

Musbury Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held Monday 22nd March 2021 at 7.30pm

PRESENT:

Cllr Colin Corbett (Chair)

Cllr Paul Smith

County Councillor Ian Hall

Mrs Jo Boyce (Clerk)

Cllr Caroline Ellis (Vice-Chair)

Cllr Peter Perryman

District Councillor Iain Chubb

8 Parishioners

Cllr Matt Craker

Cllr Janet Albano

1 **APOLOGIES** There were none

2 **MINUTES OF THE MEETING** held Monday 1st February 2021 were accepted as a true record and will be duly signed by Cllr Caroline Ellis.

3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** –

Cllr Smith declared his interest in the issue of dogs at Musbury Barton.

Cllr Albano declared her interest in the planning application at The Old Forge.

4 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT BUSINESS and COMMUNITY ISSUES**

4.1 **Councillor Vacancy** – Council agreed to discuss the issue with members of the community and to place a notice on the board in order to co-opt a new member of the Council. **ACTION** Clerk to put up notice.

4.2 **Auditor** – the Council agreed that Martin Minter would be the auditor for the annual accounts for this year. **ACTION** Clerk to get accounts to Martin Minter as soon as possible.

4.3 **AGM** – Councillors discussed when and where to hold this meeting given government rules and decided if the Village Hall was able to hold the meeting by the end of May, that would be the best option. However, if this was not possible, the Clerk will arrange a Zoom AGM before May 6th. **ACTION** Clerk to find out how much notice an AGM needs. Cllr Perryman to keep the clerk informed of the Village Hall's position.

5 **ACCOUNTS**

5.1 **Transactions for March** – the following payments were approved by Cllr Perryman and Cllr Smith.

HMRC PAYE (Mar)	17.00	G
Clerk Salary & Expenses (Mar)	263.95	G
Halcyon Landscapes (Feb)	90.24	G

5.2 **Recent Transactions and Balance** - The Clerk presented the February 2021 Treasurer's Statement. The accounts had been reviewed by the Chair and all Councillors prior to the meeting and reconciled with the corresponding bank statements.

6 **PLANNING MATTERS**

Decision Notified

20/2873/FUL – Yew Tree House, Musbury, Axminster, EX13 8AR Erection of car port, gym and glass house; construct dwarf wall and gravel driveway; removal of topsoil to create level driveway.
WITHDRAWN

20/2770/FUL – Park Farm, Trinity Hill Road, Musbury, Axminster EX13 8TB Alterations and addition of decking to existing building to provide outside seating area and facilitate use as café, shop and reception within Use Class E (Commercial, business and service). **APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS**

21/0237/TCA – Little Orchard, Doatshayne Lane, Musbury, EX13 8BD Fell one Tulip tree and reduce and thin one Apple tree. **APPROVED**

Decisions Awaited

21/0590/FUL – Lower Doatshayne Farm, Musbury, Axminster, EX13 8AB Raising of roof ridge and eaves of existing roof, and construction of dormer window to provide loft conversion. Construction of two storey extension including balcony. Insertion of side rooflight and windows. **ACTION** Clerk to add comments.

21/0611/FUL – Old Forge, Axminster Road, Musbury, EX13 8AZ Retention of Garden Shed. **ACTION** Clerk to add comments.

7 HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC SPACES

7.1 Double Yellow Lines – Councillors discussed the situation with Cllr Hall sharing the latest communication he has received which stated that once again, the lines had been unable to be painted due to parked vehicles and it was recommended to try again in April. Cllr Hall expressed his frustration and embarrassment and encouraged the Council to make a formal complaint. The Council agreed. **ACTION** Clerk to write a formal letter of complaint on this issue.

7.2 Trill Lane – Cllr Perryman explained the issue of mud from gateways being washed into the road. **ACTION** Chair will try to resolve the issue in person.

7.3 Playing Fields – Cllr Craker and Cllr Corbett have taken on this project and after visiting the playing fields have agreed to get quotes on various aspects of work. **ACTION** Clerk to contact contractors and arrange for quotes. **ACTION** Cllr Corbett will attend to the incorrect and missing bolts in the next week.

Cllr Smith suggested looking into the possibility of selling off part of the land and using the money to fund the refurbishment of the playground. Cllr Ellis is reluctant to lose any of the playing fields.

ACTION Clerk to investigate what the Council can legally do with the land.

7.4 Trees – Cllr Corbett informed the meeting that the trees had been purchased, planted and watered in.

7.5 Grit Bins – The Clerk has asked the Highways Officer if it would be possible to site a replacement Grit Bin in the previously agreed Marlborough Road location. This would mean if the Council agreed to purchasing a new bin, it could be placed at the bottom of Mounthill where it will be of more use. The Highways Officer has agreed that this can be done and the Council agreed to go ahead with the purchase of a new Grit Bin. **ACTION** Clerk to arrange the replacement and new bins with the Highways Officer.

8 P3 FOOTPATHS

8.1 – Cllr Albano had contacted the new contractor last Friday and has sent the list of jobs to them.

9 DEVON AIR AMBULANCE

9.1 There is now £3,730 in the DAAT fund thanks to donations from Musbury Garage and Spar and Mounthill House. The Clerk has written to thank all donors.

9.2 The next stage is to apply for planning permission for the Light column. Toby has sent costings of the planning application which the Council agreed. **ACTION** Clerk to inform Toby that the planning application can now go ahead.

10 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

10.1 Councillor Chubb reported that Devon Wildlife Trust were not renewing their lease on Seaton Jurassic. The District Council is looking into providing electric charging points in some of its car parks and it had been agreed that parking charges were staying at the same level due to the Covid pandemic.

10.2 Please refer to separate report from Councillor Hall, Axminster Division Report for March. Cllr Hall also reported that he was involved in a project looking at child deprivation which is focussing on prevention and early intervention. He has attended several meetings with the police where he has promoted the need for more local policing and reports and more action on the issue of speeding.

Cllr Corbett asked about the future of Baxter's Farm as it is approaching two years since it has been empty and there is genuine concern for the structure and safety of the buildings. Cllr Hall replied that he would bring a report on the issue to the next meeting.

11 POLICE REPORT

For period 1st January to 31st January 2021 - Reported Crimes

Musbury –KA/2M

10/01/21- theft - other - including theft by finding farm gates stolen

No February breakdown was available at the time of the meeting.

12 MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD BY PERMISSION OF THE CHAIRMAN

12.1 Rooks – The Clerk is still waiting, via EDDC, for a response from Natural England on this issue and has chased this up with Lucy Turner in the last few weeks. Josh Duffield has indicated that he is willing to do what he is able to in order to address the excessive numbers of rooks and that this will form part of his planning application for Mountfield House. **ACTION** Clerk will email Lucy Turner again to reiterate the Parish Council's support for any action that the landowner can legally take and to re-state the issues that arise when colonies of rooks go unchecked for such long periods.

12.2 Dogs – The Council has been contacted by dog owners who have had issues with the dogs at Musbury Barton. EDDC and the PCSO have been contacted about this also. The Parish Council does not have any legal rights or responsibilities around nuisance or dangerous dogs and all incidents should be reported to EDDC's dog warden / environmental health / the police. The Council is informed that a meeting is scheduled between the dog owner, environmental health and the Chief Executive of EDDC next month to discuss the issue and proposals for addressing it. **ACTION** Clerk to reply to the correspondents.

13 QUESTIONS FROM PARISHIONERS

13.1 A parishioner asked that all villagers be aware that there may be oil thieves operating in the area and to take all precautions necessary to prevent theft.

13.2 A parishioner asked whether the flooding at Lower Bruckland Lane had been reported to Highways. **ACTION** Clerk to report this to Highways.

13.3 A parishioner asked if there had been any news on Mountfield. There have been no planning applications submitted as yet. The Council understands that they are in the pipeline.

13.4 Several parishioners commented on the state of the roads around the village and the number of potholes, especially on Doatshayne Lane and the two roads out to Bruckland Lakes. The Clerk responded that these three roads had been highlighted to Highways last June, and aside from a survey for costing purposes, there has been no action to improve the conditions. She has been informed by the Highways Officer that there was no money left for these jobs. **ACTION** The Clerk will contact the Highways Officer about this again. **ACTION** Councillors and parishioners are encouraged to log all potholes / road issues on the DCC website.

With no further business outstanding, the Chair closed the meeting at 21:05

Proposed date of next meeting: To be confirmed
Venue to be confirmed

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Chairman

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Date