

Chelbridge Parish Council

Minutes

27th May, 2020

19:30

Venue: Video Conference

Janet de Rochefort, Parish Clerk 01884 860173 thelbridgepc@gmail.com

<http://thelbridge.btck.co.uk>

Present: Cllrs Boundy, Cowell, Gibson, Gillbard, Grant, Clements

Apologies: Cllr Wainwright (MDDC)

I. Approval of minutes from last meeting

The minutes for 22nd April 2020 were approved and will be signed at a future date.

II. Public forum

No members of the public joined the video conference.

III. Declarations of interest

Cllr Gibson declared an interest in planning application 20/00549/FULL.

IV. Reports from Cllr Wainwright (Mid Devon District Council), by email

Mid Devon District Council (MDDC) has adapted in various ways in recent weeks. Leisure staff have been redeployed to other areas of work, like delivering food parcels to the most vulnerable, and helping get financial relief out to local businesses.

You may be aware that MDDC set up a **Community Support Hotline** to help individuals who need support, as well as enabling family, friends or neighbours to raise concerns about someone in their community they are worried about. Groups and voluntary organisations can also use the hotline to access and share information about local schemes. The number is **01884 234387** and it's open during office hours. You can also request support by email: covid19.support@middevon.gov.uk

MDDC has also launched a **Local Support Fund**, to help those with immediate financial difficulties because of Covid19 (e.g. paying bills). More information on how to apply can be found online: middevon.gov.uk/COVID19SupportFund or by phoning the hotline number above.

MDDC meetings are settling into a new online pattern, and planning meetings and decisions are going ahead. Members of the public are welcome to attend most Council meetings – even online meetings! In fact, I've noticed an increase in attendance during these online meetings – those who are able to get online can participate without having to drive to a meeting, thereby reducing cars on the road and carbon emissions in the air. And for those who don't drive but would still like to attend, it provides a way to do so. I hope that in the future, some meetings at MDDC will continue to be hosted online for these reasons.

W K B

As Devon County Councillor Margaret Squires always advises, potholes must be reported to Devon County Council Highways team. On the subject of road maintenance, I recently wrote to the Devon County Councillor with responsibility for roads to say that I'm worried that repairs have slowed down, despite some other authorities having increased their road repairs recently with fewer cars on the road. As well as improved safety and decreased vehicle wear & tear, well-maintained roads decrease carbon emissions. And transport is a big source of carbon emissions in Devon. Here's the reply I received, for your information:

"Devon Highways have continued to deliver a considerable programme of works during the lock down. The initial focus has been on the reduction in safety defects and undertaking cyclic works on the strategic network and in rural areas. At the same time a plan has been developed to understand how a wide range of works can be delivered safely adhering to social distancing requirements. Planned town centre footway works have resumed this week (w/c 13th May) within market towns, and it is the intention to resume resurfacing and patching works next week. This has been against a background of key suppliers, disposal sites and quarries being closed, bringing obvious inefficiencies and additional costs to the delivery of works. I can assure you it is our intention to undertake as many works as possible whilst disruption can be kept to a minimum, whilst maintaining the requirement to adhere to social distancing."

(The road between Thelbridge Cross and the Church is on the list to be repaired).

Lastly, Parish Clerks and local community groups will soon receive an invite to an online '**Mid Devon Climate Conversation**'. This will be the first of a series of conversations on the climate crisis, and we hope eventually they can be in-person. We hope it can be a space to share ideas and make connections. We will host a conversation for interested members of the public, too. Information that emerges from these conversations will feed into MDDC's Climate Action Plan. More information to follow.

V. Clerk's report

An email was sent to thank Lapford Parish Council for their offer of help relating to their emergency plan.

Devon's County and District Councils have come together as Team Devon. This new closer collaboration means:

- Weekly meetings of all the political leaders and Chief Executives – which also includes Cara Stobart from Devon Association of Local Councils (DALC)
- A co-ordinated approach to supporting the extremely vulnerable
- Support and funding for the financially vulnerable
- A joint approach to assessing the strategic and financial impacts of the coronavirus and develop a plan for recovery

In the coming weeks, DALC will be exploring ways to include parish council insight and perspective into this conversation.

Devon Communities Together are running COVID-19 focus groups, the first one is full, but there's another on 8th June. To secure a place use the link below. Joining instructions will be sent to participants a few days before the event.

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/town-and-parish-councils-covid19-focus-group-tickets-106220436184?ref=enivtefor001&utm_source=eb_email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=inviteformalv2&utm_term=eventpage

An email was received from Mel Stride MP providing links to useful resources during the pandemic, which will be published on the website.

VI. Finance

Payments to Zoom £14.39 and insurance £152.62 (based on a three years long term agreement) were approved.

VII. Planning

[Certificate of Lawfulness for the existing use of agricultural land as residential garden for a period in excess of 10 years](#)

Land at NGR 280974 113442 (North Beacon Cottage, Stretchdown) Witheridge Devon

Ref. No: 20/00624/CLU

It was **resolved** to adopt a neutral stance.

[Erection of an open-sided agricultural livestock/machinery/forage building](#)

Land at NGR 282147 113741 West Middlewick Farm Nomansland Devon

Ref. No: 20/00549/FULL

It was **resolved** to adopt a neutral stance.

[Erection of 5 poultry units; biomass boiler unit; attenuation pond; access track; hard-standing; landscaping and associated infrastructure](#)

Land at NGR 285042 114106 (Edgeworthy Farm) Nomansland Devon

Ref. No: 20/00594/MFUL

It was **resolved** to object due to the out of date and contradictory information in the application.

VIII. Future meeting dates

To be arranged as required

The meeting closed at 20:30

W. K. Boundy
23rd September 2020