especially to children (Cllrs Lawson and Spivey).

The Handyman had reported that the Holly Trees at the Church are dropping leaves causing the leaf to block under the road and asked that the PCC be asked to either cut the trees back or regularly clear the leaves/leaf. Cllr Bright proposed that he mention this to the PCC which was seconded by Cllr Turner and RESOLVED.

It was noted that £191.90 had been received from Newton St Cyres PC for Handyman work (9.5 hours @ £17.50 = £166.25, plus mileage, with £12.50 per hour to the Handyman, plus mileage, and £5 per hour to TPC 'ring-fenced' funding for replacement tools/equipment at £47.50) and that further duties for NSC PC are pending.

**17/33 Parish Priorities – Village Tidy Up Day July 15<sup>th</sup> 2017:**

Cllr Bright read out an agreed list of work to be carried out on the day. The Clerk would produce posters for the noticeboards and website and notices would be placed in Focus, Next Door, on the parish Facebook and copied to the School. It was RESOLVED at the May meeting that volunteers should meet at 9.30am at Leigh Gardens to receive duties and that the event would end at 1pm. Volunteers would be encouraged to bring their own tools, the PC would supply black sacks, the Clerk would obtain H&S items from DCC, Cllrs would talk to people in their own streets to encourage attendance and Cllr Spivey volunteered to supply hot drinks from his camper van at the Jubilee Green.

**17/34 Smartwater Security Marker:** The Clerk advised that the codes for the 20 kits recently purchased had now been received and that the kits were now on sale to the public at £10 each. The PC would keep a kit for the marking of tools and equipment which the Handyman would see to.

**17/35 Financial matters -**

- 1) It was RESOLVED that the following payments be made (Cllrs Crang and Turner):

June 2017	Clerk - salary (net of tax)		£258.69
	Clerk – salary HMRC		£ 60.00
	Clerk - expenses	Reimbursement – 1) Smartwater £179.00 2) Came & Co annual Insurance £439.05 3) Auditor gift, stamps & stationery £32.40	£650.45
	Handyman – salary (net of tax)	NSC PC £118.75 gross TPC <u>£193.75 gross</u> Total £312.50 gross Net of tax with mileage added = £275.65	£275.65
	Handyman – salary HMRC		£ 62.50

- 2) The available bank balance as at 1<sup>st</sup> June 2017, after deduction of ring-fenced funding and prior to the above payments being made, was noted as £9,657.61 (ring-fenced funds: £30,000 Cemetery, £1,515

defibrillator maintenance, up to £4,000 Grant Funding for Hulk Lane, £2,000 replacement fund for Rec play/gym equipment, £750 Notice Board balance, new: £47.50 for replacement tools/equipment).

- 3) Bank signatories – Cllrs Waldron and Lane would shortly complete paperwork to become signatories.
- 4) Accounts, bank statements, bank reconciliation up to 1<sup>st</sup> June 2017 circulated.

### **17/36 School Agreement:**

The Chairman read out the most recent communication received from the School, regarding the fence repairs, which indicated that the work could cost up to £5,000 and that the PC had been asked to contribute towards this. Cllr Crang reminded the PC of the history attached to this piece of land and Cllr Bright reported that, according to original documentation, the only requirement for the boundary fence was for it to be stock proof. Cllr Hodge drew attention to the stated DCC specifications for the new fence. Cllr Lawson questioned whether any routine maintenance had regularly been completed by the School, as required by the Agreement, and suggested that the School, as the sole users, should be maintaining the fence and especially as the facility was free of any rent. Cllr Waldron proposed a face to face site meeting take place between the PC and members of the School staff so as to resolve the matter. It was RESOLVED that this meeting be arranged and that Cllrs Bright and Lane, with the Handyman, should attend on behalf of the PC and report back next month. This was seconded by Cllr Spivey.

**17/37 Recreation Ground:** the two quotes received for the mandatory annual inspection of play and gym equipment was discussed (£150 MDDC and £225.00 for 5 items then £3.50 per item from RoSPA). Cllr Crang proposed that MDDC be hired to complete the inspection, as last year, which was seconded by Cllr Waldron and RESOLVED. Cllr Sims was thanked by the Chairman for continuing to complete the important weekly checks.

**17/38 Grant Giving:** It was RESOLVED that the current Working Party, consisting of Cllrs Waldron, Reygate, Turner and Spivey (reserve), would remain in place and that it should review the existing Policy reporting back recommendations for change to full Council for consideration next month. The Working Party would also review any future applications for full completion of paperwork prior to full Council consideration (Cllrs Crang and Hodge).

### **17/39 Development**

- **New Cemetery:**

a) the Clerk reported that the archaeological dig had been commissioned

b) Cllr Bright referred to the sheet of Actions he had put together and proposed that a Working Party be set up so as to consider these Actions and take Cemetery matters forward under PC direction. It was RESOLVED that Cllrs Bright, Lawson, Reygate, Hodge and Waldron form the Working Party. (Cllrs Crang and Turner).

- **Court Barton Close:**

Cllr Bright reported that an informal meeting had taken place between DCH (Devon and Cornwall Housing) and five Parish Councillors earlier this evening, at the request of DCH, regarding the current S106 Agreement and the affordable housing at Court Barton Close. The result of the meeting had been very positive in that DCH had agreed to arrange, and sign, a formal Deed of Variation so as to secure 'priority for people with local ties' in perpetuity at the development. It was agreed that DCH would prepare the document for PC agreement prior to presenting it to MDDC for implementing. As MDDC had admitted responsibility for the exclusion of this clause within the original S106 document it had agreed to pay all costs associated with the amendment and so would be held to this.

**17/40 Social Media course feedback:** Cllrs Bright and Sims had attended this course and details had been circulated. Cllr Bright suggested that the PC consider a Facebook page on a one way set up system. Cllr Lawson understood one-way communication to be where the public can post information but where the PC cannot respond which, she suggested, could cause issues.

Cllrs Turner, Hodge, and Sims were against a Facebook page. Cllrs Waldron and Spivey thought that such an idea could encourage communication with the younger generation and so would be a good idea. Cllr Crang proposed that, due to the lengthy ongoing debate on the subject, further discussion should be postponed until next month and until further information had been sought. Cllr Lawson seconded this and volunteered to find out more on the matter prior to the July meeting. The proposal was RESOLVED.

**17/41 Footpath 11:** Cllr Spivey had e-mailed Sam Jeffcoat, DCC Footpaths, regarding the footpath not having been marked by the farmer, to date, and was awaiting a response. Cllr Bright proposed that, as the crop is not very high currently, the situation be reviewed next month. This was seconded by Cllr Turner and RESOLVED.

**17/42 Representative reports:**

**TMGT** – an offer had been put to Church Commissioners to purchase land on the north of the stream.

**Focus** – nothing to report. **Memorial Hall** – the Summer Ball and Fun Day would take place in July. Anyone free to help with the Fun Day preparations on the evening of the 7<sup>th</sup> July would be welcomed.

**Raddon Group** – nothing to report. **School** – nothing to report other than documented above.

**17/43 Monthly Market:** Cllr Spivey had nothing to report from the May Market. The Clerk had circulated feedback from the June market which included a call for the PC to reconsider supporting a footpath from the end of Silver Street to the Cricket field and also from the Ruffwell Inn to Silver Street. As this had been deemed cost prohibitive it was agreed not to pursue the matter further for the time being.

**17/44 Business at the Chairman's discretion:**

1. Cllr Spivey asked the PC to consider a letter of support for TMGT as it was to apply for grant funding, from Viridor Credits, in connection with the purchasing of additional land at the Millennium Green. It was agreed to put this on the next meeting agenda. Cllr Bright declared an interest in this matter due to being associated with Viridor Credits.

**17/45 Date of the next meeting:** it was confirmed that the next Parish Council meeting would take place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2017, at 7.30pm, in the Thorverton Memorial Hall. All are welcome to attend.