

MORCHARD BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Meeting Monday 7th October 2024 at 7.30pm

At Morchard Bishop Memorial Hall

Present: Dawn Parkhouse (Chair), Simon Baker, David Gillbard, Sarah Gillbard, David Grant, Andy Hankins, Stephen Leese, Les Partridge, Sheila Sinclair, Debbie Ticehurst, County Councillor Margaret Squires, District Councillor Mark Jenkins and David Parker (Parish Clerk).

Member of the public attending: Jeanette Richardson

1. **Apologies:** Steve Watson, District Councillor Helen Tuffin.
2. **Members of the Public** – dealt with under Item 10. Which was taken out of order.
3. **The minutes** of the Council meeting held on 2nd September 2024 were approved - Proposed: Stephen Leese, seconded: Les Partridge – carried unanimously.

4. Finance.

Cashflow table for October was circulated which explained the income and expenditure figures for September/October. Expenditure for October is £482.67 on the main account, £457.71 on the Reserve Account and nothing on the footpaths account. Funds at the end of September 2024 before payment of these invoices stood at: Reserve Account, £15,158.14; Current Account £5,631.11; 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	£ 17.67 Direct Debit estimate
Defibshop	New pads for defibrillators	£174.00 BACS
S H Dockings	Grass Cutting	£267.00 BACS

Reserve Account Receipts and Invoices to be paid:

Start Traffic Ltd	Wait here signs	£115.19 BACS
Greenham Trading Ltd	Blue Directional Arrow signs	£ 41.74 BACS
TLC Exeter	Inverter and Christmas Lights	£300.78 BACS

The Current account stands at £5,148.44 after payment of these invoices and the second tranche of the precept is due to be paid to the Parish Council in October, the Reserve account stands at £14,700.43 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 £869.40.

Simon Baker proposed, and Sheila Sinclair seconded that these invoices be paid and the Financial report accepted – carried unanimously.

10. Christmas Lights and the Nativity in the Bus Shelter

Jeanette Richardson would like the ceremony to light the tree and the Nativity to begin at 5.45pm on Sunday 8th December. She had e-mailed the school asking for their support. David Parker to ask Anton if the Parish Council can borrow the Sound system from the village hall and Debbie Ticehurst to ask Terry Nott whether he could operate it. The Clerk explained that this year it would be possible to operate the fairy lights and the floodlight in the bus shelter from a battery power supply using an inverter. Sarah Gillbard agreed that the London Inn would host the after party with soup and chips. It would be preferred if children did not run in and out of the pub treading dirt on the carpets and so Stephen Leese and Dawn Parkhouse agreed to act as door keepers – telling children who had been outside to remove their footwear. Jeanette was thanked for her input.

5. Planning

24/01263/LBC	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	Seethington Cottage, Morchard Bishop
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After discussion Les Partridge proposed that this application be SUPPORTED. Debbie Ticehurst seconded the proposal, and it was carried unanimously.

24/01361/FULL	Erection of extension to horticultural barn	Lydcott Nursery, Black Dog, Crediton
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After discussion Stephen Leese 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 Revised Drawings	Land at NGR 278284 110062 (Mear Farm) Black Dog
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After discussion Simon Baker proposed that this application be SUPPORTED. Dawn Parkhouse seconded the proposal, and it was carried unanimously.

24/01402/FULL	Change of use of agricultural building to ancillary accommodation to dwelling	Barn at 276417 109323 Middle Leigh Farm (The Barn), MB
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After discussion David Grant proposed that this application be SUPPORTED. Stephen Leese seconded the proposal, and it was carried unanimously.

24/01450/CAT	Notification of intention to fell 1 Magnolia Grandiflora tree within the Conservation Area	Grasshopper Lodge, Fore Street, Morchard Bishop
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After discussion David Grant proposed that this application be SUPPORTED. Sheila Sinclair seconded the proposal, and it was carried unanimously.

24/01254/PNCOU	Prior Notification for the change of use of an agricultural building to one dwelling under Class Q	Land and Buildings at NGR 277165 106515 Oldborough, Morchard Bishop
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After discussion the Parish Council Noted this application.

24/01280/PNCOU	Prior Notification for the change of use of an agricultural building to a dwelling under Class Q	Land and Buildings at NGR278184 109918 Mear Farm, Black Dog
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After discussion the Parish Council Noted this application.

Planning: decisions / appeals / withdrawals

24/01154/HOUSE Approved	Erection of free-standing greenhouse	Weeke Barton, Morchard Bishop
24/01042/FULL Approved	Retention of change of use from holiday let back to agricultural storage	Barn Cottage, Venn Farm, Morchard Bishop
23/00217/FULL Appeal Allowed	Erection of a rural workers dwelling	Lydcott Nursery, Black Dog, Crediton

24/01207/PNAG No Objection - Prior Approval Not Required	Prior Notification for the erection of roof to cover existing yard	Land and Buildings at NGR 277627 107850 (Wood Barton) Morchard Bishop
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6. Correspondence not dealt with elsewhere in the meeting:

- TravelWatch SouthWest – “Government Changes to Transport: what’s in it for the passenger?” – October 11 at 11.00am on-line – Parish Councillors were encouraged to attend.
- Smith of Derby-would the Parish Council like a quote for placing the clock an annual service agreement? The Clerk was asked to ask Smith of Derby whether if the clock was placed on an annual service agreement whether it would make any parts needed cheaper? Ask for quotes for annual and bi-annual servicing.
- DCC – Consultation on the Local Transport Plan – 1st October – 30th November
- DCC - Consultation on Devon Countywide Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan – 1st October – 30th November. These two consultations needed as many people as possible to comment on the proposals particularly as the Cycling plan involved a proposed route from Crediton to Exeter. The Parish Council asked the clerk to put both the consultations onto the website and to mention them in the Parish News article in the Morchard Messenger.

7. Ongoing Matters:

- a) Roads, Signage, Hedges, Potholes, Footpaths and Mud on roads: Devon County Council appear to be fixing some potholes in the area. Councillor Margaret Squires commented that in some places they were using elastomax which was a form of pothole filler partly made from recycled tyres. Apparently the mixture takes longer to set but once it does is harder wearing. The Parish Council noted a lot of mud on the road on Farthing Hill close to Barton Cross. One Councillor had written to Devon Highways seeking assistance with drain pipes for the field at Brownstone, Councillor Margaret Squires asked for the reference number so that she could push the communication forward.
- b) Road Warden Scheme: Now that our order of pothole filling material had arrived, the Road Warden team were waiting on the weather and to see just how much Devon Highways were fixing themselves. Now that we have more Road Wardens trained others could take the lead and take teams out at alternative times in the week. Cllr David Grant and Cllr David Gillbard could tow the trailer to where needed – they should be added to the group.
- c) Accidents and Incidents: Nothing to report.
- d) Dog Control: Nothing to report.
- e) Defibrillators – New pads had been fitted to the defibrillators in Church Street and Frost and the defibrillator circuit had been updated.
- f) Bus Shelter – Nothing to report.
- g) Church Clock – Nothing to report.
- h) Emergency Plan – No further progress.
- i) Village Maintenance Plans – Aidan Wilcox had been asked to kill the weeds at the Pound and War Memorial.
- j) Assisting local Businesses – No further progress.
- k) War Memorial – The working party had completed washing down the War Memorial and clearing the turf that has grown over the road. This now threw up a new problem in that successive layers of tarmac had built up and if more were placed on top, any rainwater would wash over the kerbstones onto the grass and into the War Memorial area. The solution was to have a company plane away some of the old tarmac, lay new kerbstones and then lay fresh tarmac. The Clerk will arrange for three quotes for this work and apply for a grant from the War Memorials fund.
- l) Parish Calendar – Simon Baker reported that a new e-mail address morchardevents@gmail.com had been set up and very soon the permissions would be set up on the Parish Council Website for the Events Calendar to appear on the front page of the website.
- m) Polson Hill Garage Parking – The Chairman and the Clerk had spoken to the owner who had assured them that he was going to get rid of at least two of the cars. Some Councillors felt that it was only a matter of time until there was an accident there. The neighbours were advised to keep a diary and photographic record of the site so that an evidenced based case could be built up for the police and highways to take note of.
- n) Devon Air Ambulance Lights (DAAT) – Dawn Parkhouse raised that the DAAT night landing and Football Club lights keep tripping out and investigations showed that the electricity box and fuse board needed replacing. David Grant proposed and Devid Gillbard seconded that the funds reserved in the Reserve account towards the DAAT lights be used towards paying for the work to be done including replacing the fuse board. This proposal was CARRIED. Andy Hankins offered a suitable box to house the unit for free.

8. Crediton Cluster Meeting Report – No report.

9. Sustainable Morchard Report – The group had decided not to have a Chairman and to run the meetings in a more informal way. They were investigating a “no mow May” in the Children’s play area at the Playing Fields. Bug Hotels and log piles would be placed around some of the lesser used area of the Playing Fields around the Tennis Court. They would hold a seed swap on 1st March and a plant swap on 3rd May. They were due to meet with representatives of the Churchyard Committee with regard to rewilding parts of the Churchyard.

10. Dealt with earlier

11. Winter Gritting and “Bad Weather” Wardens – John Charman had kindly offered to pull the gritter, David Gillbard said he would be prepared to be the back up. The Clerk was asked to order a ton of salt/grit and to chase the engineer for the rubber on the snow plough to be repaired. Councillors would approach different residents in Greenaway to identify those who would grit Greenaway.

12. 1st November Bonfire Extravaganza – The Bonfire committee had met and planned an event. A laser light show, synchronised to music, had been hired at a cost of £1780. Tickets would be sold at £10 per adult in advance, £13 on the night with children under 16 accompanied by an adult admitted free. FOMBS and the school were to be involved in running side shows. There would be a Bar, Grill and Jacket Potatoes. No Parking. The instructions on how to make a Guy would be placed in the Messenger. A Risk Assessment had been completed.

13. Portrait of The King – The second Portrait that had been sent to the Parish Council would be offered to the Memorial Hall to hang in the upstairs Committee Room.

14. Trustees and Village Organisations Reports

- Memorial Hall – The Memorial Hall was financially sound. Unfortunately the Walking Festival hadn’t provided them with many customers. There would be a Jumble Sale on 26 October and Bingo on 6 December. The book swap was going well. The Hall had lots of regular bookings and all was going well.
- Morchard Bishop Playing Fields – Finance was in a good place, quotations were being sought for new Play Equipment. The committee were debating what to use the S106 funds for. The Sports and Social Club had had new flooring behind the bar and in the cellar and maintenance had been carried out. The Clerk was asked to look into what permission needed to be sought for a fingerpost sign in the village pointing to the Playing Fields and Bowls Club.
- School – The school were pleased to be involved with the bonfire extravaganza as any profits would go to their garden track. FOMBS were having a Dinner Dance.
- Churchyard – The Churchyard Committee was awaiting a Quinquennial inspection of the Church and had postponed the work to cut back some trees.
- Parochial Church Council – No report.
- Councillor Margaret Squires Report – Councillor Squires reported that the County Council were looking for Foster Carers – anyone interested should approach DCC.
- Councillor Mark Jenkins – No report

15. General (Note – items in this section cannot be discussed – merely scheduled for a future meeting).

The D- Day Barbecue had raised £224.20 and so £44.84 had been sent to each of The Royal Naval Association, ABF The Soldiers Charity, Royal AirForce Benevolent Fund, The Merchant Navy Association and the Normandy Memorial Trust.

The Parish would support the national lighting of Beacons on 8th May 2025 to commemorate VE day. This item to appear on Parish Council Agendas from January.

Meeting Closed at 10.00pm

The next meeting of Morchard Bishop Parish Council will be on **Monday 4th November 2024** at the Memorial Hall **at 7.30pm**. when we will consider Parish Initiatives and meeting dates for next year.