

**PRESENT:** Cllrs Hodge, Wills, Turner, Lane, Lawson, Sims, Waldron, Bright, Spivey, Crang  
**In attendance:** The Clerk. D/Cllr Deed.

**OPEN SESSION:** 2 members of the public were present. The first resident spoke about the overhanging Minuet in her hedge in Silver Street and advised that unless anyone objected in the meantime this would be cut back as soon as flowered. She also thanked the proprietors of 'Not the Village Shop' for the past 10 years of service to the village. The second resident advised that the 'Not the Village Shop' had now closed and that the bus in the Quarry Car Park would be removed within the next month with the site being returned to good order. The PC (Parish Council) was thanked for its support.

**Apologies:** C/Cllr Squires – due to another meeting.

**16/107 Declarations of Interest:** Cllrs Lawson, Turner and Spivey declared an interest in planning application 16/00661/FULL. Cllr Bright declared an interest in Churchyard/Cemetery matters and any discussions involving land at Broadlands.

**16/108 Confirmation of Minutes** of the last meeting (circulated) of Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016. It was proposed by Cllr Turner, seconded Cllr Hodge, and RESOLVED that the minutes be signed as a correct record of the meeting.

**16/109 Dispensations:** Cllr Spivey had requested a dispensation, in writing to the Clerk prior to the meeting, to allow him to join discussions, but not to vote, regarding planning application 16/00661/FULL. The main reason for the request was due to the application being in a Conservation Area. This was agreed by the Clerk.

**16/110 Election of a Vice Chairman:** Cllr Spivey proposed Cllr Wills continue in this post for a further 12 months. As there were no other nominations Cllr Wills agreed to this which was seconded by Cllr Bright and RESOLVED. Cllr Wills signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**16/111 Reports:** (i) D/Cllr Deed reported on the following a) grass cutting at Broadlands in that MDDC plans to cut the grass 6/7 times per year but no date had been set for the next cut b) Register of Interest forms – all Cllrs were reminded to check their Rol forms for accuracy c) the Around Britain Cycle Race would pass through on the 3072 road on 9<sup>th</sup> Sept from Bickleigh to Crediton d) Highways were unwilling to put signs up warning large vehicles of narrow roads and lanes and so investigations are ongoing as to whether signs can be placed in nearby fields instead. Cllr Lawson suggested marking narrow lanes on google maps for sat nav users and it was agreed to put this on the next agenda. The 3 roads referred to in last month's minutes regarding the extending of 30mph signs were confirmed to D/Cllr Deed as being the road to Berrysbridge, Dinneford St towards Thatchers Lane and the Raddon Road. Cllr Lane asked for the status of the MDDC Local Plan to be clarified and called for an article for Focus. D/Cllr Deed agreed to this and confirmed that the 2017 Plan is currently awaiting full Council sign off. He also confirmed that the initial Broadlands building site proposal is too far ahead now to be influenced locally.

(ii) County Councillor Squires – no report provided. (iii) Police – no report provided.

**16/112 Correspondence** received to the date of the meeting for consideration (circulated) –

- a) Letter from a resident regarding School Lane and damage to his car from a low-loader. Noted. The Clerk was asked to request that the resident report this to Highways.
- b) Letter from a resident regarding employment of a village maintenance person. After discussion it was RESOLVED that the PC should advertise for a paid person to take on tasks around the village on a retained contract position. This person would need to complete the Road Warden training for Chapter 8

and be prepared to gain a spraying certificate (Clerk to check that DCC are happy for someone to be paid to do this work) at PC expense. Cllr Crang volunteered to investigate the cost of a spraying licence. It was noted that the purchase of equipment would need to be considered, TAP funding was available for this, and that storage for equipment would be required. Cllrs Crang and Lane agreed to draft an advert for FOCUS, the noticeboard and PC website. Proposed Cllr Waldron, seconded Cllr Bright.

- c) E-mail from MDDC regarding village grass cutting. Cllr Bright advised that MDDC are no longer cutting grass on behalf of DCC and that DCC are only cutting grass where there are safety and visibility issues. He stated that DCC are responsible for the areas marked in red on the plans circulated and that these was due to be cut on 6<sup>th</sup> July (by DCC) and should have been cut on 13<sup>th</sup> April and 18<sup>th</sup> May but were not. The on-line schedule states a further cut is due on 7<sup>th</sup> September. Cllr Bright proposed he meet with DCC to find out exactly what will be cut and when. This was seconded by Cllr Spivey and RESOLVED.
- d) E-mail from a resident (Cllr Lane declared an interest in the first point) noting that i) allotment holders were having bonfires which were causing a nuisance. The PC agreed to review the allotment rules when the subject next appeared on the agenda ii) a road depression along Broadlands was reported and the PC asked the Clerk to request that the resident report this to Highways.
- e) Verbal message from a resident regarding the tarmac breaking up in the middle of the Quarry Car Park – it was agreed that all Cllrs would look at the tarmac prior to further discussions at the **next meeting**.

For noting only:

- f) Thank you letter regarding the PC donation to the June Street Party. Read out and noted.
- g) MDDC Refuse storage for new residential properties. Noted.
- h) MDDC regarding the new TAP funding process. Noted that Thorverton now comes under the Newton St Cyres and Sandford allowance.
- i) Cllr Crang proposed that a thank you letter be sent to the proprietors of 'Not the Village Shop' for the time and effort taken over the past 10 years in keeping the shop open and in serving the community. Cllr Crang also gave verbal good wishes to the new Berry Dairy proprietor.

#### **16/113 Highways –**

- Hulke Lane – there was no update regarding the bridge from Highways. Cllr Spivey reported that a bridle path above the slippage is being planned. He also noted that Footpath 10 (not Hulke Lane) would shortly have a proper entrance near the School.
- School Lane – Cllr Wills noted that a meeting with the School was pending to review the School Travel Plan and Cllr Bright volunteered to support with this. Cllr Turner requested that a pavement along School Lane, from the Glebe footpath, or through the School Field to the school be considered to avoid Bullen Hill for safety reasons.
- Village signage – covered above.
- Spraying of the village cobbles – covered above.
- Grass Cutting Schedule – covered above.
- Broken seats – Cllr Sims reported that the Bullen Hill bench has a slat missing and he volunteered to get it fixed/obtain a quote. It was noted that the metal seat in the bus stop was buckled and the Clerk was asked to take advice from G Garnes as to how to get this mended.
- Cllr Wills had reported missing pavement cobbles outside the village shop to Highways which were replaced the following day.

#### **16/114 Planning matters received and circulated to the date of the meeting –**

- a) 16/00754/CAT notification of intention to remove 1 oak tree within the conservation area at 19 Silver Street. Date passed for comments 6/6/2016. Noted.

- b) 16/00282/FULL erection of an agricultural farm manager's dwelling at Carwithen, Thorverton – revised drawings. Date passed for comments 8/6/2016. Noted.

- c) 16/00420/LBC erection of a sunroom following demolition of existing lean-to at Golly Cottage, Thorverton - granted. Noted.
- d) 16/00661/FULL erection of a replacement storage unit with associated office – land off Dinneford Street, Thorverton. Date for comments extended to 16/06/2016 by request. Cllrs Lawson and Turner both declared an interest and left the room. After discussion it was RESOLVED that the application would not be supported by the PC and that the plan, as it currently stands, be refused. This was proposed by Cllr Wills and seconded by Cllr Bright. The main reasons for this decision were 1) due to the detrimental effect that the proposed building would have on the Conservation Area due to its scale and height 2) the additional traffic movement the building would cause on the narrow bridge access and in Dinneford Street 3) as the proposed structure would lend itself, in future, to different uses other than storage 4) the proposed construction materials would not be in keeping with the surrounding area and buildings. D/Cllr Deed reported that, based on the PC's resolution and a request from Cllr Spivey, he would call the application in and would discuss the proposal directly with MDDC Planning. Clerk to report comments.

Cllrs Lawson and Turner returned to the room.

- e) Canns Farm – It had been confirmed by MDDC that living in the mobile homes while building was being carried out on the site was in order. Cllr Crang told the PC that a resident of one of the mobile homes had reported to him that someone was seen looking into his mobile home using binoculars. The resident was advised to report any further incidents of this nature to the Police.
- f) 16/00878/FULL Silver Street, Thorverton amendment to windows on plots 13 and 14. No comment.
- g) 16/00439/OUT 5 The Glebe, Thorverton – outline application withdrawn. Noted.
- h) 15/01925/FULL Planning Application - Land at Yellowford Farm – withdrawn. Noted.

D/Cllr Deed left the meeting at this stage.

It was noted that the Court Barton Developers had not yet announced who the Social Housing Company will be.

#### **16/115 Development -**

- New Cemetery –

a) Cllr Wills reported that no response had been received from the Church Commissioners (CC) or the Parochial Church Councils (PCC) Agent. She explained that the law regarding not being able to place a new cemetery within 100 yds of a dwelling had been repealed and that further investigations into such laws were being investigated

b) Cllr Crang reminded the PC of the terms of a working party in that the Clerk is the only person with authority to write letters and carry out PC decisions and that a working party has no delegated authority and so cannot make decisions. Suggestions should be brought to full council for decision making

c) it was noted that last month's minutes regarding the writing of letters had been overtaken by events

d) the PCC had suggested the 4<sup>th</sup> July for a joint meeting with the PC, by way of an extraordinary meeting, to discuss the new cemetery. The Chairman agreed to call this meeting and asked the Clerk to make the arrangements and advised that this meeting would follow the normal rules and regulations of a monthly PC meeting.

- Court Barton –

It was reported that the Developers had called the site 'Barton Meadows' and that the PC had the power to suggest an alternative name for the actual development if it so wished. After discussion Cllr Crang proposed the name 'Rack Park', which was seconded by Cllr Wills and RESOLVED. This decision was made due to the historic name of the field, being Rack Park, which reflects its background of being associated with the wool industry.

- Land to the South of Broadlands –

Following the earlier Public Meeting, which had been requested by the CC and its Land Agents, Cllr Turner proposed that a charge be made to the CC for the Clerks time and the Hall hire which was seconded by Cllr Wills and RESOLVED. Clerk to arrange this. The Chairman noted that 45 members of the public had attended the hour

long meeting which was led by Joe Stockton, Deloitte, Land Agents to the CC and Joanne Loxton, CC, to discuss the proposed development at this site. Cllr Lane proposed a letter of thanks be sent to the representatives which was seconded by Cllr Crang but not carried. Cllr Lawson explained that under the existing MDDC Local Plan 50% of affordable housing would be expected, as at Court Barton, but that under the emerging 2017 Local Plan only 30% of the total number of houses would need to be affordable. It was suggested that when the planning application becomes available for comment the PC should pursue which arrangement was being followed, regarding the number of houses proposed and what % of these would be affordable, as the proposal looked like it was being stretched across both plans currently. Cllr Crang agreed to investigate how the PC could take the above comments forward with MDDC Planning. Cllr Waldron suggested that the PC look into how the CC could support the village/community due to this being the second CC development in a short space of time. This was seconded by Cllr Wills and RESOLVED and the Clerk was asked to put this on the next agenda.

Barliabins – the Clerk reported that A Andrews had pulled out of the contract to build the new fence and so after discussion it was RESOLVED that B Owen be asked to do the work as his was the next best value for money quote. This was proposed by Cllr Turner and seconded by Cllr Bright. Clerk to advise. It was noted that this area was due to be strimmed shortly.

### **16/116 Recreation Ground –**

#### **Viridor Grant –**

a) Cllr Waldron reported that the play and gym equipment had been installed and is being used and that the wild life garden is coming on well. Cllr Sims volunteered to liaise with Ann regarding a community gardening weekend and to put a notice up on the School Lane notice board

b) it was proposed by Cllr Bright, seconded by Cllr Wills and RESOLVED that the PC pay £273 nett for the safety matting under the new table tennis table as a better alternative to a concrete block

c) the Clerk reported that a Viridor sign needed to be put up in the Rec and it was agreed that this should go in the garden area together with the educational sign which would be ordered shortly

d) Cllr Crang reported that the Football Club had kindly let the Wicksteed and Caloo workers use the clubs changing rooms and suggested that a donation be given to cover water charges. Cllr Hodge proposed £25 from the Chairman’s fund which was seconded by Cllr Spivey and RESOLVED. Clerk to arrange.

#### **Open Day July 10 2016 –**

a) and b) Cllr Lawson advised that the primary school were taking part in a poster competition – posters to be on display in the WI hut on the day – and that flyers had been handed to all children. Pre-school children had made models to be on display on the day. Toddlers group parents are to supply cakes. The PC would need to provide tea, coffee ice creams and soft drinks. Cllr Lawson proposed a budget of £200 to cover costs, including balloons and bunting, which was seconded by Cllr Waldron and RESOLVED.

c) Cllr Lawson proposed she arrange a table tennis competition, sack races, 3 legged races, local singers and for Viridor to be invited and the press to be advised. This was seconded by Cllr Bright and RESOLVED. All Cllrs would attend to help if possible. Cllr Crang would ask a local celebrity/dignitary to open the day at 11am.

Rec Annual Inspection – the Clerk advised that this had been completed by MDDC and the report circulated.

### **16/117 Financial matters**

- Payment of the Clerks net salary for May 2016 and the 1% national increase in salary w.e.f.  
1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 £ 187.68 (VAT n/a)
- Payment of tax to HMRC regarding Clerks salary for May and pay-rise £ 46.92 (n/a)
- Payment to the Clerk for expenses (ink & paper £17.50, Annual Parish Meeting refreshments from Chairman’s Allowance £101.78) £ 116.78 (incl)
- Payment to Cllr Sims for strimmer cord (reimbursement) £ 23.75 (incl)
- Payment to Crediton Tool Hire for the digger hire for the Rec £ 140.40 (incl)
- Payment to DALC for Cllr Lawson’s training £ 30.00 (incl)

- Payment to Grant Thornton for the annual external audit £ 120.00 (incl)
- Payment to MDDC for the Rec annual equipment inspection £ 35.00 (ex)

It was proposed by Cllr Wills that all the above payments be made. Seconded by Cllr Turner and RESOLVED.

Council noted i) a credit to the account of £1,265.05 being the final Defibrillator funds ii) the bank balance as at 01/06/2016 of £43,420.12 (£30,000 ring-fenced for the new Cemetery) iii) that letters had been sent to the Quarry Car Park garage tenants for the annual rent of £60 per garage and that this amount was due for review in 2017.

**16/118 Committee Representative reports** – this item was postponed until the next meeting.

**16/119 Walking the village footpaths** – this item was postponed until the next meeting.

**16/120 PCPR and Saturday Market** - this item was postponed until the next meeting.

**16/121 Annual Audit** – the Clerk reported that the Audit had now been submitted to the external Auditors, and that Mrs Chanin had again completed the internal audit free of charge. Cllr Crang proposed that the Clerk arrange a gift of up to £10 with a thank you card which was seconded by Cllr Hodge and RESOLVED.

**16/122 Business at the Chairman’s discretion** – Councillors are respectfully reminded that this is not an opportunity for decision making.

- 1) Cllr Crang reported that two residents had requested the PC consider a donation to the local mobility scheme and it was agreed to put this on the next agenda.

**16/123** To confirm the date, time, and venue of **the next Parish Council Meeting** – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2016 being an extraordinary Parish Council Meeting, at Thorverton Memorial Hall, 7.30pm.

The usual monthly Parish Council Meeting will take place on Tuesday 12th July 2016 at 7.30pm at Thorverton Memorial Hall.

The meeting closed at 10.16pm