

MORCHARD BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Meeting Monday 3rd June 2024 at 7.30pm

At Morchard Bishop Memorial Hall

Present: Steve Watson (Chairman), Dawn Parkhouse, Simon Baker, David Gillbard, Sarah Gillbard, Andy Hankins, Stephen Leese, Sheila Sinclair, Debbie Ticehurst (later), and David Parker (Parish Clerk).

The Chairman and Vice Chairman each read out and then signed Declarations of Office before the meeting commenced.

Members of the public attending: None

1. **Apologies:** David Grant, Les Partridge, Debbie Ticehurst, County Councillor Margaret Squires, District Councillor Helen Tuffin, District Councillor Mark Jenkins.
2. **Members of the Public** - None.
3. **Crediton Cluster:** Steve Huxtable, a Town Councillor from Crediton gave a talk about what the Crediton Cluster was trying to achieve. The idea was to forge links between local councils and to create a forum giving the Town and local Parish Councils a bigger voice to take matters forward to the District and County Councils. The group had covered the following topics: Roads / Potholes, Footpaths, Cycle Routes (Crediton – Newton St Cyres - Exeter), Road signage cleaning, Road Warden Scheme and Speedwatch. They aimed to get their voice heard earlier with Forward Planning at the District Council. A Councillor commented that this bottom up approach to getting things done may improve the chances of orchestrating change. Local Councils involved included Crediton, Newton St Cyres, and Sandford, others had been invited. They held Monthly meetings to which two people from each Parish Council could attend. The next meeting would be held on Monday 17th June at Crediton Town Council Offices – Steve Watson volunteered to represent Morchard Bishop Parish Council
4. **The minutes** of the Council meeting held on 13th May 2024 were approved - Proposed: Sheila Sinclair, seconded: Dawn Parkhouse – carried unanimously.
The Minutes of the AGM held on 13th May 2024 were approved - Proposed: Simon Baker, seconded: Sheila Sinclair – carried unanimously. David Gillbard confirmed that he would be willing to act as one of the Parish Council's representatives on the Playing Fields Committee.

5. Finance.

Cashflow table for June was circulated which explained the income and expenditure figures for May/June. Expenditure for June is £807.41 on the main account, £10.50 on the Reserve Account and nothing on the footpaths account. Funds at the end of May 2024 before payment of these invoices stood at: Reserve Account, £15,422.35; Current Account £9,159.13; P3 Account £2,585.14.

Current Account Receipts and Invoices to be paid:

Function 28	Web hosting and Email management	£ 24.00 Standing Order
Function 28	Annual SSL Certificate	£ 59.99 BACS
Clear Councils Ins.	Insurance	£ 630.48 BACS
Stephen Leese	Defibrillator Pads	£ 92.94 BACS
Jo Coffey	Memorial Planters	£ 81.00 BACS
Lydcott Nursery	Other Planters	£ 109.62 BACS
SHT Dockings	Grass Cutting	£ 267.00 BACS

Reserve Account Receipts and Invoices to be paid:

Memorial Hall	Sustainable Morchard Room Hire	£ 10.50 BACS
---------------	--------------------------------	--------------

The Current account stands at £7,894.10 after payment of these invoices, the Reserve account stands at £15,411.35 including funds for Jubilee Funds (£113.46), DAAT (£1,116.80), Sustainable Morchard (£39.54), Clock Face fund (£613.99), Election Expenses (£1500), and the P3 account stands at £2,585.14.

Stephen Leese proposed and David Gillbard seconded that these invoices be paid and the Financial report accepted – carried unanimously.

- 6. Parish Council Audit** – The Clerk presented the accounts to the Parish Council following which Stephen Leese proposed that “The Parish Council approve section 1 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Statement 2023/24 and Section 2 the Accounting Statements 2023/24 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2023/24.” Simon Baker seconded the proposal which was then carried with unanimous support.

7. Planning

24/00771/FULL	Erection of roof over existing concrete yard	Land and Buildings at NGR 277480 107242 (Church Hill), Morchard Bishop
---------------	--	---

After discussion Stephen Leese proposed that this application be SUPPORTED. Simon Baker seconded the proposal and it was carried unanimously.

24/00799/LBC	Listed Building Consent for the demolition of porch, alterations to form ground floor cloakroom and re-roofing of single storey rear extension.	Wayside, Morchard Bishop
--------------	---	--------------------------

After discussion Dawn Parkhouse proposed that this application be SUPPORTED. Andy Hankins seconded the proposal and it was carried unanimously.

Planning: decisions / **appeals** / withdrawals

23/00217/FULL APPEAL	Erection of a rural workers dwelling Appeal Ref No: APP/Y1138/W/24/3340023 – Mr R Moore	Lydcott Nursery, Black Dog, Crediton.

The Parish Council had previously sent a letter in support of this Appeal so the Council felt that no further action was necessary.

8. Correspondence not dealt with elsewhere in the meeting:

- Clear Councils – Insurance Renewal – The Clerk mentioned the conversations that he had had with the Insurers as they had tried to increase the amount of the invoice, but the clerk had pointed out that last year, the Parish Council had agreed a three year deal, and managed to get the figure reduced to that previously agreed.
- Mid Devon District Council had written to confirm that the final decision regarding the street name for the above development at Chulmleigh Road was Belstone View.

9. Ongoing Matters:

- a) Roads, Signage, Hedges, Potholes, Footpaths and Mud: Nothing to report. The Parish Council wanted to encourage Devon Highways to “Hedge Plough” the sides of the roads.
- b) Road Warden Scheme: The Pothole repair team would meet on Tuesday 11th June at 10.00am to commence work.
- c) Accidents and Incidents: Nothing to report.
- d) Dog Control: Nothing to report.
- e) Defibrillators – All Defibrillators are working. The pads at Frost had been replaced.
- f) Bus Shelter – Nothing to report.
- g) Church Clock – The Clerk would start making enquiries about the cost of refurbishing the clock face.
- h) Churchyard Committee Trees – Nothing to report.
- i) Emergency Plan – No further progress.
- j) Public Convenience in Morchard Bishop – The Clerk had heard back from the Clerk at Down St Mary with the following message: “Down St Mary Council have also been going round in circles. The original plan was for the council to pay £830 per year to MDDC as its contribution to the upkeep. Since COVID MDDC have closed two thirds of the facility and have considered selling or renting that part. The parish council has had problems trying to find out exactly what MDDC is doing. We have not agreed a new amount for payment. One point is that Pcs are subject to business rates but the government have been promising to abolish this”.

- k) Village Maintenance Plans – The Parish Council noted that work was underway on the Noticeboards. Dawn Parkhouse had pointed out how dirty the pillars etc around the War Memorial were looking and it was agreed that a working party be held on Monday 24th June at 7.00pm at the War Memorial.
- l) Assisting Businesses – This item had not moved forward yet.
- m) D-Day Commemorations – Bunting had been placed around the War Memorial. On Thursday 6th June, the Chairman would read the “National Proclamation” from the War Memorial at 8.00am. Set up in the School Playground could take place from 4.00pm. In the evening from 6.45pm David and Sarah’s Barbecues would be set up in the School where it was expected to cater for 100 people. Stephen Leese and Debbie Ticehurst would control traffic and Debbie would also cover First Aid. The Bells would be rung from 7.30pm and at 9.10pm Jim McDougal would read the “International Tribute”. At 9.15pm the Beacon would be lit. Anton had agreed to provide the gas. The Folk Group that were staying at the London Inn would be invited to come and play their instruments.
- n) Post Box in centre of Village – no news back from Mike and Pete or the Royal Mail.
- o) Apple Day will be on 5th October 2024.

10. Sustainable Morchard Report – On 28th May the presentation about Owls was well attended (60) and very interesting.

11. Trustees and Village Organisations Reports

- Memorial Hall – Debbie Ticehurst attended the AGM. The Memorial Hall accepted the King’s Portrait, the conversation about a public toilet was ongoing, the WiFi code would be made available in the upper room. The door code would be given to the Church. Part of the Treasurer’s role would be advertised in the Morchard Mesenger along with a paid position for caretaking services. They were reviewing their hire charges. They were planning to hold committee meetings bi-monthly with sub committees meeting in the months in-between. They will apply for a grant towards tarmac in the Car Park and painting new yellow lines.
- Morchard Bishop Playing Fields – The Playing Fields had bought a new card reader for the gate on Fair Day. The Boot Fair made over £100 towards funds.
- School – nothing to report
- Churchyard – No news.
- Parochial Church Council – AGM had been held with a second Church Warden and new Treasurer appointed. The Church Open Gardens Event will be held on Saturday 15th June for one day only. Talks were underway about the repairs to the Church and the Church Tower.

12. General (Note – items in this section cannot be discussed – merely scheduled for a future meeting).
Nothing was mentioned.

Meeting Closed at 9.00pm

The next meeting of Morchard Bishop Parish Council will be on **Monday 1st July 2024** at the Memorial Hall **at 7.00pm** when we would hear from Richard Kapff about Bio Diversity Net Gain. The Parish Council would also consider the Christmas Lights.