**Minutes of the meeting of Mortehoe Parish Council held in the Council Chamber, The Esplanade, Woolacombe, on Monday 21st November 2022 at 7.25 p.m. (Late due over run of finance meeting)**

**Present: Members: D Duffield (Chairman), M Wilkinson, Jimi Dicker, O Bell, S Woodman, D Barron, J Richards, K Cook(Vice Chair) , Andrea Davis**
**Clerk: D Bleasdale**
**Also Present: none**

**243/2022 Apologies for absence: none**

**244/2022 Public Speaking: None**

**245/2022 Police Report:** Mortehoe/Woolacombe.
Violence and sexual offences 4
Other offences 1

**246/2022 Declaration of Interests:** K Cook 75606 Member of AONB Planning, North Devon World Surfing Reserve.
J Richards 76150 owns house next door.

**247/2022 Minutes: It was Proposed to APPROVE** as a correct record and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on October 17th 2022 at 7 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

**248/2022 County Council Report:** See attached

**249/2022 Planning**

75706 Creation of a new car park together with the erection of a pay and display machine and orientation panel (amended plans) at Roadway Corner Challacombe Hill/ Georgeham Road Woolacombe Devon.
Approval was proposed by Councillor Woodman, seconded by Councillor Duffield, and passed unanimously.
Despite the sensitive nature of the landscape in the area which is largely undeveloped, the council believes the additional construction hedgerow, along with the design and construction of the carpark takes these concerns into account.
The visible splay of the entrance has been changed and has satisfied highways.
The parish council supports idea of improving accessibility to areas of natural beauty.

76125 Siting of one projecting sign externally "non-illuminated" welcome orientation board at Mortehoe Car Park Mortehoe Station Road Mortehoe Woolacombe Devon EX34 7DX.
Approval proposed by councillor Cook, seconded by councillor Richards, all in favour, approved unanimously.

76192 Internal & external alterations to form new flat roof balcony at Shoreview Mill Lane Woolacombe Devon EX34 7BR.
Approval proposed by councillor Cook, seconded by councillor Woodman, all in favour, approved unanimously.

76193 Erection of outbuilding for store and home workshop at Mallards Poole Lane Woolacombe Devon EX34 7AP.

Approval proposed by councillor Duffield, seconded by councillor Dicker, all in favour, approved unanimously

76150 Subdivision to form two dwellings together with extensions and alterations (amended description) at Sunningdale Woolacombe Station Road Woolacombe Devon EX34 7AW
Objection proposed by Councillor Wilkinson, seconded by Councillor Cook, decision unanimous. objection on the grounds of loss of amenity, also the council believe that this significantly overlooks the neighbours and is a privacy issue.

76141 Extension to dwelling to Warcombe Farm Camping Park Mortehoe Station Road Mortehoe Woolacombe Devon EX34 7EJ
Approval proposed by councillor Wilkinson, seconded by councillor Bell, all in favour, approved unanimously.

76114 Part retrospective application for the erection of a single garage together with alterations to access and landscaping works to include raised terraced area to front to Greenbank Beach Road Woolacombe Devon EX34 7BT
Objection proposed by Councillor Cook, seconded by Councillor Dicker, decision unanimous.
The council objected on the grounds that this doesn't fit in with the street scene, specifically the line of the front wall is too far forward, this has a negative visual impact on the area.

**250/2022 District Council Report:** NDC finances are in good shape for the next financial year.

**251/2022 Spring Classic:** The council noted the change in dates and will look at their license once applied for.

**252/2022 Questions for the National Trust:** not present

**253/2022 Correspondence i)** Lucy Lee. Filming in the cemetery, the council said this was okay provided they were respectful.

**254/2022 Register of Outstanding Matters/ Matters Arising from the Minutes.**
The Parish Clerk has been given the responsibility of writing a bench policy for benches within the parish.

**255/2022 Play Areas:** Quotes will be sought for the addition play area equipment**,** using S106 money will be explored.

**256/2022 Public toilets:**.The discussion of the Parish Council taking over local public conveniences from North Devon council is ongoing.

**257/2022 Matters Brought Forward with the Consent of the Chairman:**
A thank you letter for the fireworks display will be sent to Mr A Woodman.
Councillor Dicker would like to know how long it will take to change the parking orders, the clerk will look into this.

**258/2022 Cheques and payments for approval and Signature. The following payments were approved and signed at the meeting. The R.F.O. provided a list of payments in conjunction with bank statements which were also checked and approved at the meeting:**

## Payments for Authorisation

| A/C | Name & Contact | Balance | |
|---|---|---|---|
| BG | British Gas | £199.41 | |
| BLOOM | Bloom Brothers | £1,960.00 | |
| COUNTRY | Countryside & Garden | £552.00 | |
| GLASDON | Glasdon UK Ltd | £1,405.22 | |
| GORDON | Gordon WIndow Cleaning | £1,674.00 | |
| JEW | Jewson Ltd | £67.38 | |
| NDDC | NDDC | £385.40 | |
| NT | National Trust | £83,041.04 | |
| PLAY | Playdale Playgrounds Ltd | £624.00 | |
| SFB | SOURCE FOR BUSINESS | £576.58 | |
| STAR | Pete Starbuck | £2,160.00 | |
| D Bleasdale | | | £1,619.42 |
| G Rogers | | £791.94 | |
| M Hedger | | £1,030.75 | |
| Roy Walker | | | £1,104.73 |
| NT Mortehoe car park | | | £233.32 |
| PAYe | | £1,735.31 | |
| Emma Stafford | | | £145.50 |
| | **Totals:** | £99,306.00 | |

**Part 2**

**Correspondence not requiring discussion is available in the Council Chamber**

**Part 3**

**Confidential Matters**

259/2022 Spring Classic – Any significant license changes and the clerk will raise the issue with the safety advisory group or licencing as applicable

**Yours faithfully** ***Daniel Bleasdale***

**The meeting ended at 09:40 p.m.**

***The minutes of previous meetings are available from the Parish Clerk***

*County Councillors report*
*December 2022*

*Financial position of Devon County Council*
*Devon County Council provides vital services to over 800,000 people from a net revenue budget of*
*£630 million. Devon has the largest local road network in the country and a larger proportion of*
*older people compared to the national average. In the eleven years up to and including 2021/22 the*
*authority's core funding from Government reduced by over £180 million or 72% in real terms. The*
*County Council ended the 2021/22 financial year with a £3.3 million overspend, the first time this*
*had happened in 30 years. We are not alone. New research by the County Councils Network shows*
*17 English authorities face a combined deficit of more than £500 million in 2023/24.*
*As you know from my previous reports to the Parish Council, there has been a huge amount work*
*from mid-summer examining every item of spend and what DCC can change, pause or cease in order*
*to present a balanced outturn i.e. what we actually spent compared to the budget, at the end of*
*every financial year for 2022/23, as well as the need to do build a balanced budget for 2023/24,*
*where the current gap between money we have and money we must legally invest in services is*
*going to be tough to achieve. Work continues apace, so that by the end of this month, going into*
*very early January, targets will have been set, and we will now what the settlement figure we will*
*receive from Government will be.*
*Council agrees to amend North Devon Link Road plans due to rising costs*
*Rising costs as a result of inflation are behind a decision by Devon County Council to amend its*
*ongoing North Devon Link Road improvement plans.*
*Improving the safety of the road, while delivering improved economic benefits to North Devon and*
*Torridge economies - two of the main objectives to the scheme - remain very much a priority.*
*The £67 million improvement programme, the vast majority of which is funded by the Department*
*for Transport, were costed back in 2019 when the economic landscape was very different.*
*The unexpected coronavirus pandemic, which has had and still is having a dramatic impact on*
*businesses, followed by the unforeseen rise in costs of materials and energy compounded by the*

*war in Ukraine, inflation, and rising interest rates, and £67 million no longer buys as much in 2022 as*
*it did in 2019.*
*The entire construction programme is managed within a number of contracts, with one contract in*
*particular accountable for the main work. That's where the problem is now is. Due to rising*
*inflation, the contractor's costs have increased beyond what might usually be expected by more*
*than a quarter, since first costed.*

*The Council has spoken to the Department for Transport, as the main funder for the project, to see if*
*there's any more funding from them available. There's not. That's the reality of what's happening in*
*construction and other business sectors everywhere*
*It means that we've had to look within the £67 million budget, outside the scope of the main*
*essential work, to see what we can do differently to reduce costs, that does not compromise the*
*purpose of the improvements.*
*In addition to the main improvement work, the Council's plans had been to improve junctions at*
*Heywood, Buckleigh, Westleigh, Bishops Tawton, West Buckland and Borners Bridge.*
*To absorb the extra costs within the main contract, we need cut back on costs elsewhere. So, we will*
*continue our plans to improve junctions at Heywood, Buckleigh, Westleigh, West Buckland, and*
*Borners Bridge, but we will now redesign the Bishops Tawton Junction, to remove what was to be an*
*underpass, and instead install safe crossing facilities.*
*Plans for a section of overtaking lane between Portmore and Landkey roundabouts, and for a*
*footbridge over the road in that vicinity, will however now be removed from the programme. Plans*
*do still include a footbridge located at the Landkey junction.*
*We've considered all options, not just by cost, but also considering road safety. Removing the*
*overtaking lane and the footbridge and redesigning the junction at Bishops Tawton will allow us to*
*divert funding to the main work, to meet the additional costs of construction.*
*With regards to the footbridge, we will be looking for developer contributions in future to help pay*
*for improved walking and cycling access in the area.*
*The main works are still on track to be completed by the end of 2023, but the Bishops Tawton*
*junction may be delayed until mid-2024.*
*Consultation on DCC's Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Strategy*
*From 2030 the sale of new petrol and diesel vehicles is expected to end – the draft Devon Electric*

*Vehicle Charging Strategy sets out how and where we will need to intervene to deliver the needed*
*infrastructure to increase the uptake of electric vehicles across the county.*
*The strategy is just one of a series of documents that will form part of the emerging Local Transport*
*Plan (LTP).*
*The EV Charging Strategy, Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans, Devon's Bus Service*
*Improvement Plan, and rail plans for Devon Metro are essential to ensure that Devon achieves net-*
*zero by 2050, as outlined in the Devon Carbon Plan.*
*The strategy itself includes detail on numbers of current and predicted EV users, capacity, number*
*and location of existing charging points, detail about current local and national policy as well as*
*forecasts of future EV uptake and chargepoint demand.*
*If we want to reduce carbon emissions and ensure that Devon becomes net-zero we must decarbonise transport. This strategy will set out what we need to achieve and help us to unlock*

*further funding from Government for new electric charging infrastructure and will ensure that we*
*are well placed to take advantage of new capital funding opportunities as they arise.*
*Current position; We have almost completed delivering the first 80 car chargers in public carparks*
*and we expect to be able to soon announce plans for more in the future. But this is just the start –*
*we need many more.*
*You can give your views via our Have Your say website.*
*Businesses can sign up for a webinar at 6pm on Tuesday 6 December. To register, please email the*
*project team at transportplanning@devon.gov.uk.*
*Paper copies of the strategy and questionnaire will be available in every library.*
*For further information, please write to: Transport Planning, Matford Offices, County Hall, Topsham*
*Road, Exeter, EX2 4QD.*
*Highways*
*Devon's gritting teams have been out already this winter and they're prepared to face whatever the*
*elements throw at the county's roads over the next few months.*
*Gritting depots across the county are fully stocked with around 24,000 tonnes of salt and Devon*
*County Council's upgrade of its winter fleet has continued, with eight of its 37 frontline gritters*
*replaced with newer models this year, reducing revenue spend on maintaining outdated vehicles.*
*This winter, Devon's fleet of gritters are running on sustainably sourced Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil*
*(HVO), which is a waste product from the food industry. The fuel produces 90% less CO2 than*

*regular diesel which will help meet Devon County Council's net zero targets by 2030.*
*Devon's snow warden scheme, which celebrated its 10 th anniversary last year, continues to provide*
*additional support for communities as part of the Council's winter self-help scheme. The 325*
*volunteer snow wardens across the county treat their priority routes during prolonged spells of*
*severe weather.*
*Any grit bins that need refilling please report on the DCC website, link below.*

*Reminder of how to report a Highway issue;*
*Report a problem - Roads and transport (devon.gov.uk)*

*0345 155 1004*

*Live chat is available on the Highways website Monday to Friday 9.30 am to 12 pm and 2 pm to 4.30 pm (4 pm on Fridays).*
*To report a problem with road maintenance, traffic management and parking, streetlights and signs and public rights of way*

*Andrea Davis*

*County Councillor*
*Andrea.davis@devon.gov.uk*