

## MORCHARD BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of Parish Meeting Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 7.30pm

#### At Morchard Bishop Memorial Hall

**Present:** Steven Watson (Chair), Dawn Parkhouse, David Gillbard, Sarah Gillbard, David Grant, Stephen Leese, Les Partridge, Sheila Sinclair, Debbie Ticehurst, District Councillor Helen Tuffin and David Parker (Parish Clerk).

Members of the public attending: None

1. **Apologies:** Simon Baker, Andy Hankins, County Councillor Margaret Squires, District Councillor Mark Jenkins.
2. **Members of the Public** – Nothing raised.
3. **The minutes** of the Council meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2024 were approved - Proposed: Debbie Ticehurst, seconded: Sheila Sinclair – carried unanimously.

#### 4. Finance.

Cashflow table for November was circulated which explained the income and expenditure figures for October/November. Expenditure for November is £1,277.96 on the main account, £770.74 on the Reserve Account and nothing on the footpaths account. Funds at the end of October 2024 before payment of these invoices stood at: Reserve Account, £17,791.10; Current Account £10,549.00 having received the second tranche of the precept and the Apple Day Takings paid into the account; P3 Account £869.40.

##### Current Account Receipts and Invoices to be paid:

Function 28	Web hosting and Email management	£ 24.00 Standing Order
British Gas Energy	Outside lighting of the Church	£ 25.11 Direct Debit estimate
Royal British Legion	Poppy Wreaths	£ 39.98 BACS
David Parker	Clerk's Salary	£875.38 BACS
Function 28	Calendar	£216.00 BACS
Stephen Leese	12v AC/DC Time controller	£ 22.49 BACS
CHAT	Grant	£ 75.00 BACS

##### Reserve Account Receipts and Invoices to be paid:

Midmoors	DAAT Electrics	£770.74 BACS
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The Current account stands at £9,274.16 after payment of these invoices, the Reserve account stands at £13,948.36 including funds for Jubilee Funds (£113.46), DAAT (£346.06), Sustainable Morchard (£39.54), Clock Face fund (£613.99), Election Expenses (£1500), and the P3 account stands at £1519.40 having received the annual grant of £650.

Stephen Leese proposed, and Dawn Parkhouse seconded that these invoices be paid and the Financial report accepted – carried unanimously.

#### 5. Planning

24/01485/LBC	Listed Building Consent for erection of covered walkway to include rendering of wall with lime-based render and installation of suspended floor.	The Old Dairy, 2 Chapel Street, Morchard Bishop
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After discussion Sarah Gillbard proposed that this application be SUPPORTED. Debbie Ticehurst seconded the proposal, and it was carried unanimously.

24/01072/FULL	Change of use of land to horse manege	Land at NGR 278284 110062 (Mear Farm), Black Dog, Crediton
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After discussion Les Partridge proposed that the Council make no further comment in relation to this application. David Gillbard seconded the proposal, and it was carried unanimously.

#### Planning: decisions / appeals / withdrawals

24/01254/PNCOU <b>Refused</b>	Prior Notification for the change of use of an agricultural building to 1 dwelling under class Q	Land and Buildings at NGR 277165 106515 Oldborough MB
24/01280/PNCOU <b>Approved</b>	Prior Notification for the change of use of an agricultural building to dwelling under class Q	Land and Buildings at NGR 278184 109918 Mear Farm, Black Dog
24/01263/LBC <b>Consented</b>	Listed Building Consent to investigate water ingress linked to cob chimney on north elevation Incl structural repair, re-construction of brick chimney stack, roof repair to thatch and corrugated iron and re-rendering	Seetington Cottage, Morchard Bishop
24/00981/FULL <b>Approved</b>	Erection of an horticultural shade net tunnel	Lydcott Nursery, Black Dog

#### 6. Correspondence not dealt with elsewhere in the meeting:

- Churches Housing Action Trust (CHAT) had sent a letter making their annual request for grant support. The Council had budgeted £75 as in previous years for this grant, Stephen Leese proposed and Debbie Ticehurst seconded that we award the £75 grant to CHAT – Carried.
- The Devon Countryside Access Forum (DCAF) – a local forum under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 Is seeking applications for new members. As no-one on the Parish Council felt able to put themselves forward it was agreed to offer the opportunity to those on the P3 committee, after that a local farmer and after that to offer it to the Parish via the Parish website.

#### 7. Ongoing Matters:

- a) Roads, Signage, Hedges, Potholes, Footpaths and Mud on roads: The Clerk read out the complaint that he had sent to Devon Highways about their poor systems which resulted in the Pothole repair team losing the summer in which to repair potholes. The complaint had been acknowledged. The Clerk had written to Steve Tucker, the Highway Liaison Officer about traffic being diverted through Morchard Bishop and about the possibility of some of the roads being Edge Ploughed. Steve Tucker had asked that the Parish Council prioritise the order in which roads should be tackled. The Parish Council asked for the road between Barton Corner and Black Dog to be prioritised particularly that part at Brownstone either side of Orchard Kennels. With regard to Edge Ploughing the Council asked Devon Highways to prioritise (1) the road from Morchard Road to Morchard Bishop. (2) The right hand side of the road from Beech Hill to Cockrattle Lane on the Three Hammers Road. The Clerk was also asked to ask the officer whether the Road Warden Team could borrow an Edge Plough. Sarah and David Gillbard and Emma Heal had cleared the blockage in the drainpipe at Jane Ways Grave. They had pulled out a clump of tree roots and were concerned, therefore, that the pipe was broken and needed to be checked using a camera.
- b) Road Warden Scheme: Nothing to report – too cold to use the material.
- c) Accidents and Incidents: In Fore Street a wall had been taken out by a forager. A post had been knocked over at the War Memorial by a contractor. There had been reports of Anti-Social behaviour at a property in New Buildings.
- d) Dog Control: Nothing to report.
- e) Defibrillators – All in working order.
- f) Bus Shelter – Nothing to report.
- g) Church Clock – The Parish Council had received a quote for an annual maintenance visit from Smiths of Derby for £384 + VAT. The Parish Council decided to seek quotes from other Clock repairers and to speak with other churches to see who they use.
- h) Emergency Plan – No further progress.

- i) Village Maintenance Plans – Aidan Wilcox had killed the weeds at the Pound and War Memorial and had kindly agreed not to charge. The Parish Council gave him a vote of thanks.
  - j) Assisting local Businesses – No further progress.
  - k) War Memorial – The Clerk had two companies quoting for the work to repair the tarmac to the front of the War Memorial and the Parish Council suggested that he speak to Richard Prance at Kennford Tarmac for a third quote. The Clerk was still chasing up quotes for the refurbishment and painting of the posts.
  - l) Parish Calendar – The Parish Council had by e-mail, agreed to buy the necessary software licence and was now awaiting its installation.
  - m) Christmas Lights and Nativity – The Parish Council approved a Risk Assessment for the “Lighting Ceremony”. Sarah Gillbard will source a box large enough to hold two leisure batteries and an inverter. The lights will be put in place on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 10.30am ready for lighting on 8<sup>th</sup> December at 17.45hrs.
  - n) Bad-Weather Wardens and Winter Gritting – The grit had arrived from Devon Highways. John Charman had kindly agreed to tow the gritter. As it had not been possible so far to find someone to act as a Bad Weather Warden in Greenaway, the Clerk was asked to place an advert in the Morchard Messenger.
  - o) The King’s Portrait – the second portrait of the King would be offered to the Parish Church.
  - p) Devon Air Ambulance Lights (DAAT) – The electricity box and consumer unit had been replaced. The Football Club were now going to have all eight lights replaced with LED units.
- 8. Crediton Cluster Meeting Report** – The cluster was still looking for more Parish Council’s to join them. The cluster was looking at the Crediton Neighbourhood Plan in conjunction the Mid Devon Local Plan, however, they were concerned about the effort and cost of a neighbourhood plan due to Mid Devon District Council saying that they would only “take note” of what was in the plan when considering planning and the Local Plan. Newton St Cyres had decided not to continue with their Neighbourhood Plan, Sandford were proceeding with theirs. MacDonalds in Crediton would be opening in the spring.
- 9. Sustainable Morchard Report** – Seed swap on 1<sup>st</sup> March and a plant swap on 3<sup>rd</sup> May. On Friday they were installing a “wild flower” patch at the playing fields.
- 10. Bonfire Extravaganza** – A vote of thanks was given to Sarah and Simon and their committee for putting on such a successful event, particular thanks was given to Sarah for her generosity, particularly closing the pub for three sessions. Tickets were sold in advance and another 71 sold on the night. The wrap up meeting would take place at 6.30pm on Monday 18 November. It was thought that an annual event should be striven for but not necessarily the same thing every year.
- 11. Consideration of Purchase of a “Sum up” machine.** – The cost was £69.99 and could be used by various groups. It was agreed that the cost could be added to the expenses of putting on the bonfire extravaganza.
- 12. Dates of Meetings for next year** – The dates in the table below were approved by the Parish Council:

Meetings 2025

	Parish Council		Footpaths / P3
	7.30 pm at the Memorial Hall	Agenda items for Parish Council only	7.00pm at the Memorial Hall
January	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Set budget & precept, Emergency Plan	
February	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Governance Documents	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup>
March	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Village Assets - Maintenance	
April	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Initiatives	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> *
May	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> *	AGM	
June	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup>		Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>
July	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup>		
August	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Autumn Bonfire	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>
September	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> **		
October	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Lights & Nativity Bad Weather Wardens & Gritting	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>
November	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Parish Initiatives Next year’s meetings	
December	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Budget & Precept – First consideration	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>

\*due to bank holiday on first Monday of May

\*\* due to Clerk's holiday

**13. Parish Initiatives** – Due to the meeting running late this item was postponed to the next meeting.

**14. Trustees and Village Organisations Reports**

- Memorial Hall – No meeting since the last Parish Council meeting.
- Morchard Bishop Playing Fields – No meeting since the last Parish Council meeting.
- School – Nothing to report.
- Churchyard – Nothing to report.
- Parochial Church Council – No meeting since the last Parish Council meeting.
- Councillor Helen Tuffin – Nothing to report

**15. General** (Note – items in this section cannot be discussed – merely scheduled for a future meeting).  
Nothing raised in this section.

Meeting Closed at 9.35pm

The next meeting of Morchard Bishop Parish Council will be on **Monday 2 December 2024** at the Memorial Hall **at 7.30pm**. when we will consider Parish Initiatives and give first consideration to next year's budget and the precept.