

Minutes of the meeting of Morteohoe Parish Council held in the Council Chamber, The Esplanade, Woolacombe, on Monday 17th February 2014 at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Members: D Duffield, K Cook, R Lamb, D Barron, S Woodman, G Webb (Chairman) , E Bond, and J Richards.

Clerks: S Hocking and J Keiff

Also Present: Councillor Davis (D.C.C.); and 1 member of the public

21/2014 Apologies: J Fairhurst and S Mulberry (N.T.)

22/2014 Public Speaking Time

Mr Stephen Brown Re: Planning Application 56932 Parade House – Mr Brown voiced his concerns regarding the current proposals for developments at Parade House. He felt that the special heritage assets of the property should be reflected in any development of the site and that the proposed plans were entirely inappropriate in a conservation area.

23/2014 Police Report – there was no police report this month.

Report on drug scene in the area - members requested that the police provide a view on the present drug scene in the North Devon area and the impact on the communities in the region.

24/2014 Declaration of Interests

Planning Application 56932 Parade House - Councillor Duffield declared a personal interest in this application.

Planning Application 56946 Sands End – the whole council declared a personal interest in this application as one of the letters making an observation on the plans (as an immediate neighbour) is known to the council as an employee.

25/2014 Minutes

It was Proposed to approve as a correct record, and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on January 20th 2014 at 7.00 p.m. at the Council Chamber. Seconded. APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

26/2014 County Council Report –

Consultation on Residential Services for older people in Devon – Councillor Davies drew members' attention to the current consultation on residential care. The 45 consultation period commenced on the 10th February and runs until March 26th The consultation documents can be viewed at: <http://new.devon.gov.uk/residentialreview/>

Consultation on the future of Youth services- Consultation Period 3rd February – 27th April [www.devon.gov.uk/youth review](http://www.devon.gov.uk/youth%20review)

Consultation on Day Services and meals provision – Consultation Period ends on the 19th March www.new.devon.gov.uk/dayservices

Barnstaple Hospital Junction - Consultation from 14th February – 14th March at www.hospitaljunction@devon.gov.uk

Mullacott Flooding - Councillor Davies reported that funding had been secured for remedial work at the site of regular flooding. She could, however, give no guarantee as to when the work may be carried out as the County Highways teams were inundated with storm and flooding damage at present.

Warning Signs at Mullacott – members requested that a sign be erected to prevent caravans and other large vehicles from using the road as directed by satellite navigation systems. It was agreed to discuss the matter again at the March meeting.

27/2014 Planning

(The clerk drew attention to the 3 copied letters circulated to all members in relation to this application)

**56836 Demolition of existing bungalow & erection of two semi-detached houses at site of
The Nook, Morteheo Station Road, Morteheo.**

Members expressed significant concerns regarding the proposal feeling that:

1. The proposed building represented an over intensification of the plot
2. Members felt that the height of the proposed development was not in keeping with the surrounding buildings.
3. Members were concerned at the lack of turning space and parking space for vehicles within the site and the subsequent danger for safe egress from the property.

Proposed REFUSAL. Seconded. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**56923 Conversion of garage to form additional living accommodation , alterations to dwelling & re-positioning of driveway at
Belvedere, North Morte Road, Morteheo.**

Members had no objections to the proposal.

Proposed APPROVAL. Seconded. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

(Councillor Duffield left the chamber declaring an interest in the application .

The clerk drew members attention to one letter of objection)

**56932 Extension & alterations to 1 & 2 Parade House together with erection of one dwelling at
Parade House, The Esplanade, Woolacombe.**

Members were disappointed with the proposals and concerned with the possible impact on the Woolacombe Conservation area and on Parade House itself.

1. Members reiterated the status of Parade House as a distinctive, prominently sited building representing a Heritage Asset as defined in PPS5 having significance both in terms of its historic and architectural interest.
2. Members felt that the proposal lacked any local distinctiveness in its architectural style and was not sympathetic with the features of the existing house or with the existing street scene.
3. Members felt that proposal did nothing to enhance the character or appearance of the Woolacombe Conservation Area and was contrary to the policies ST1, CO7 and ENV16.
4. Members felt that because of the historic importance of Parade House and significance within this community that the full planning committee should consider the application rather than a delegated decision.

Proposed REFUSAL. Seconded. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

(Councillor Duffield returned to the Chamber)

(The whole council declared a personal interest in the proposal as one of the letters making an observation on the plans (as an immediate neighbour) is known to the council as an employee.)

**56946 Replacement windows to all second floor windows, new folding sliding doors with glass & steel balustrade to second elevation at
Sands End, Sunnyside Road, Woolacombe.**

Members had no objections to the proposal and felt confident that all questions regarding materials and door positioning were being addressed.

Proposed APPROVAL. Seconded PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Planning Permission Received:

56716 Change of use from guesthouse to dwelling at Sunny Nook, Beach Road, Woolacombe.

56751 Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) attached to planning permission 54698 to allow amended design for conversion to two dwelling & two holiday units at Crows Nest, Upper Clay Park, Morteheo.

56725 Extensions to dwelling together with conversion of garage at 3 Chichester Park, Woolacombe.

Planning Permission Refused: None

Planning Application Withdrawn:

56726 Extension & alterations to dwelling at 7 Seymour Bungalows, Sandy Lane, Woolacombe.

Planning Inspectorate Hearings:

1. Date: 5th February 2014

Venue: Council Chamber, North Devon Council

Application Number 55646 Land Off Pool Lane Morteheo – Retrospective application for the erection of a temporary agricultural building.

2. Date: 18th February 2014 Withdrawn

Venue; Lee Memorial Hall, Lee, Ilfracombe

Application Number: 54744 & 55532 Erection of agricultural worker's dwelling. Lee Meadow - the clerk reported that the following response was submitted in time for the forthcoming hearing after consultation with members and the release of financial documents under the FOI Act. Further documents have been received relating to the operation of the alpaca herd:

1. Morteheo Parish Council has promoted planning applications related to supporting the local agricultural community in the past.
2. Morteheo Parish Council is a strong defender of the unique and treasured protected status of the North Devon AONB, and, as such, is keen to ensure that any permission for development will only relate to genuine agricultural requirements and not facilitate or permit the creation of campsites or storage facilities.
3. Having now received some financial information relating to the application, Morteheo Parish Council is of the opinion that the financial situation relating to this application remains unclear. Members felt that from a business point of view, the stock could never be self-supporting to the current levels indicated in the business plans and questioned the sustainability of the long term business plan.
4. Internet research has only revealed advertising and reviews relating to the campsite at Lee Meadow and, apart from comments from campers about seeing alpacas, there seemed to be no evidence of a top-value alpaca-breeding farm.

5. Mortehoe Parish Council expressed great concern to the local police about the spike of incidents of criminal damage and vandalism occurring in the immediate neighbourhood of Lee Meadow during 2013.
6.] Mortehoe Parish Council remains opposed to the application under consideration.

3.Application for a certificate of Lawfulness: For existing use of a caravan at Highcroft Farm, Lee. Affentations from parishioners, the clerk submitted a response on behalf of the council to confirm the details in the letter from the district council solicitor.

28/2014 District Council Report

North Devon Plus – has announced that there will be no further funding for Tourism Information Centres in North Devon.

29/2014 Questions for the National Trust

Footpath Access - members were saddened to hear of the recent damage to the main access paths to footpath 18, Grunta, Rockham and hoped that ways would be found to provide access to the beaches in time for the summer season.

Combesgate Steps – members thanked the Trust and the County Council for their assistance with the recent cliff fall and hoped that the steps would soon be open.

30/2014 Correspondence: i) Letter from L Fryer on behalf of the Heddon Trust –

Members confirmed the appointment of representatives to service on the committee.

- ii) **Invitation from NHS Healthy People, North Devon to Public Meetings throughout the area to discuss future health care.** – *Contents noted*
- iii) **Letter from Mr and Mrs Morgan – Request for bench seat** – *members agreed to the request pending further discussion regarding siting and other practicalities.*
- iv) **Barnstaple Town Council - Invitation to Mayor's Masked Charity Ball.** – *contents noted*
- v) **Letter from P. Heaton-Jones – Conservative Parliamentary Candidate, North Devon** – *members felt that in order to be fair to other candidates standing for the election next year, that they too should be given the opportunity to speak at a public council meeting in a slot to be allocated at the beginning of a meeting.*

31/2014 Register of Outstanding Matters

Speeding Traffic at Spreacombe - Letter from the Highway Safety Officer Michael Newman – Mr Newman has stated that ‘ options for speed reduction in smaller rural communities are limited because of the nature of the roads in these areas....for limits to be considered, they normally have to fall within certain criterias. As an example, for a 40mph limit to be considered there would need to be a certain criteria met such as a recorded speed related collision history. In any case, prioritising our resources to where there are greatest identified issues allows us to target areas of particular concern first and assists us in reducing crashes that occur in the county. I can confirm that I have conducted a sweep of crashes on the database for the area that you have highlighted. The parameters were from the beginning of 2008 to the end of 2012. Within those 5 years I can confirm that there was one recorded

crash in this area. I attach a copy of the crash record for your perusal. As you will see, this was as a result of a mechanical fault, rather than any form of driver error, violation or the nature of the road. On the basis of these results, it would not appear that this stretch of road would fit within the criteria laid out in the attached policy.’

Police Response - PCSO Dale Kingdon is to conduct some speed gathering surveys to see if it is a speed issue although it is doubtful that vehicles are exceeding 60mph.

Highway Notice - “Following the weather over recent weeks councils may have seen the news release regarding the action that we have taken to clean up and repair the highway network. Work has focused on the salting network to date. However, as you will be aware there is a significant backlog on the minor road network, Therefore the following will remain suspended for the rest of this financial year; Programmed gully cleaning :

Lengthsmen visits; - Routine patching Planned cleaning of ditches and easements “

Meadow Sports Pavilion – electrical work has been necessary to replace one broken main overhead light cover, a broken heater, lights in the referee’s changing rooms and faulty extractor fans in the main toilets.

Storm Damage – the steps at Shellsborough have again washed away. A decision on the necessary repairs will be made after the next very high tides of March 2nd and 3rd.

TIC Roof - there have been no further problems with the roof and the council chamber and Tourist Information centre have been redecorated. The final bill has been presented.

Combesgate Toilets – two new cisterns have been installed in the ladies toilets and the facilities repainted. Storm damage to the fascia board has been repaired.

Footpath 18 Path (below Castle Rock) – the path has been officially closed by D.C.C. after subsidence problems on the area of path immediately below Castle Rock Apartments.

Combesgate Steps - the clerk reported that a substantial cliff fall had taken place on the night February 13th resulting in the blockage and closure of the steps. The County Council and National Trust would be assessing the situation and working to clear the steps. A formal closure order would be placed on the steps by the County Council.

Planning Hearing 5th February 2014 Land Off Pool Lane – the clerk reported that she had attended this hearing on behalf to the council. The Inspector has not yet ruled on the case.

32/2014 Consultation D.C.C. on the Future of Youth Services in Devon – *members hoped that the proposed changes did not represent an absolute end of youth services and that great thought should take place to ensure the efficient use of a targeted response.*

33/2014 Devon Waste Plan Consultation – *members felt that a more efficient use of trade waste collections could help prevent mixed recyclable waste being put into landfill sites. They also felt that the increased support for community recycling in holiday areas and resorts could lead to a considerable increase in recycling.*

34/2014 Matters Brought Forward with the Consent of the Chairman

Cemetery spaces – the clerk confirmed that owing to the creation of more plots within the cemetery that approximately 40 spaces remain in addition to those already reserved.

35/2014 Licence Applications: None

36/2017 Cheques for Approval and Signature.

The following cheques were signed prior to the meeting by two members:

20 January	103626	Mr K Ash	1,490.48
20	103627	K Dennis	103.42
20	103628	Fleet Line Markers	152.42

The following cheques were signed at the meeting by two members:

17	103629	Cancelled	
17	103630	M Harrison	601.55
17	103631	BFS	354.00
17	103632	S McCarthy	100.00
17	103633	Tower	94.16
17	103634	Plandscape	249.95
17	103635	Jewson	326.00
17	103636	Inland Rev Month 10	778.65
17	103637	S Hocking	1,158.99
17	103638	J Keiff	216.13
17	103639	Fircroft Signs	90.00
17	103640	N.D. Council	586.35
17	103641	C. M. Electricals	139.50
17	103642	Pearce Construction	11,028.36
17	103643	Staples	92.35

Part 2

Correspondence not requiring discussion is available in the Council Chamber

Part 3

Confidential Matters

Correspondence to Note:

1. Devon Talk - D.C.C. Magazine plus Monthly News Round-Up.
2. Junk Mail - Community Recycling Network
3. 'Everyone's Tomorrow' – Newsletter from Senior Council Of Devon
4. Devon Senior Voice - Newsletter.
5. Health Watch Voices

Yours faithfully

Sally Hocking

The minutes of previous meetings are available from the Parish Clerk

The order of the agenda items may be altered with the consent of the chairman

Date of the next meeting: March 17th 2014 at 7 p.m.

The meeting ended at 8.10