

Milton Abbas Village Meeting

Held On Zoom 09062021

The Village meeting was opened by Nigel Hodder (NH)

VILLAGE ENGAGEMENT

As a consequence of the reduction from 10 to 6 Parish Council meetings per year, NH explained that this is a new venture of slightly less formal meetings to bridge the gap between PC Meetings. A variety of communications are received to the Parish Council, some of which should be widely circulated, others of which are of limited interest. Utilising the Parish Council and Village websites, Facebook, Ellie-gram, The Bulletin and noticeboards, the Councillors will endeavour to broadcast useful information as required. A new Facebook Parish Council page has been started. Kirsty Finlayson (KF) suggested that items posted on the Parish Council FB page should be shared to community pages also. This new system will be published to The Bulletin to raise awareness. NH made the point that it should be clear what is circulated by the PC officially as apposed to what Cllrs may post as individuals. Ellie Payne (EP) confirmed 180 people now receive the Ellie-gram. Michael MacAvoy (MM) advised that the Village Consultation also addresses communication methods, and it will be interesting to see what residents express as their preferred method.

Planning Applications will be reviewed at Village Meetings. Cllrs will form their response by email and ratify this at the next meeting, and residents are encouraged to continue making their personal representations through the Dorset Council portal as usual. If residents have particular concerns that they wish Cllrs to be aware of they are welcome to forward these to miltonabbas@dorset-aptc.gov.uk so that these can be shared with the Cllrs.

PLANNING

P/FUL/2020/00001 Little Westwood – “No Comments at this time”

P/PABA/2021/0189 Delcombe Farm – “No Comments at this time”

PARISH CONSULTATION

MM 1996, 2001, 2006 surveys of resident opinions raised interesting information about resident needs and requirements. Questionnaire adjusted to meet todays needs and ready to distribute in June. Responses to be delivered to the Post Office or the Telephone Kiosk in Catherine’s Well. Results likely to be reported back to the Parish Council in September or thereabouts. All Cllrs have received a copy of the questionnaire and are requested to confirm within the week whether they are happy with the existing form or if they wish to see any changes.

JUBILEE PREPARATIONS / QUEENS GREEN CANOPY

MM involved in Golden and Diamond celebrations, held on Millennium Green. Has spoken to Robbie Golledge (RG) who is prepared to act as adviser. MM spoken to Milton Abbey School who are also happy to have some involvement. MM suggests a feature in The Street would be appropriate. These activities require advance planning and volunteers are sought. Queen’s Green Canopy will offer free saplings, however a planting location will be required. PC involvement will be considered at the July 2021 meeting.

WOODLAND TRUST FREE SAPLINGS

Four batches of hedging / saplings are being offered free by WT for organisations.

MAGGIE CURTIS – THANK YOU TRIBUTE TO NHS

MC suggested that it would be nice to provide a wildflower garden area in Milton Abbas for members of the NHS and other key workers to thank them for their commitment during the Covid

pandemic. MC had shared two video presentations showing a garden that she had created and the benefit of it. MC also suggested provision of a carved seat for staff to sit and eat lunch. Planting should be carried out Sept / Oct 2021 for fruition in June 2022. NH agreed to make direct contact with MC to get more information and raise at a future meeting.

NIKITA LANDER – MEMORIAL TREE FOR PARENTS

In principle, if an appropriate area could be found, there were no objections, however consideration of setting precedent and ongoing maintenance obligations should be considered first. WRT location, the sports field, the Millennium Green and other locations were suggested. MM suggested some sort of requirement for Gleeson to provide some small facility as part of their development (supposing a successful appeal).

ELECTRIC CAR CHARGE POINTS

Steve Gould had suggested that the Parish Council should take advantage of any available grants to secure one or two charge points in the village for residents and tourist use. TK offered to research grants. Previous locations identified had been on the car park of the Hambro and Catherine's Well layby.

COMMUNITY PAYBACK PROJECT

Prison Service provide supervised manpower which can be utilised for community improvements. The Clerk suggested maintenance of Seymour Woodland, KF suggested litter picking, MC suggested preparing the ground for a wildflower garden. EP suggested that the Church may be able to make use of such a facility, as and when the PCC receive permission to move ahead. Consider involving SG in any projects identified.

GLEESON APPEAL UPDATE

NH, Freddy Robinson and Susan Woodhouse attended a 2 day online appeal. Inevitably Gleesons appeared to be far better prepared than Dorset Council. A unilateral undertaking with Gleesons and Dorset Council provided an allocated fund to the allotments, despite the fact that Dorset Council had failed to consult with Milton Abbas PC at any time. Four yr "new homes" bonus which would be paid to Dorset Council, but there are no procedures in place for sharing this with the community. NH thanked FR & SW for their invaluable input. FR confirmed that they had been able to influence some of the conditions by their involvement.

WESSEX INTERNET UPDATE

David Cocking had an online meeting with Dorset Council who confirmed we are doing the right things and ahead of the game compared to many local villages. Dorset Council are adding to the Govt Grant towards the end user costs of installation. Some delays due to the level of interest, the project has become more significant, but they remain positive that we will get the go ahead. The only real condition of receiving free fibre installation is the requirement to sign up for a higher speed package than you can currently access. For example, if you currently get less than 50mbs you will need to sign up for a package that has a speed of at least 50mbs. Dorset confirmed that the progress with Wessex is much better than with Openreach.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

James Farnham confirmed referendum on 6th May which received over 80% turnout. The plan has now to be formalised by Dorset Council in June, and will now have some weight with planning applications. FR confirmed that it had an immediate effect on the Gleeson appeal proceedings. NH volunteered that the next natural progression would be for the Parish Council to consider the

formation of a Community Land Trust. In the first instance, the Council should invite Simon Parker to attend a Parish Council meeting.

COVID 19 UPDATE

NH confirmed waiting on Govt for 21/06/2021 for any relief from restrictions. This announcement may well effect any face to face meeting that the Parish Council will hold in July.

KF advised that she would like to put herself forward for Co-option to the Parish Council. The Cllrs arranged to meet KF outside of a meeting to consider this request.