

MILTON ABBAS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on 11th May 2022
in the READING ROOM, MILTON ABBAS, at 7.20pm

PRESENT

Mr S. Driver
Mr T. Ives

Mr N. Hodder (Chairman)
Mr R. Woodhouse (Vice-Chair)

IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs E. Sellen (Clerk) and 7 members of the general public. Mr T. Khandwala, Unitary Cllr Mrs E. Parker and an additional member of the public attended via zoom.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr P. Amor, Ms K. Finlayson, Mr S. Gould, Mr T. Khandwala & Unitary Cllr Mrs E. Parker.

2. DISPENSATIONS

TK had submitted a request for dispensation from attendance at meetings. The dispensation was unanimously accepted.

3. OPEN FORUM None

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th March 2022 had been circulated. It was proposed by NH and unanimously agreed by those who had attended the previous meeting, that they should be accepted as a true record.

5. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk had contacted the proprietor of the "Duck and Chicken" food van which had visited Catherine's Well in March and requested that future visits be scheduled for after 4.30pm to allow for the school bus to depart, and for the second vehicle not to be parked on the grass verge. There have been no subsequent visits.

The replacement Nationwide cheque has been received and banked.

The Clerk had circulated photographs of the kissing gate at the entrance to Jane's Wood.

The Clerk has obtained dates of future Jane's Wood working party visits and will send a letter to the landowner to request access. Some discussion regarding the easement ensued and consideration of investigating an alternate access.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence had been circulated by email.

The clerk drew attention to the following:

Mr Peter Chafer died on 28th April. Details of funeral arrangements are available on request.

Mr D. Morley has retired as chair of Matchpatch and Mr K. Gipp has taken over as Chair.

Significant changes for access to Household Recycling Centres came into force on 1st May, so it is worth checking online before attendance if you have a van, works vehicle or trailer, in particular.

Planning Update event at Dorford Baptist Church Dorchester 27th May.

Mr Burdett-Clark had contacted the clerk to point out that the kissing gate is on private land and no repairs should be undertaken without consultation.

TI enquired about the appeal on the bridleway from Catherine's Well to the Abbey and requested the Clerk to obtain an update.

7. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Mrs E. Parker's report was available for residents to read. The Clerk announced the contents of the report and advised that it had been posted as a file on the Milton Abbas Parish Council Facebook group.

8. REPORTS

HOMEWATCH

Mrs E. Payne confirmed circulation of various media including road closure notices, planning applications etc.

MATCH/JANE'S WOOD

EP relayed a message from Ms J. Harrison confirming the MATCH AGM has not yet been rescheduled. No updates on Jane's Wood. RG asked whether the Jane's Wood sign would be reinstated. TI offered to enquire from Mr R. Pressland.

EP confirmed no updates for Jane's Wood or the Millennium Green.

PLAYPARK

TI advised that there were a number of minor points on the inspection report which have been considered. The most major is the subsidence under the Captain Mannering installation, however the inspection does not suggest that there should be any concern at this time. The play park committee are considering options for long term resolution.

TRANSPORT

NH confirmed that Dorset Council are slowly progressing the replacement signs for the location of Lower Lodge. Additional yellow lines have been painted on the road as a novel speed reduction technique. NH advised that an Openreach cage on the pavement outside Dale Cottage has now been replaced with a plastic floor guard, following a complaint to Openreach, so the pavement can now be used without the need to step into the road. NH had circulated an email from Dorset Council advising that their Govt grant request for £92M for improved bus services has been declined.

WELCOME PACK

TK advised that he has just published another update on Facebook, and continues to receive useful feedback. NH suggested maybe a monthly reminder that the Welcome Pack exists should be published through the usual communications channels.

CSW None

MILLENNIUM GREEN TRUST

Mr R. Golledge had no updates. Mrs F. Robinson reminded everyone that there would be a community effort to tidy the Millennium Green on 22nd May in preparation for the Big Lunch as part of the Jubilee Celebrations.

TELEPHONE KIOSK None

COMMUNICATIONS

NH confirmed that planning applications and road closures have been reported on the Milton Abbas Community Facebook page and circulated by Ellie-gram.

COMMUNITY LAND TRUSTS None

PLATINUM JUBILEE ARRANGEMENTS

FR advised that the invitations to the Big Lunch would be delivered during the weekend, and pointed out that anyone who wished to partake of the free food and drink must submit the reply slip. NH advised that flyers advertising the various events will be delivered to all households over the weekend. Mrs E. Payne encouraged all households to consider decorating their houses with bunting.

NHS WILDFLOWER GARDEN

NH has recently spoken to the new farm manager at Milton Abbey School, but has not yet received the promised email from him. Exams will likely take priority at present, but in theory they are still prepared to put in the necessary labour, although some topsoil may be required from the Parish Council.

REPORTS FROM OTHER PC OFFICERS

TK has liaised with the Clerk re the defibrillators. Both in working order, however there is a damaged clip on the casing of the unit at the Surgery, which requires the whole cabinet to be replaced at a cost of £415+VAT, and the alarm on the unit at the Church is no longer working, although this is not considered critical. SD suggested that we ought to investigate whether the alarm from the damaged unit can be utilised to repair the unit at the Church. Agenda item for July to allow for reserves to be utilised to carry out the required repairs.

9. PLANNING

Decisions

P/FUL/2021/05710 Little Westwood – Erection of 1no detached dwelling – Refused

P/HOU/2022/01281 Nether Fen Milton Abbey School – Erect garage – Granted

P/NMA/2022/00584 Cornborough, Milton Abbey School - Non-material amendment to Planning Permission No. P/HOU/2021/01632 to remove the north east chimney - Refused

P/NMA/2022/01150 Strawberry Cottage, 49 Milton Abbas - Non material amendment against planning application P/HOU/2021/04572 to allow door and windows to be moved, 2 roof lights moved to right, internal wall to partition the garage, insulate garage walls and lower overall height of walls – Refused

P/PABA/2022/00741 Oxhouse, Delcombe – Erection of an agricultural building for the storage and housing of sheep on a temporary basis – Pre-approval granted

Applications

P/HOU/2022/00778 & P/LBC/2022/00779 5 Milton Abbas - Replace extension roof and 4 roof lights. Carry out internal alterations, repairs & redecoration. Install internal boiler (14/04/2022) – It was unanimously agreed to support this application.

P/HOU/2022/01974 Stonecroft - Erect single storey extensions (demolish garage and lean-to extension) (25/04/2022) – Mr K. Gipp attended to answer any questions and confirmed that he had spoken to all his neighbours, who are happy with the application. It was unanimously agreed to support this application.

P/VOC/2022/02028 Strawberry Cottage 49 Milton Abbas - Erect garage & studio (demolish existing garage) (variation of condition 2 of planning permission P/HOU/2021/04572 to amend the approved plans) (29/04/2022) – RW advised that he had done the drawings and would abstain from the vote, but happy to answer questions. There were three votes in favour of supporting this application (and one abstention).

P/HOU/2022/02031 Bramber - Erect single storey side, front and rear extensions (19/04/2022) – it was unanimously agreed to support this application.

P/FUL/2022/02294 Land At 1 Catherine's Well - Erect garage (10/05/2022) – it was proposed by RW, seconded by SD and unanimously agreed to object to this application, due to the fact that the character of this development (Catherine's Well) is long, open gardens and to permit a garage to be built in the garden would be detrimental to the character of this area.

P/HOU/2022/02814 & P/LBC/2022/02815 51 Milton Abbas – Ext. & int. alterations & refurbishment of ancillary annexe building (03/06/2022) – It was unanimously agreed to support this application.

Any General Planning Concerns

LD 118-1 Little Hewish Farm Land Deposit – for information only

P/VOC/2022/02400 Fishmore Hill Farm - Erect 1 No. dwelling with store and welfare room (with variation of condition 4 of planning permission P/FUL/2021/00111 to amend approved materials)

10. COUNCILLOR VACANCY UPDATE

There have been one or two expressions of interest in the vacancy, and NH encouraged all interested to submit an application.

11. EFORESTS.CO.UK FREE TREES OFFER

Due to technical failure, KF requested that the item be considered at the next meeting.

12. DECLARE THE PARISH COUNCIL EXEMPT FROM AUDIT

The receipts and payments spreadsheet for 2021/2022 had been circulated by email and it was confirmed that neither income (£24,411.08) or expenditure (£8,720.50) exceed the £25,000 limit for requirement of external audit. It was unanimously agreed to declare the Parish Council exempt.

13. FINANCE

The bank statements and expenditure and receipts spreadsheet had been circulated by email, including a bank reconciliation to 31st March 2022.

Balances:

Current A/c	£46,037.31
Playpark A/c	£15,204.00

The following cheques were authorised:

Current Account

*Mr S Bewers Tree Works re Seymour Woodland	1336	£21.00
*Mrs E Sellen Clerk's Salary March 2022	1337	£378.82
*Mrs E Sellen Clerk's Expenses March 2022	1338	£75.29
Mrs E Sellen Clerk's Salary April 2022	1339	£323.13
Mrs E Sellen Clerk's Expenses April 2022	1340	£32.19
Loos 2 Go Ltd Jubilee Expense	1341	£552.00

Play Park Account

*The Play Inspection Company	146	£234.00
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*These cheques had been signed prior to the meeting due to deadlines

The Clerk advised that replacement pads had been purchased for the defibrillator, but that there was not adequate budget provision for them. This will be considered next month, along with the cabinet replacement funding.

14. CHAIRMAN'S URGENT BUSINESS

NH considers it an honour to have been voted Chairman and he hopes that the Parish Council will make great strides in the coming year.

KG passed the Matchpatch lease to the clerk for consideration at the next meeting.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Councillors were reminded that the next ordinary meeting would take place on 12th July 2022 and, reminded everyone that the Annual Parish Meeting would be held in the Reading Room on 18th May at 7.30pm and there would be an extraordinary meeting in June to approve the Annual Return.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.35pm.

Signed:

(Presiding Chairman)

Date: