

## Membury Parish Council

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### **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Membury Village Hall on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllrs D Burrough (Chairman), R Barrell (Vice Chair), M Bell, M Burrough, B Foster, R Foster, S Foster, P Pearse and L Warren

**In Attendance:** Parish Clerk, Cllr Andrew Moulding (DCC), Cllr Paul Diviani (EDDC), Mr C Carter, Mr A Tasker and Mr J Wallace

#### **17/017 To receive apologies for absence**

PCSO Hayley Widger

#### **17/018 To receive declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest received for items on this agenda.

#### **17/019 To receive and resolve as a correct record the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

It was resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th January 2017 were signed as a true and accurate record with the following addition under Minute No. 17/007 'The Budget Working Party comprising of Cllr Barrell, Cllr Ruth Foster and Cllr Warren were thanked for all the hard work they had put into preparing the budget for 2017/18 by the Chairman, Cllr Debbie Burrough'.

#### **17/020 Matters arising from the last meeting that are not an agenda item**

Cllr Simon Foster raised a matter relating to the item concerning mud on the roads which had been discussed during the Public Forum at the January meeting. He reminded Councillors that it was the responsibility of the person/persons who brought mud and dirt onto the highway to remove it and clean the highway to a satisfactory standard bearing the costs involved themselves. If the Parish Council had to pay to have the highway cleaned they were entitled to pass this cost onto the person/persons responsible for bringing the dirt on the highway. Cllr Barrell explained that the case discussed at the January meeting had been raised by a resident who had complained about excessive mud on the road. No one person was responsible and the decision taken at the meeting was the correct one. Cllr Foster reported that if it had been a safety hazard then it should have been reported to Devon Road Transport who would have dealt with it.

Cllr Foster also reported on the excess water and flooding issues on Springfield Hill which was also raised during the Public Forum saying that he had been informed that these issues had been ongoing for approximately twelve years and that the plan to deal with the excess water had been devised by Devon County Council in conjunction with the Parish Council at that time. The current situation is that Devon County Council have said they have cleared any blockages and put in an overflow pipe which was part of the original plan. The County Council have cleared the culvert and they plan to install a grate, but no more. If water is on a highway for more than twenty-four hours it becomes a safety hazard and can be

reported to Devon Road Transport, but as there were many roads in the Parish that suffer with excess water the County Council cannot deal with every instance when water comes and goes. Cllr Foster had communicated all this to Mr Wallbank who had complained about the many years of recurring culvert and drain problems on Springfield Hill saying that he thought there was no more the Parish Council could do other than to monitor the situation and report issues to the County Council when necessary. With regards to the clearing out of gullies, ditches and drains the Parish Council should deal with this with the help of volunteers, or contractors if no one volunteers to help. There is funding in place to pay for this work, but if it is a safety hazard the County Council will come and clear the blockages. If roads become icy due to excess water on them Salt Bins are provided which residents can use to spread salt onto the roads.

#### **17/021 To receive report from the District Councillor**

Cllr Paul Diviani reported that he sends out a monthly report on both County and District Council matters. Both he and Cllr Moulding had attended a meeting that day at County Hall looking at devolution and how it would possibly move forward. Central Government was expected to off load a lot of responsibilities, including transferring Business Rates, down to local councils. It would appear that these funds will be eroded by the time they reach local government. It was an ongoing problem which local government was having to face in terms of funding. The district council were taking steps to ensure damage to their finances was mitigated as far as possible. The county and district councils were still fighting the NHS over bed closures which was ongoing. Everything else at the district council was moving slowly, especially in terms of the move to Honiton which it was hoped would be completed by the end of 2018. Cllr Debbie Burrough thanked Cllr Diviani for his report.

As Cllr Moulding had not arrived at the meeting, due to another engagement, his County Council report would be considered later.

#### **17/022 Planning**

The Chairman, Cllr Debbie Burrough asked the Council if she could move the item concerning Park Farm forward to next on the agenda as Cllr Pearse needed to leave the meeting. The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to move this item forward.

#### **17/022/1 Applications (for comment, support or objection)**

16/3012/FUL – Park Farm, Membury, Axminster EX13 7TB – Amended plans relating to revised location of access, dwelling and excavations to address concerns relating to trees

Cllr Pearse updated the meeting on the progress of the planning application for an agricultural worker's dwelling at Park Farm. He was in contact with both the architect and the district council and not much had moved forward. It was in the hands of the planners at the district council and there was no indication, as yet, to when a decision would be made. Amended plans had been submitted and were currently out for consultation as the Tree Officer had asked for the site to be moved because it was too close to an oak tree. Cllr Pearse said that a complaint had been lodged with the district council concerning the static home at Park Farm which they were dealing with, but a decision needed to be made on the planning application before a decision was made on the complaint. The static caravan could remain on site until the completion of the agricultural worker's dwelling. The Clerk reported that she had spoken to both East Devon District Council and the Devon Association of Local Councils (DALC) in relation to this matter. Both organisations said that if a Councillor had a planning application on the agenda for debate they should declare an interest and not take part in any discussions. DALC advised that the Parish Council was not the planning authority, the district council was, and any complaints relating to planning matters should be raised with East Devon District Council. If any members of the public had a complaint relating to a Parish or Town Councillor they had to put the complaint in writing to the Monitoring Officer at East Devon District Council. The Parish Council could not take any action, this needed to be conducted by the district council.

To summarise there was nothing further the Parish Council could do in this case and both the planning matter and the conduct matter were within the jurisdiction of East Devon District Council.

Mr Wallace asked if he could address the Parish Council at this point. He asked the Parish Council to enquire from East Devon District Council how long the public had been subsidising the static home as Council Tax would not have been paid on the static home. However, it was using services paid for by the Council Tax. He said this had been ongoing for six years. Mr Tasker said that surely the static home was at Park Farm before the planning application was submitted for the agricultural worker's dwelling and therefore Cllr Pearse, under the proper Code of Conduct, should have submitted a planning application as soon as the static home came to Park Farm. Mr Tasker said Cllr Pearse should do as he said he would at the last meeting and submit a separate application for the static home. Both Cllr Pearse and Cllr Debbie Burrough said they had received communications from East Devon District Council saying there was no need for a separate application to be submitted for the static home. The planners had said that as an application had been submitted for a dwelling at the farm there was no need for a separate application for the static home. **Action: The Clerk to write to East Devon District Council asking for verification on the Council Tax paid over six years on the static home at Park Farm and also write to the Planning department at the district council asking when a decision would be made on this planning application.**

**Cllr Pearse left the meeting at 7.58pm.**

#### **17/023 To receive the Police Report**

No police reported had been received for January 2017.

#### **17/024 To receive an update on Membury's Neighbourhood Plan**

Alex Tasker gave an update on the Neighbourhood Plan to the meeting saying that Councillors would all be familiar with where the Steering Group had got with the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The latest situation was that Locality, an organisation which gave funding and support on behalf of the Department for Communities and Local Government to groups around England involved in Neighbourhood Planning, had said the Steering Group could get a grant of up to £6,000 to pay for an SEA to be carried out. Unfortunately, Locality were unable to carry out the SEA because it was not for a specific site, so a consultant would need to be found to do the SEA. Once a quote had been obtained then the Steering Group could go back to Locality and apply for a specific amount of funding. Cllr Bell reported that comments had come back from the Neighbourhood Planning Officer and Alex had fully responded to these, but the basics of the Neighbourhood Plan still stood. Membury's Neighbourhood Plan was far ahead of any others in the Blackdown Hills area. Cllr Simon Foster asked that if the Plan was looking for new builds to add to the housing stock there had been some recent planning applications submitted and some approved for three new agricultural dwellings and restrictions lifted on the occupancy conditions on a couple of dwellings and there were others who maybe would apply to lift restrictions on dwellings in the future. How would the SEA support these? Alex Tasker responded saying it was Natural England who had requested that an SEA was carried out as they were concerned that the level of development proposed in the plan would have an adverse effect on the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Cllr Foster said the Parish Council should support applications to turn holiday accommodation back into residential use as it would not have an impact on the environment. Cllr Diviani stated that once the Neighbourhood Plan was in place a lot of weight was attached to it because it was what the local people wanted and not what the civil servants wanted. The district council had said that Design Statements were still to be used and quoted from as they were still a valid and legal document until the Neighbourhood Plan had been adopted.

#### **17/025 Update on the Transparency Code and the provision of Wi-Fi to the Village Hall**

Cllr Barrell reported that an application had been made to BT to install a landline and Wi-Fi in the village hall and it was planned to be installed on 28<sup>th</sup> February. Some people had received training on the new Parish Council's website, but felt more was needed. Clynstnet had been approached regarding this and had

offered to provide as much training as was needed at no extra cost to the Parish Council. A laptop had been purchased for the Parish Council in order to comply with the Transparency Code and this would be paid out of the Transparency Code Funding which the Parish Council had received. Cllr Barrell said that BT did offer Superfast Broadband initially for the village hall, but when they checked on the capacity there was no more left on the exchange in the village, so therefore Standard Broadband was going to be installed in the village hall.

Cllr Diviani reported that a Scrutiny meeting was being held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at the district council's offices in Sidmouth. BT had been invited to attend, along with another three or four internet providers, so if anyone wished to attend it was a public meeting.

Cllr Andrew Moulding arrived at the meeting at 8.17pm after consideration of items 1 – 8 on the agenda.

### **17/026 To receive report from the County Councillor**

Cllr Andrew Moulding reported that he had chaired a budget meeting. The County Council had set a balanced budget, but they had had to increase their part of the Council Tax by 1.99% which was the amount they were allowed to increase it by before going for a referendum. Also, the County were able to impose an extra 3% on the County Council's share of the Council Tax specifically for the provision of Social Care. So the County Council's share of the Council Tax would increase by approximately 5%. On top of that there would be the District Council's share which would be a 1.99% increase, plus the Parish Council's precept.

Cllr Bell asked Cllr Moulding about the Strategic Planning Committee meeting which he had chaired at the district council on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2017, namely what was the current situation regarding the Villages Development Plan? Cllr Moulding replied that the Plan was out for consultation, but it specifically related to those villages which had a Built-up Area Boundary (BUAB) and those villages had put forward their suggestions for they wanted for their village. Membury did not have a BUAB but the point was made very strongly that the document which would form part of the Local Plan and part of the planning process was the Neighbourhood Plan and therefore if a Plan was approved it carried considerable weight and would form part of the suite of plans that made up the Local Plan. At the next Strategic Planning Committee meeting to be held on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March starting at 2.00pm at Knowle, Sidmouth the topic for discussion would be rural development. Members of the public were allowed to attend this meeting and speak during Public Speaking time and Cllr Moulding hoped that both Members of the District Council and the public would attend the meeting because District Councillors were not happy at the way rural development was being considered at the moment.

### **17/027 Flooding Issues**

#### **17/027/1 To support and adopt the four point action plan as reported and discussed at the November meeting from Cllr S Foster**

Cllr Simon Foster updated the meeting regarding flooding matters in the village. Two Flood Warden meetings had been held recently to which current and previous wardens were invited to attend. Proposals were made at the meetings relating to the management of flooding in Membury. There were three parts which were:-

- 1 Maintenance of the system owned by the Environment Agency consisting of the siren, dial up etc. which had not been working properly for the past two years, but these issues were trying to be resolved.
- 2 The Flood Warden was concerned about the expectations of what they should be doing with reference to what was owned and managed by East Devon District Council as this involved a lot of physical work relating to flood water and debris. No one who attended the meetings was prepared to do this work as they were not insured.
- 3 East Devon District Council had stated that residents should not get involved with the sump etc. as it was their property and people had not been trained or insured to deal with the equipment. The current

situation was that the work done by the Flood Warden should be limited to managing the alarm system. The Environment Agency were happy for their systems to be checked regularly. On this basis the current Flood Warden was prepared to continue, but would like support from other people who had attended the meetings. They would manage the system and test it to make sure the dial up was up to date along with any lists. Over and above that the village should not expect the Flood Warden to engage in any other work. The sump would be left in the remit of East Devon District Council until they offered any other way of dealing with the system.

Cllr Foster said that in the future with climate change and changes in land management flooding could increase over and above what the current systems could deal with. The source of the flooding should be managed rather than relying on the equipment to deal with flooding. Land needed to be managed up above the sump and in the catchment area including New House Farm and Challenger Farm. People who attended the Flood Warden meetings said they would like the Parish Council to start up a dialogue with the owners of these properties to see if they had any ideas on how flooding could be better managed. In the past residents had planted trees to help with flooding and the Parish Council should ask the farmers if there was anything they could do in their farming practices which would help with flooding. Cllr Foster wondered whether any farmers who were Parish Councillors could help in the dialogue with the local farmers, bearing in mind the practices which farmers had to adhere to. Cllr Foster did say there were initiatives being tried out in Somerset to try and work with the farming community to help alleviate flooding. He said that maybe nothing could be done, but at least if a dialogue was started with the farming community that may bring about some ideas to help with flooding in the area.

Cllr Barrell supported Cllr Foster's idea of starting some kind of dialogue with the farming community. There might be one point that came out of any discussions that could help alleviate flooding. The planting of trees had helped, but there were funding issues as to why work had not been done in the past. Funding would be supported over five square kilometres of land and there were only three and a half kilometres in the catchment area, so therefore the Parish Council would probably have to fund any flooding alleviation measures such as slow release systems. Work had been done concerning these issues ten years ago.

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Mark Burrough would make an initial approach to some of the farmers to see if a dialogue could be started up to help resolve flooding in the village. Jeremy Wallace said he would continue to clear the sump when it was needed for the people of the village as EDDC could not be called out at all times of the day and night to clear the sump. Alex Taker wanted clarification that if the Parish Council nominated volunteers they would be covered under the Parish Council's insurance for the work they carried out. Cllr Barrell said his understanding was that if the Parish Council appointed a Snow or Flood Warden they were insured for any work they did on behalf of the Council. If the Council appointed a Road Warden they would also be covered if they had completed the Chapter 8 training course. Cllr Moulding stated that Jeremy Wallace was correct as even though the sump was owned by East Devon District Council they would want a volunteer to clear it in an emergency to prevent flooding. Cllr Debbie Burrough said hopefully volunteers would go and clear any blockages in an emergency as had been done in the past.

#### **17/027/2 To note the resignation of Melissa Taylor as Flood Warden and discuss the way forward for the future**

Cllr Simon Foster confirmed that Melissa Taylor was willing to continue managing the system and list etc. He felt that he should withdraw from his involvement with the flooding group if residents were not happy with his feedback and suggestions. He was therefore not willing to carry on in this capacity. The next meeting of the Flood Wardens and volunteers would be held when Melissa had completed the update of the Emergency Plan. Cllr Debbie Burrough offered to attend this meeting in her capacity as Chairman of the Parish Council.

## 17/028 Finance

### 17/028/1 To receive and resolve to approve the bank reconciliation since the last meeting

| Bank Reconciliation as at 27th January 2017 |  |                  |
|---|--|------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2017                | Opening Balance  | 16,033.58        |
|   | <b>Plus Income</b>                                       |                  |
| 09/12/2016                                  | Interest Paid  | 0.33             |
| 09/01/2017                                  | Interest Paid  | 0.34             |
| 27/01/2017                                  | Deposit-Western Power Distribution (Wayleaves)           | <u>8.19</u>      |
|   | TOTAL  | 8.86             |
|   | <b>CLOSING BALANCE</b>                                   | <b>16,042.44</b> |
|   | <b>Less Expenditure</b>                                  |                  |
| 09/01/2017                                  | Chq 899 - JJJ Wallace-Grass Cutting Contract-January '17 | 130.00           |
| 09/01/2017                                  | Chq 900 – Blackdown Hills Parish Network-Subscription    | 82.40            |
| 09/01/2017                                  | Chq 901 – DACL-Training Course for the Clerk             | 30.00            |
| 01/02/2017                                  | Chq 902 – JJJ Wallace-Grass Cutting Contract-February'17 | 130.00           |
| 09/01/2017                                  | Chq 903 – Membury Village Hall-Hall hire for PC meetings | 21.00            |
|   | TOTAL  | 393.40           |
|   | <b>CLOSING BALANCE</b>                                   | <b>15,649.04</b> |
| 27th January 2017                           | <b>Bank Balances</b>                                     |                  |
|   | Current Account  | 7,911.44         |
|   | Deposit Account  | <u>8,001.00</u>  |
|   | Total  | <b>15,912.44</b> |
|   | <b>Less cheques not cleared</b>                          |                  |
| 09/01/2017                                  | Chq 900 – Blackdown Hills Parish Network-Subscription    | 82.40            |
| 09/01/2017                                  | Chq 901 – DACL-Training Course for the Clerk             | 30.00            |
| 01/02/2017                                  | Chq 902 – JJJ Wallace-Grass Cutting Contract-February'17 | 130.00           |
| 09/01/2017                                  | Chq 903 – Membury Village Hall-Hall hire for PC meetings | <u>21.00</u>     |
|   | TOTAL  | 263.40           |
|   | <b>CLOSING BALANCE</b>                                   | <b>15,649.04</b> |

### 17/028/2 To resolve to approve the list of payments made since the last Parish Council Meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

|        |                     |           |
|--------|---------------------|-----------|
| 000905 | JJJ Wallace         | £130.00   |
| 000906 | Simpkins Edwards    | £90.00    |
| 000907 | Membury Merrymakers | £350.00   |
| 000908 | Mrs SCJ Jones       | £1,205.76 |

## 17/029 Planning

**17/029/1 Applications (for comment, support or objection) 16/3012/FUL – – Park Farm, Membury, Axminster EX13 7TB - – Amended plans relating to revised location of access, dwelling and excavations to address concerns relating to trees. The Parish Council had no objections to these amended plans. Action: The Clerk to submit comments to East Devon District Council stating that the Parish Council had no objections to the amended plans for Park Farm.**

**17/029/2** Planning Applications either validated or decided - Applications validated and decided since the last Parish Council meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017

**Planning applications validated by East Devon District Council for January 2017:**

Removal of condition 2 of application 94/P2227 to allow holiday accommodation to be occupied as a dwelling - **Moxhayes Cottage Moxhayes Yarcombe Honiton EX14 9BB**

**Planning applications validated by East Devon District Council for February 2017:**

Erection of agricultural worker's dwelling in different location to that previously approved through permission 13/0143/OUT - **Park Farm Membury Axminster EX13 7TB** (Amendments relate to Revised location of access, dwelling and excavations to address concerns relating to trees).

**Planning applications decided by East Devon District Council for January 2017 :**

Variation of condition 2 & 4 of application 15/1188/FUL to revise design of garage and retain lower ground floor store – **Blackmores, Membury, Axminster. APPROVED**

**Planning applications decided by East Devon District Council for February 2017 :**

Construction of extensions to front elevation - **Lilac Cottage Greendown Axminster. APPROVED**

**17/030 To note correspondence received and to resolve any matters arising**

Cllr Barrell read out an email he had received from the Playing Field Committee saying that the Parish Council had put aside £1,500 in this current financial year for the purchase of safety matting. The price of equipment had increased by £700 so the Committee needed to look again at what could be afforded. They wished to purchase the tower equipment, two sets of swings and the zip wire in the spring and then wait for more funding to be raised before purchasing the rest of the equipment. The Committee asked if the Parish Council could fund more safety matting for two sets of swings in the next financial year. Cllr Barrell said he would ask for a copy of their full budget and would attend the next Playing Field Committee meeting. The plans for the Playing Field were having to be drawn up professionally and the Parish Council needed to approve any plans before deciding on whether to fund any more equipment. **Action: The Clerk to put this item on the agenda for the AGM of the Parish Council on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May. Cllr Barrell to obtain a copy of the Playing Field budget and attend the next committee meeting.**

**17/030/1 Electoral Review of East Devon: Draft Recommendations**

An email had been received from the Chairman of Chardstock Parish Council asking for the Parish Council's views and suggestions as to the naming of the proposed new electoral ward for East Devon District Council comprising of All Saints, Chardstock, Hawkchurch and Membury Parish Councils. The Electoral Commission had proposed that the new ward be called 'All Saints and Membury'. It was felt that this name did not truly represent the four parishes. It was **RESOLVED** that the names of 'Axe Vale', 'Upper Axe', 'Upper Axe Vale' and 'Four Rivers' be put forward to Chardstock Parish Council as suggestions for the name for the new ward. **Action: The Clerk to reply to the Chairman of Chardstock Parish Council with regards to suggested names for the new ward.**

**17/030/2 Changes to the Dispensary at Axminster Medical Practice**

An email had been received from the Axminster Medical Practice detailing proposed changes to the dispensary at the practice. This would involve the way patients ordered their repeat prescriptions in the future and in particular the fact that in the near future they would be unable to order these on the telephone. A meeting was being held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at the medical practice at 2.00pm to seek views on how this change would affect the villages in the catchment area of the medical practice to which a representative of the Parish Council was invited to attend. The meeting would be chaired by Cllr Andrew Moulding. It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Lesley Warren would attend the meeting on behalf of the Parish Council.

**17/030/3 Measuring Engagement Survey from DCC**

Cllr Simon Foster had very kindly completed the survey on behalf of the Parish Council.

After the publication of the agenda an email was received from Jocelyn Pritchard, a Parish Councillor for Hemyock and a member of the steering group of the Blackdown Hills Parish Network (BHPN), concerning transport issues in the Blackdown Hills. The steering group was seeking information on transport issues and needs in each parish. It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Mike Bell would feedback any information concerning this to Cllr Pritchard in his capacity as a member of the BHPN Steering Group.

After the publication of the agenda an email was received concerning the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan Consultation Issues. The consultation would run from 27<sup>th</sup> February until 10<sup>th</sup> April. The Parish Council's next meeting was the Annual Parish Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> April, therefore this item could not be considered by the Parish Council before the closing date of the consultation. The consultation was noted, but the Parish Council did not wish to make any representations on it.

#### **17/031 To receive highway reports**

**17/031/1 To approve the appointment of Chris Carter as a Road Warden to undertake work on the highways on behalf of the Parish Council.** It was proposed by Cllr Simon Foster and seconded by Cllr Barrell that Chris Carter was appointed as a Road Warden to the Parish Council. It was **RESOLVED** that Chris Carter was appointed as a Road Warden to undertake work on the highways on behalf of the Parish Council.

Cllr Simon Foster asked if there was anyone who would be interested in taking over the highways work from him. He had been dealing with this for two years and felt it would be a good point at which to have a change as he would like to help Cllr Bill Foster more with the footpath work. This would be held over until the Annual General Meeting of the Council in May when appointments for the coming year would be made.

Cllr Foster reported that requests had been put in for new salt bins and road signs and the Council was awaiting a reply from Nick Allen, the Highways Officer. Cllr Moulding reported that Nick Allen was moving onto another area and Brian Hoare, working part time, would be taking over from him. It was important that any potholes were reported via the Devon County Council website. Cllr Foster reported that the kits for repairing minor potholes did not work if it was wet and he was therefore holding back on repairing some until the weather improved. Road repairs were currently being undertaken on Beckford Bridge. Cllr Moulding reported that the new highways contractor Skanska starts in May and they had been piloting new systems in other areas which got better results.

#### **17/032 To receive footpaths report**

Cllr Bill Foster reported that the steps to Footpath 22 at Butchers Hill/Green Down Lane had been repaired with David Terry doing the heavy work and Cllr Foster the lighter work. The overgrowth on Footpath 10 north of Yarty Farm had been cut back and at Webble Green Peter Hartnell had been asked to reduce some overgrowth.

Cllr Bill Foster was thanked for all the work he had done on the footpaths by the Chairman, Cllr Debbie Burrough.

#### **17/033 To receive items to go on the agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2017**

- Written reports would be asked for from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, Flood Warden, Membury Tree Warden, Membury Primary School, The Membury Mercury, Membury Merrymakers, Membury Village Hall, Membury Playing Field, the History Society and the Police.
- **Action: Cllr Barrell to ask the Merry Makers, the Village Hall and the Playing Field Committee for reports.**
- Refreshments to be provided at the meeting.

Cllr Andrew Moulding sent his apologies for the Annual Parish Meeting as it was on the same evening as the Axminster Town Meeting, but would send in a report. Cllr Moulding announced that this would be his last meeting at Membury as the County Councillor because he was not standing for re-election in May. He said he had thoroughly enjoyed representing Membury on the County Council and working with the Parish Councillors. Cllr Debbie Burrough thanked Cllr Moulding for all the work he had done in supporting the Parish Council and the village over the past few years.

Cllr Moulding would be holding the Devon County Council Civic Service on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April at 3.00pm in the Parish Church at Axminster followed by afternoon tea in the Guildhall. Following this there would be a tour of the Axminster Heritage Centre for anyone wishing to see it. An invitation had been sent to the Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr Debbie Burrough, but as the church was open anyone was welcome to come along to the service which would be conducted by the Bishop of Exeter with the Lord Lieutenant of Devon in attendance.

Cllr Paul Diviani said he would be attending the Annual Parish Meeting.

**17/034 To note the dates of the meetings of Membury Parish Council for 2017**

- Monday 10th April (Annual Parish Meeting)
- Tuesday 23rd May (Annual General Meeting)
- Tuesday 4th July
- Tuesday 15th August
- Tuesday 10th October
- Tuesday 28th November

**17/035 Public Question Time**

There were no questions from members of the public.

Cllr Debbie Burrough thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at **9.35pm**.

Signed.....

Date.....