

**Modbury Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday 1st November 2022, 7.00 pm
The Pavilion, QEII Recreation Field
MINUTES**

Present Cllrs Pete Watts (PW), (Chair), Barry Keel (BK), Barbara Price (BP), Ann Turner, (AT), Andy Walker (AW), Jo Woodcock (JW)

Also present: Cllrs Rufus Gilbert (RG)(DCC) and Bernard Taylor (BT) (SHDC)

13 members of the public were in attendance

Baker Estates updated Council on their work to improve access to the proposed Penn Park development by creating a new Public Right of Way rather than relying on residents approaching the development through Benedict Way and crossing the busy A379.

They have made progress but have reverted to plan B as SHDC had indicated they did not support a path going through the industrial estate. An application will be made under section 26 of the Highways Act for a new Right of Way which must prove to “*add convenience or enjoyment to a large section of the public or local residents.*” This would be conditional on getting approval for the planning application. MPC will be consulted as part of the normal process.

BK commented that it would be difficult to comment if there is no information on the make-up of the path and was assured this would be detailed in the application. Council re-iterated that Hoggin compactable ground cover would not be a suitable surface. Baker Estates thanked Council for the feedback. The matter will be considered at a future meeting.

Mr Gerry McAllister introduced himself as the new Chair of **Modbury Traders** and Alison Whitney as secretary.

The concerns of the traders regarding the impact the extended closure of the road would have on the businesses and residents was voiced. They re-iterated that everyone understands the work needs to be done and emphasised that Traders wanted to work alongside MPC to achieve the best possible solutions. Concerns expressed that time is moving on and in a very short space of time there are a lot of challenges to overcome. Concerns also expressed regarding recovery of the town following the extended closure.

Two residents voiced their objections to planning application 3479/22/FUL. They considered that this third application still did not address concerns documented previously, that there was already work taking place that was causing a nuisance and there was no consultation with neighbours.

2022 138 Apologies were received from Cllrs Nathanson (training), Rosevear (prior commitment), Smith (prior commitment), Trigger (holiday) and West (holiday)

Devon Councillor’s Report (RG)

- Brought attention to the escalation in the avian influenza epidemic
- Ensured everyone had seen the latest press release from DCC regarding the financial situation of the Council
- Warned against the increasing number of scams catching people out
- Reported that the Free Port was progressing well but that The idea of Investment Zones will be dropped

RG left at 7.30pm

District Councillor's Report (BT)

The Council Tax reduction scheme is progressing well but SHDC would like help to ensure everyone is aware of the scheme.

The Barracks Wall fencing is now complete – the stones still need to be moved to a new storage area at the Recreation Field.

2022 139 There were no declarations of pecuniary and other interests

2022 140 The Council considered the draft Minutes (distributed earlier). Proposed by BR, seconded by AT and all were in favour they be approved as a true and accurate record.

Matters arising:

Wheelchair friendly Modbury - it was agreed that JW and PW would walk Modbury with a wheelchair user to assess where simple solutions could be implemented

2022 141 Planning

1. To consider the following Planning applications:

- a) [3290/22/LBC](#) Mr Baker. Listed Building Consent for works of repair & refurbishment. 62 Brownston Street Modbury PL21 0RQ
Regret was concerned that this had been submitted as an retrospective application.
Proposed by BK, seconded AT and all in favour that MPC record no objection
- b) [3354/22/TCA](#) Mr. Robin Brown. T1: Quercus Ilex - crown height reduction by 2m AND lateral crown reduction on all sides by 2m, reduce large limb at 3m from g/l on SE side by 4m, reduction on SE side of two boughs growing towards neighbouring property by 3m, T2: Quercus Ilex - crown height reduction by 2m AND lateral crown reduction on all sides by 2m. South Traine Brownston Street Modbury PL21 0RH
Proposed by BK, seconded by BP and all in favour of supporting this application.
- c) [3479/22/FUL](#) Mr Matt Taylor. Provision of poultry building & associated infrastructure including private way. Land at SX 675 511 Trehele Cross Modbury
It was acknowledge that this was a very sensitive application creating much local concern. BK reminded Council of the reasons for the previous refusal:
- scale of building, setting, access and lack of info. regarding potential pollutants. He explained that most concerns had been addressed - the building size had been reduced and the site shifted to take the building down from the horizon. Various amendments had improved access and this was for DCC to comment on. Environmental Health needed to look at the info. regarding pollutants.
AT commented that access still looked very tight and expressed concerns regarding noise pollution during the works and on-going from the poultry and any generator and positioning with regards to the AONB.
It was agreed that this issue arose with many applications and Council needed to be consistent.
BP expressed concern that work might already have started.
Standing orders were dropped for BT to comment.
BT reminded Council that, if the application was refused, any work already done would need to be undone.
Standing orders resumed.
A decision went to vote. There were 2 abstentions and 4 voted for objection on the following grounds:
 - The scale of the building is still inappropriate for the setting
 - The proximity of the whole complex to adjacent residential properties
 - Access would still cause problems for local traffic (DCC to comment)
 - Information regarding pollutants (Environmental Health to comment)

MPC requests that, should SHDC, grant planning permission all permitted development rights with regards to residential properties be permanently removed.

2022 142 Finance

- a) **Proposed by AT, seconded by BP and all in favour that the payments as listed in Appendix 1 be approved.**
- b) The financial statement Appendix 2 was received – it was agreed that, in the current climate, final budget for 2023-2024 not be approved until January.
- c) **The request for grant funding of £82 from Modbury History Society to fund the upkeep of the Modbury Heritage website was agreed for this year.** Modbury History Society to be invited to re-apply for subsequent grants.
- d) **It was agreed that the request for grant funding of £500 from the Charterlands United Walking Football Club be considered as part of the budgeting process for 2023-2024 on receipt of further information**
- e) **It was agreed that The Community Engagement Committee proceed with the application to erect a sign on the office front.**
- f) **It was agreed that The Community Engagement Committee deal with the purchase of sustainable Christmas decorations for the office**
- g) **Proposed by BK, seconded by AT and all in favour that MPC would re-imburse SHDC with £432 in order to provide free Christmas parking in the town on Saturdays 10th, 17th and 24th December.**
- h) **It was agreed that The Community Engagement Committee will organise the office opening on the evening of 25th November for the Christmas Lights and the use of the Chairman’s Allowance for the purchase of mulled wine and nibbles.**

2022 143 Policy

Councillor and clerk attendance at the SWW drop-in session on 22nd November was agreed.

2022 144 Committees, Sub-Committees and Working Groups:

- a) **The School and Barrack’s Road Safety Group**
AW has met with the Head teacher to consider proposals for immediate actions to try and ease the problem. The school is unable at present to take actions due to lack of resources and safe-guarding issues. The school doesn’t qualify for funding for a crossing patrol. There is real concern that increased traffic flow as a result of the SWW works will escalate the issues. Parents are requested again not to park outside the school.
- b) The [minutes](#) and update from the Community Engagement Committee were received **and it was agreed that Cllr Smith be appointed as website editor.**
- c) The [minutes](#) from The Sustainability Committee meeting were received
BK noted that can’t take on the responsibility of other Councils but that we can lobby for action.
Concern regarding river water quality – **clerk to email neighbouring clerks to assess if other Councils are interested in a combined voice to lobby**
- d) An [update](#) from The Modbury Support working group was received. It was noted that the group doesn’t want to duplicate initiatives already in place. It was acknowledged that the SWW works could potentially exacerbate any hardship issues people were facing.
- e) **Committees, sub-committees, working Groups not dealt with earlier.**
The clerk read the reports provided by Cllr Smith:

Parish Paths Partnership

- Work has resumed during the last month
- Clearance work has been carried out on FP1,FP5 and BP10
- A potentially problematic tree in Runaway Lane has been identified and discussions are under way with the landowner.
- No specific works are programmed for November – routine maintenance will be carried out where necessary.

Homes for Ukraine Support Team

- The support sub-team has continued to offer help to the recently arrived Ukrainian family and they have settled into the town very quickly and are really happy with the welcome they have received.
- Their daughter has started at Modbury Primary School and they have joined the congregation at St Georges Church
- All initial administrative tasks have been successfully completed and the support team have now stepped back although the family can call for more support whenever they require it.
- We have been asked to enquire whether anyone in Modbury would be willing to sponsor the husband's mother who is in her early 60s and currently residing in Rome.
- Another Ukrainian family is due to arrive in Modbury in the next few weeks and the team is ready to mobilize to help the sponsors as soon as more details are

Parish mapping

- PS and AT attended a training session with Parish Online on 20 October
- It was a very useful session and we have plans to make use of the system to map energy issues and biodiversity.

2022 145 The Saturday Rota was agreed:

Ann Turner	5th November
Ann Turner	12 th November
Andy Walker	19 th November
Phil Smith	26 th November
Rob West	3 rd December
Jo Woodcock	10 th December
Pete Watts	17 th December
Barbara Price	24 th December

Meeting closed at 8.53pm.