

MILTON ABBAS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on 8th March 2023
in the READING ROOM, MILTON ABBAS, at 7.30pm

PRESENT

Mr N. Hodder (Chair)
Mr T. Khandwala

Mr T. Ives
Mr S. Martin

IN ATTENDANCE 2 members of the general public. The Clerk attended on Zoom due to testing positive for Covid 19.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Mr P. Amor was on holiday, Mr S. Driver was caring for his wife and Mr S. Gould forgot. Mrs. Emma Parker (Dorset Councillor) was attending the meeting at Winterborne Whitechurch.

NH advised that the meeting would be recorded for the purposes of writing up the minutes and will be deleted afterwards.

2. DISPENSATIONS None

3. OPEN FORUM

The following points were raised:

Mrs F. Robinson asked what progress had been made regarding the shed at 1 Catherine's Well. The Clerk confirmed that both she and EPkr had reported the shed to the planning enforcement officer, but no response had been received.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 25th January 2023 had been circulated. It was proposed by TK, seconded by TI, and agreed by those who had attended the previous meeting, that they should be accepted as a true record.

5. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk confirmed that she had been in contact with Janes' Wood Working Party with respect to trees overhanging the gardens of Sylvan Row. Due to ill health of one of the members, no response has been received.

The Clerk had contacted Mr Tiernan Walsh, agent for Cellnex / Vodafone regarding progress on the mast application for Windmill Clump. TW confirmed that the proposal has been forwarded to the client for approval of costs. Valid planning approval expires in July 2027, so this may not progress as fast as hoped.

All Milton Abbas Parish Councillors now have their own personal email address [firstname.lastname]@miltonabbas-pc.org.uk. Passwords have been sent under separate cover. All Councillors were requested to check that they could access mail by the end of the week and advise if any problems had been encountered.

NH requested the Clerk to place a link on the Milton Abbas Community Page on Facebook to the email addresses page on the website.

NH reported that the Councillors had met with Ms Jo Witherden (Dorset Planning Consultant Ltd) for an initial consideration of options for developing the land behind Middleton Row. Following her very helpful advice, Councillors will work on producing a programme in due course.

NH had posted on Facebook asking for volunteers to arrange Coronation activities, but no response had been received. The Parish Council continue to be willing to support any application for funding if volunteers ask for assistance.

Following a complaint regarding a caravan parked on the lawn outside a house in the street, letters have been received by the owner of the caravan and the occupier of the house, and the caravan has now been moved to the driveway.

NH advised that preparations have been made for an Annual Parish Meeting to be held in the Reading Room on 24th May from 7pm.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence had been circulated by email or was available on the table.

The clerk drew attention to the following:

A resident from the Maltings has offered his assistance with lobbying for internet / mobile improvements in the parish if required.

Photo ID will be required for all who wish to vote in elections from May 2023 onwards.

7. REPORT FROM DORSET COUNCILLOR

Reports from EPkr have been posted on the website and highlights include Dorset Council budget approved as £348m, £2m set aside for alleviating cost of living crisis, 24/7 crisis support for young people with mental health issues, £19.5m levelling up funding for Weymouth, Council tax on second homes decision deferred.

8. REPORTS

HOMEWATCH

Mrs E. Payne continues to circulate information from the PC etc and other items of general benefit to the community.

MATCH/JANE'S WOOD None

PLAYPARK

The Playpark fence has been repaired by Mr C. Lovell.

TRANSPORT

NH has completed a survey for the Dorchester Transport Action Group re wishes for transport improvements.

WELCOME PACK None

CSW

FR advised that we have had an extended loan from Stickland. NH requested the Clerk to carry out a data download when next in the area.

MILLENNIUM GREEN TRUST None

TELEPHONE KIOSK None

COMMUNICATIONS None

COMMUNITY LAND TRUSTS None

JUBILEE BENCH

FR suggested that the project may become a joint Jubilee/Coronation commemoration.

REPORTS FROM OTHER PC OFFICERS

TK reported that the defibrillator boxes have now been replaced, but the adult pads have been removed from one of the boxes and the Clerk has been asked to order replacements.

9. PLANNING

Decisions

P/HOU/2022/05763 27 Milton Abbas - Retain erected summer house – Granted

P/VOC/2022/07034 Land at 1 Catherine's Well - Erection of 1no. two storey dwelling (with variation of condition 2 of planning permission P/FUL/2021/00489 - insertion of a first-floor window to south elevation) – Granted

Applications

P/FUL/2022/07042 Hewish Farm - Change of use of land from agricultural to residential accommodation (siting of a holiday lodge). Councillors had no objection to this application.

P/LBC/2022/07641 & P/HOU/2022/07774 26 Milton Abbas - Alterations to facilitate erection of single storey side extension & rear extension with rooms in a new roof. Demolition of existing rear extension & remodel of existing garage. New external brickwork stair & patio area. Removal of rear elevation door & installation of window to match adjacent. Reinstatement of blocked up inglenook fireplace to the existing office at ground floor level. New sanitary wear, flooring, ceiling finishes & underfloor heating to host dwelling. Extension & repointing of 2no. existing chimneys. Councillors expressed some concern of the potential reduction in onsite parking following the conversion of the existing garage facility. It was proposed by NH and unanimously agreed that the Councillors should not object to the application, but the response should include a statement of concern regarding the reduced parking facility.

DMMO T764 Add Byway open to all traffic for a route in the Parish of Milton Abbas. Dorset Council seek any relevant evidence from residents to be considered for inclusion in the Council's report. A new section has been created on the website to review DMMO's relating to Milton Abbas.

10. WESSEX INTERNET LANDOWNER DEED OF GRANT

The Clerk had shared detailed documentation including a draft Deed of Grant by email. NH advised that he and the Clerk had met with Vanessa Stokes, Rural Planner for Wessex Internet as WI would like to place fibre cables through Parish Council owned land, along hedgerows and boundaries wherever possible. The future development plans for land behind Middleton Row were raised with VS who had no concerns. NH requested approval for him to sign the Deed of Grant on behalf of the Parish Council at their earliest convenience so as not to hinder the progress of the project. NH invited Mr D. Cocking to comment as Wessex

Internet Liaison Representative for the community. DC provided an update on current activity and advised that he will soon be meeting with WI to consider the run plan and identify various landowners, so that permissions can be sought. DC advised that he has regularly sought confirmation from WI that their work will encompass as much of the parish as possible.

Some discussion ensued regarding the boundary of Parish Council and Sovereign Housing Association owned land. NH requested that this be added to the agenda for the next meeting. In the meantime the Clerk was asked to obtain adequate proofs from Land Registry to inform the conversation.

It was proposed by NH and unanimously agreed that he should sign the Deed of Grant for fibre to be laid on Parish Council land, when it is required.

FR requested that the Street Fair Committee be kept informed of progress (so that there is no conflict with the event on 29th July).

11.20MPH POLICY REVIEW

Following attendance at the DAPTC online meeting, the Clerk advised that for any successful 20mph application, the community must demonstrate an active Community Speed Watch team and therefore we should encourage volunteers to support the activity of the CSW team. The Parish Council must show evidence of community consultation. In addition, Dorset Council only receive accident data from Dorset Police where injuries have been reported, therefore accidents such as the two at Lake Lodge and one at Dale Cottage will not be on their system and we should report these to ensure there is a complete accident record at Dorset Council. TI advised of another collision in the street outside his property where no injury was sustained which should also be reported. NH suggested that this should be advertised by way of Ellie-gram or on the community Facebook page and kept on the agenda for a while.

12.DAPTC – SUPPORTING AREA COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Clerk had circulated information from DAPTC encouraging Parish Council's to ensure that their elected representative attended local meetings and reported back to the Parish Council regularly. NH recommended this should be reconsidered in May at the APCM.

13.ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

NH confirmed that the Reading Room is booked for 7pm on 24th May 2023. Drinks and nibbles will be provided. Weldmar Hospice, Margaret Green Animal Rescue, Scottish & Southern Electric, Dorset Foster Care Team have all expressed interest in attending, and will be encouraged to keep talks brief to ensure maximum time to circulate.

14.FINANCE

Balances:

Current A/c	£51,693.76
Playpark A/c	£14,460.30

The following cheques were authorised*:

Current Account

Mrs E. Sellen Clerk's Salary January 2023	1375	£346.63
Mrs E. Sellen Clerk's Expenses January 2023	1376	£48.77
Mr S. McGregor Defibrillator Case Replacement	1377	£120.00
Mrs E. Sellen Clerk's Salary February 2023	1378	£346.63
Mrs E. Sellen Clerk's Expenses February 2023	1379	£27.09
St James' Church PCC Replaces chq 1366	1380	£435.00
The Planning Consultant Ltd (J Witherden)	1381	£369.24
St James' Church PCC Hire of South Aisle	1382	£25.00
C Lovell Noticeboards & Fencing land opp surgery	1383	£750.00
Reading Room	1384	£25.00

Playpark Account

A&M Repairs Ltd	147	£220.21
C Lovell Ppk Fencing	148	£290.00
C Lovell Annual Ppk Mtce	149	£1,150.00

*Cheques will be signed later in March when the Clerk is not Covid positive

15. CHAIRMAN'S URGENT BUSINESS

TK asked when Mike Peat intends to attend to the laurel hedge at the top of the Street. The Clerk will follow up with MP.

NH thanked DC for attending the meeting and providing an update.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Councillors were reminded that the next meeting would take place on Wednesday 10th May 2023 following the Annual Parish Council Meeting which would commence at 7pm and, there being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Signed:

(Presiding Chairman)

Date: