Minutes of the meeting of Mortehoe Parish Council held in the Council Chamber, The Esplanade, Woolacombe, on Monday February 19th at 7.00 p.m.
Present: Members: M Wilkinson, O Bell, D Duffield,, (Vice Chairman) D Barron, (Chairman) K Cook , S Woodman, S Phillips,
Clerk: D Bleasdale
Also Present: Cllr Andrea Davies and 3 members of the public.

17/2024 Apologies for absence: J Dicker, J Richards

18/2024 Public Speaking: Lee Jones spoke of planning application 77979

19/2024 Police Report: Violence less Serious 2, Burglary 1, Theft 2, Vehicle Crime 1, Drugs 1, Sexual Offences 2, Other Crimes 1

20/2024 Declaration of Interests:

21/2024 Minutes: It was Proposed to APPROVE as a correct record and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on February 19th 2023 at 7pm in the Council Chamber.

22/2024 Jonathan Fairhurt: National Trust: Jonathan provided an update on National Trust activities in the area, resurfacing of the tramper routes, and the cycle route from Marine Drive to Putsborough. Planting 6,000 trees near Seymore. Rewetting Combesgate valley by blocking streams, creating larger wet areas. Work on the boardwalk on Morte point has taken place.
Permission was asked by the council to build a skatepark in the meadow playing field, Jonathan said this was fine.

23/2024 County Council Report: See Attached.

24/2024 Planning:

78019 Demolition of the former Royal Hotel and erection of up to 64 dwellings together with a commercial unit, access and parking, landscaping and associated development at Royal Hotel Beach Road Woolacombe Devon EX34 7AB. A comment was passed: In principle the Parish Council is wants development on the site, however there are some concerns. No affordable homes. The Back of the Development has buildings which have a high elevation that would result in a loss of amenity for neighbouring properties. The Balconies extend beyond the building line and look intrusive, as the balconies are made of glass this will be a reflective intrusion, this is another privacy issue with neighbouring properties. No restrictions on lease holders in what they can do with the property. The Parish council would prefer the development to be all primary residences. There is not sufficient parking, for the occupants, especially with the commercial premises, likely being a cafe. The ability of the utility companies (water and sewage particularly) to cope with the additional 64 units, is of great concern. The additional traffic movements, as a hotel it was largely coach parties. While the Parish Council is keen to have the site developed, we believe these concerns need to be addressed before any approval is given.

78259 Alterations and extensions to dwelling at Swiss Cottage Sunnyside Road Woolacombe Devon EX34 7DG. Approval proposed by councillor Wilkinson, Seconded by councillor Duffield, all in favour, approved unanimously.

77979 Alterations to existing dwelling & conversion of workshop to ancillary accommodation at Penguins Poole Lane Woolacombe Devon EX34 7AP. Approval proposed by councillor Woodman, Seconded by councillor Duffield, all in favour, approved unanimously.

78171 Conversion of garage and creation of hot tub area with storage at 1 Sharp Rock Mortehoe Woolacombe Devon EX34 7EA. Objection proposed by Councillor Wilkinson Seconded by Councillor Barron, decision unanimous. There are privacy concerns as this would overlook neighbours resulting in the loss of amenity for neighbouring properties.

78151 Retrospective application for retention of timber building for ancillary use at Victoria House Chapel Hill Mortehoe Woolacombe Devon EX34 7DZ. Approval proposed by councillor Duffield, Seconded by councillor Phillips, all in favour, approved unanimously.

Approved
77497 Conversion of Large HMO (Single Dwelling), Launderette and Office to 6 holiday letting units (amended plans) (amended description) at Lauderdale South Street Woolacombe Devon EX34 7BB.

77949 Extension & alterations to dwelling at 81 Chichester Park Woolacombe Devon EX34 7BZ.

77912 First floor extension and alterations at Pipers Pool Sharp Rock Mortehoe Woolacombe Devon EX34 7EA

77516 Redevelopment of cafe, retail, toilets and associated facilities serving woolacombe beach at Beachcomber Cafe The Esplanade Woolacombe Devon EX34 7DJ

25/2024 Water Fountain: The Parish Council agreed to send a letter to Plastic Free Woolacombe in support of their grant application.

26/2024 District Council Report: The Strategy and resources committee have representations from John Triggs the Deputy Chief Executive and also head of finance presented the budget for 2024/2025 and have balanced the budget, the plans to increase carparking charges have been withdrawn.
In one of the vacant shops in Barnstaple a North Devon hub is being set up and the police are talking about having a presence there.
50% of the Planning applications in West Down are for redundant barns being converted to living accommodation using legal loopholes.
Ilfracombe Regeneration Board are very keen to set up a sea school in Ilfracombe.

North Devon Council have launched a good causes lottery.

27/2024 Register of outstanding matters / matters arising from the minutes:
The Clerk Reports: The football pitch is not draining properly this is causing problems for the football team and needs to be investigated.
Woolacombe play area: New gate railings are on order and when they arrive, they will be installed.
We have several bench spaces that people are expressing interested in.
All the Parish Council water is on a wholesale plan which has reduced costs about 30%
The Parish Council Website is up and running.

28/2024 The Parish Plan / Emergency Committee: The Council decided to defer The Parish Plan until the next meeting.
We are awaiting a date from Martin Rich to proceed with the Emergency Committee.

29/2024 The Parish Council Policy Review: All of the Following Policies where reviewed and Approved Unanimously.

(a) 2024 Statement of Internal Control
(b) Complaints Procedure (Feb 24)
(c) Data Privacy Policy (Feb 24)
(d) Data Protection Policy (Feb 24)
(e) Dignity at Work Bullying_Harassment Policy (Feb 24)
(f) Equal Opportunities Policy (Feb 24)
(g) Financial Regulations (Feb 24)
(h) Fixed Asset Policy (Feb 24)
(i) Freedom of Information Act Publication Scheme (Feb 24)
(j) General Risk Assessment (Feb 24)
(k) Grant Giving Policy (Feb 24)
(l) Grievance Policy (Feb 2024)
(m) Protocol for Filming & Recording at Meetings (Feb 24)
(n) Retention of Documents (Feb 24)
(o) Safeguarding (Feb 24)
(p) SUBJECT ACCESS REQUESTS POLICY (feb 24)
(q) Standing Orders (Feb 24)

30/2024 Matters Brought Forward with the Consent of the Chairman:
North Devon Council bins in Woolacombe are in a deuterating state and the Clerk shall raise this matter with the relevant person or department at North Devon Council.
The Footbath from the water works to Barracane is very muddy and requires some gravel putting down to help avoid any accidents.
Some concerns over the new path the National Trust have made in the dunes, some seem to already be washing away in the heavy rain, there are also concerns over the sand dunes being altered.

Contact with our MP regarding her position on sewage in the area will be sent by the Clerk.
A research program on how people now feel about onshore wind turbines is underway, focusing on Fullabrook.

31/2024 Payments for Authorisation

A/C	Name	Balance
BARF	Barum Friend Security Co	138.60
BG	British Gas	305.81
BLOOM	Bloom Brothers	400.00
FIR	Fircroft Signs	1020.00
JEW	Jewson Ltd	956.36
LR	Lee Rulton	105.00
ME	M & E Alarms	4935.90
NDDC	NDDC	385.40
PLAY	Playdale Playgrounds Ltd	624.00
SFB	SOURCE FOR BUSINESS	114.38
STAFF	Emma Stafford	180.00
STAR	Pete Starbuck	2083.33
SWW	SWW	51.36
SZEALE	SAM ZEALE	120.00
D Bleasdale		1768.85
Shelly Duncan		183.60
M Hedger		83.40
paye		463.86
	Totals:	13919.85

Part 2
Correspondence not requiring discussion is available in the Council Chamber
Part 3
Confidential Matters

32/2024 The National Trust: Proposals where discussed.

33/2024 Sally Hocking was granted permission to plant a tree in Cowlers garden.

Yours faithfully ***Daniel Bleasdale***
The meeting ended at 8.50 p.m.