**HOLCOMBE ROGUS PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the July Meeting**

**Held in the King George V Memorial Hall on Thursday 28th July 2022**

**At 7.35pm following the presentation from the Culm Catchment Officer Lucy Jefferson for the Connecting the Culm project.**

**DRAFT**

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| **7.1**  **7.2** | **Present**:  Councillors: Adam Pilgrim (Chairman), Nikki Orchard, Rupert Snook, Jane Lock, Sally Barker, John Butler and George Triggs  District Councillor Jo Norton  **Apologies**:  County Councillor Ray Radford  The Chairman announced that Andy Cooling has resigned with immediate effect due to pressure of work. It is hoped he will be able to continue his duties as the Snow Warden this winter. The Chairman thanked Andy for his contribution to the PC and he will be missed. | **ACTION**  **TO BE TAKEN** |
| **7.3** | **OPEN FORUM**  No matters raised. |  |
| **7.4** | **Declaration of Interests:** None declared |  |
| **7.5**  **7.5.1**  **7.5.1.1**  **7.5.1.2** | **Minutes of Previous Meetings and Matters arising**  The June Minutes were approved and signed by the Vice-Chair as a true and correct record and unanimously approved by all Councillors.  Matters Arising:  Street light update:  DCC had written to the PC with a couple of options in regard to the street lighting in the village. Councillors opted to request more details about utilising the Telensa system (allows remote control/dimming etc) to find out the actual cost, how flexible it was in regard to the clock changes. As this would involve an upgrade to LED lights the PC agreed it would be beneficial to the environment as well.  Councillors approved to provide a grant from the Solar Fund once the actual cost is known. Clerk to contact DCC to request the information and the time plan.  Prince of Wales Pub update:  The owner’s agent had informed the Residents Committee that the owner has had two valuations done on the building and will consider the request from the residents for their own valuation to be carried out. | **LF** |
| **7.6**  **7.6.1**  **7.6.2** | **Environment**  Canal report:  The Grand Western Canal’s Devon section has received its 14th consecutive Green Flag Award this summer. The Award acknowledges its good management, maintenance and engagement with the public.  Cllr Pilgrim attended the Canal’s annual Inspection Tour on 14th July. Local expert, Ray Jones, gave a brief talk at the straight between Westcott and Ebear Bridges about the canal’s damsel fly population. It is the best site in Devon to observe these creatures.  The Tour moved on to Waytown Tunnel to look at the escape ladder in the channel between the limekilns and the tunnel. A discussion about the resident who had entered the canal to rescue her dog ensued. She had been helped out of the water by a passer-by. Mark Baker, our Canal Manager, agreed that he would cut the vegetation on the steep bank outside the normal autumn trimming season so that the hazardous, high steep bank and the escape ladder were more easily seen.  Returning to the road, it was agreed that the finger post directing canal users to the Prince of Wales should be removed until, hopefully, the pub re-opens.  Members then walked towards Lowdwells to view the unauthorised summerhouse on the offside bank at Wharf House. In common with other planning breaches in Mid Devon, its Enforcement team has not taken action about this.  A visit to view the contentious Red Linhay silage clamps and the anaerobic digester site by Crownhill Bridge was abandoned due to time limitations.  The next Grand Western Canal Joint Advisory Committee meeting will be on Tuesday 4th October at 19.00hrs in Phoenix House, Tiverton.  Public Rights of Way: NTR |  |
| **7.7**  **7.7.1**  **7.7.2**  **7.7.3**  **7.7.4** | **Highways**  Work carried out: The crossroads at Wiseburrow has had the potholes filled in.  Repairs to be reported: The signpost at Four Elms has been damaged during the cutting of the verges. *Reported Reference W221529692*  MDDC cut the verges on 17/5,24/6 and 18/7.  The Chairman thanked Cllr Snook for trimming the hedge and verge to make the village sign more visible |  |
| **7.8**  **7.8.1**  **7.8.2**  **7.8.3**  **7.8.4** | **Planning**  **The following applications were discussed:**  **22/01335/FULL** Erection of agricultural livestock building at Higher Besley Farm – *Councillors had no objections to this application but request that if MDDC consider it appropriate a condition is imposed to the planting of some trees in the area to provide some environmental benefit.*  **22/01373/HOUSE** Erection of two storey extension to side, ground floor extension to rear, erection of double garage with home office/store above and alterations to access at 4 Kytton Cottages – *No Objections*  **22/01385/CAT** Notification of intention to fell 11 Ash trees, and lift the crowns of 1 Eucalyptus tree and 1 Ash tree by 5m within the Conservation Area at the Vicarage – *No Objections*  **Application taken out of Committee:**  **BGX/DCC/4312/2022** The planning application seeks to vary the current end date for completion of operations and restoration within permission reference DCC/3019/2010. The proposed extension to the end date is for 10 years from 30 June 2022 to 30 June 2032. The final restoration scheme has also been revised to provide more biodiversity at Lindley aggregate storage and silt lagoon area at Whiteball Quarry.  *Comments shown on website*  **To inform Council of decisions made by MDDC:**  **22/00851/FULL** Change of use of land to equestrian and the retention of 4 stables, a hay storage building and muck store at Oakfield House – *granted full planning permission with conditions*  **22/00912/HOUSE** Retention of garage and garden workshop/store at Oakfield House. *Granted full planning permission with conditions*  **22/01121/CAT** Notification of intention to remove 6 branches of 1 sycamore tree within the Conservation Area at Pear Close – *No Objections*  **22/01296/CAT**Notification of intention to fell 1 Poplar and 1 Redwood in a Conservation Area at Timewells House – *No Objections*  Pondground Firing Range:  MDDC have requested for the Police to conduct some firing on the ranges in order that they can gauge noise levels for themselves prior to the application being discussed. This will take place on Tuesday 2nd August. The PC will be represented by the Chairman and Councillors Barker, Lock and Snook. Richard Foord MP will also be attending. |  |
| **7.9**  **7.9.1**  **7.9.2**  **7.9.3**  **7.9.4**  **7.9.5** | **Play Area**  All the new equipment has been added on to the annual insurance.  Official Opening will take place on Saturday 13th August at 3pm  Car parking will be in the Village Hall car park, Clerk to confirm timings (1400 – 1700hrs) to the administrator. A charge was agreed on a pro rata cost based on £40 for a whole day.  Refreshments for the invited guests will be organised by Cllrs Orchard and Lock.  Councillors agreed a grant of £100 to cover all the costs.  The proof designs for the new signs were approved and should be installed in time for the 13th August.  The pedestrian gate will be looked at by MDDC contractors to see if it can be improved and self-close without catching little fingers.  Risk Assessment: assessments will continue to be carried out by MDDC and charged to the PC. This is sufficient but a weekly informal check of the play area would be advised. | **LF**  **NO/JL** |
| **7.10**  **7.10.1**  **7.10.2**  **7.10.2.1**  **7.10.2.2**  **7.10.2.3**  **7.10.2.4**  **7.10.2.5**  **7.10.2.6**  **7.10.2.7**  **7.10.2.8** | **Clerk/Finance**  The Summary of Accounts were circulated prior to the meeting and approved/signed. *All documents available to view on the website.*   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | The following expenditure was approved: | | | | | **Amount £** | **BACS/cheque** | **Payable to** | **Comments** | | 432.00 | BACS | MDDC | Playarea inspections | | 68076.00 | 061 | Sutcliffe Play | Equipment for play area | | 120.00 | BACS | Microshade VSM | DPO services | | 516.00 | BACS | Ken White signs | Signs for playarea | | 175.20 | BACS | Defib Store | Adult and paediatric pads for Defib | | 100.00 | BACS | Grant for Official Opening of Playarea | | | External Auditor invoice to be approved by Chairman once received | | | | | Expenditure already approved: | | | | | 47.00 BACS MG Groundcare second strim of stream | | | | |  |
| **7.11**  **7.11.1**  **7.11.2**  **7.11.3**  **7.11.4** | **Correspondence**  All correspondence had been circulated to the Councillors.  Webbers School decision. The Governers agreed to join the Alumnis Multi-Academy Trust.  The Council have received correspondence from FVEG regarding a spate of arson incidents occurring in Burlescombe. Councillors have supported the request to attend a meeting to discuss this.  A letter has been sent to all residents with a change to waste collections. |  |
| **7.12** | **Matters brought forward for information or future agenda**.  Councillor vacancies We have two vacancies, if anyone is interested, please contact the Clerk for further information. | **ALL** |
|  | There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.47pm | **ALL** |

Adam Pilgrim

Chairman

Holcombe Rogus Parish Council