

MILBORNE PORT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 21st June 2011 at Milborne Port Town Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Mrs P Alexander, Mr R Biss, Mr E Davis, Mrs R Douglas, Mr R Duckworth, Mr J Edmonds, Mr J Farley, Mrs W House, Mr R Lockey, Mrs S Shingleton, Mr E Watts

Also in attendance: PCSO Mandy Forsey (during Public Question Time), District Councillor Lucy Wallace, Mrs J Freeman (clerk)

The Chairman asked councillors to note that a letter of resignation had, with regret, been received from Mr Alan King due to ongoing health problems. Although Mr King had not yet signed an acceptance of office form, SSDC had confirmed that the normal procedure for a casual vacancy needed to be followed and the statutory notice for the vacancy would therefore be displayed on the parish council noticeboards. If an election was not requested by 10 or more electors, the Parish Council would then be asked to co-opt a replacement for Mr King.

Public Question Time (1 member of public in attendance).

- Mr Robert Tizzard gave an update on **planning application 09/04978/OUT** – Land and Buildings at Wheathill Lane, and asked for the support of the Parish Council and District Councillor Lucy Wallace in relation to the level of contributions being sought by SSDC as part of a Section 106 Agreement. It was confirmed that the previous council were supportive of the application and agreed that the matter would be put on the agenda of the next planning committee meeting with a view to a letter of support being sent to SSDC.
- **Milborne Wick Questionnaire** Mr Tizzard asked the Parish Council to consider setting up a small committee to take forward proposals resulting from the transport questionnaire recently carried out in Milborne Wick, details of which were distributed to council members prior to the May meeting.
- Mr A Elliot-Square made reference to his recent letter, included on this agenda, asking for the Parish Council's support in his efforts to establish ownership and responsibility for maintenance of the road surface in Higher Gunville, which was now in a poor state of repair.

Report from PCSO Mandy Forsey :

- 33 telephone calls were received by the police during the last month
- 6 crimes were recorded – 4 assault (domestic), 1 bogus caller and 1 theft of lead
- Lead had been stolen from the roof of the primary school. An arrest had since been made relating to the theft of lead at Templecombe and Henstridge and it was thought that the theft at Milborne Port was connected. The lead had now been replaced and the school had been advised to consider installing CCTV.
- A bid to the Peoples Millions for the Gainsborough Play Area project had got through to stage 3 but the group had unfortunately lost out at that stage. Grant applications had been made to Yarlinton Homes and the Police Trust; a grant would also be made to Viridor once plans/quotes had been obtained. Mandy had agreed to meet a play equipment supplier later that week to discuss and produce a possible plan for the scheme.
- There had been a complaint of anti-social behaviour at the skate park; Mandy was aware of the culprit who was not from the village, and she continued to make patrols of the park. She reported some offensive graffiti which needed to be removed.
- A total for the Ven House event had not yet been finalised, however she reported that £750 had been made on admissions at the gate.

Report from District Councillor Lucy Wallace:

Mrs Wallace reported that she had requested a special clearance of the river bed this year following several complaints.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Mrs M Lock (holiday)

2. **Declarations of Interest :**
Mr E Davis – Item 9.2 – payment to Mr S Davis (*related*);
Mr E Watts – Item 4.4 – Commonalty Charity Lanes (*spouse of trustee*) Mr Biss, Mr Lockey, Mr Duckworth and Mr Davis also declared an interest as trustees of the charity.
3. **Minutes of the full council meeting** held on Tuesday 19th May 2011 were agreed and signed as a correct record
4. **Matters Arising**
- 4.1 Parish Plan *Transport* Mr Watts and Mrs Alexander agreed to form a working party with Mr R Tizzard and Mr P Lock to look at the proposals re Milborne Wick and quiet lanes and to report back to the Parish Council
- 4.2 Future of the Library Mr Farley reported that the judicial review was still ongoing, with no indication as to how long it was likely to take. In the meantime the Friends of Milborne Port Library continued to publicise their activities – a stall at the Ven Garden Party had resulted in several new members being signed up. A further meeting of the Friends group was due to take place that week.
- 4.3 Cavanna Site – Riverside walk The clerk reported on a telephone conversation with Mr Fred Sureshkumar of Cavanna Homes who had confirmed that the section of footway nearest Rosemary Street would be privately maintained by a management company as SCC would not adopt it, but that Cavanna could not convey the land to the residents under planning conditions and so public access would remain. He had agreed to confirm this in writing to the Parish Council.
- 4.4 Commonalty Charity Lands Mr Watts reported that checks had been made and that minutes dated 1977 confirmed that following efforts by Mr Watts and Mr D Scillitoe to put the election of Parish Council nominated trustees on a better democratic footing, it was agreed at that time that 5 trustees would be elected by each new council every 4 years. It was also noted that a detailed scheme had been produced by the Charity Commission in 1996, and approved by the Parish Council – this specified the appointment of two trustees in 1996 for four years from the date of the scheme, and a further three trustees for two years from the date of the scheme and thereafter for a period of four years. Mr Watts had also proposed that council elected trustees should be serving parish councillors. After discussion it was agreed by a majority vote that in future, three trustees should be elected at the first meeting (May) of each new council on a four yearly basis, with the remaining two trustees being elected at the May meeting two years thereafter (proposed by Mrs P Alexander, seconded by Mr J Farley). An amendment put forward by Mr Watts that the council should comply with its own policy, or comply with charity commission rules, by electing all five trustees within the term of this council was not carried. It was agreed that due to long term absence, the election of a replacement for Mrs Mary Russell should be considered at the next full council meeting.
5. **Planning**
- 5.1 Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 3rd May 2011 were received and noted.
- 5.2 The following planning applications were considered:
- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 11/02236/FUL | Construction of a slurry lagoon
<i>Coombe Hill Farm, Furlong Lane</i> |
| 11/02242/FUL | Erection of a milking parlour, dairy and handling facilities
<i>Coombe Hill Farm, Furlong Lane</i> |

The Parish Council had no objection to both applications, but asked that the Highways Authority consider the possible effect of an increase in large vehicles using the surrounding

roads. It was also noted that permission for application 10/01807/FUL was for the erection of a building for general agricultural storage purposes and not for the accommodation of livestock.

5.2 The following **planning refusal** was noted:

11/01284/FUL Stopping up of existing access and creation of a new access
Land adjoining 94 Brook Street

6. **Finance**

6.1 The following payments were approved:

Mr S Davis	General maintenance	£ 232.00
K M Dike	Grounds maintenance – April 2011	£ 892.30
Lifestyle Landscapes	The Grove/Ball Court – monthly contract	£ 116.40
SSDC	Parish Council Election 2011	£ 754.37
Remous	Clubs & Societies Leaflet (500 copies) (Parish Plan)	£ 163.00
K M Dike	Works at allotment (vegetation clearance/move tap)	£ 432.00
Lifestyle Landscapes	Clearance/new planting – ball court bed	£ 238.02
M.Port Primary School	Annual School Crossing Patrol grant	£ 300.00
SSDC	Playground Inspection Training (R Lockety)	£ 95.00
Remous	Parish Magazine flier (Parish Plan)	£ 61.20
Milborne Port Computers	Annual domain hosting - milborneportpc.org.uk	£ 30.00
BWBSL (Wessex Water)	Water services (T. Hall £40.70, Allots £93.97)	£ 134.67
W H & J Henshaw Ltd	Noticeboard – Medical Centre (Parish Plan)	£ 420.00
Shire Signs	Signwriting – noticeboard / cemetery notice	£ 82.00
Crackmore Garage	Petrol for churchyard mowers	£ 20.67

6.2 The following receipt was noted:

HM Revenue & Customs VAT Repayment £ 6136.70

7. **Footpaths**

7.1 Minutes of the Footpaths Committee meeting held on Tuesday 7th June 2011 were received and noted.

7.2 Following the request from Mrs S Shingleton to step down from the footpaths committee, Mr R Biss was elected to the committee

7.3 Councillors were asked to note the renewed temporary closure order for Footpath WN17/8 to continue in force until 1st December 2011 to enable housing development and associated works to take place and avoid the likelihood of danger to the public thereby.

8. **Youth Council** The clerk reported that PCSO Mandy Forsey had expressed a desire to set up a Youth Council in the village – detailed information on setting up a youth council had been obtained from the National Association of Local Councils and would be forwarded to Mandy for information. Mr Lockety, as youth liaison officer, also offered to assist.

9. **Public Conveniences, London Road** The clerk read out a letter from Mrs Helen Rutter, SSDC Area Development Manager regarding the future of the public conveniences in Milborne Port. It was noted that SSDC wished to discuss with Milborne Port Parish Council the possibilities of either transferring ownership to the Parish Council or considering closure. It was agreed that before any decisions could be made, details of costings etc needed to be obtained and the clerk was asked to set up a meeting with SSDC representatives – Mr E Davis and Mr J Farley agreed to attend.

10. **Highways Matters**

10.1 The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk reported on a site meeting with Mr Colin Fletcher and colleague from Somerset Highways and PCSO Mandy Forsey and confirmed that the following had been agreed :

- *Piece Road* It was agreed that the parking problems in the Piece Road/Bauntons Orchard area could be relieved if the grassed area of Piece Road could be turned into car parking. The clerk had since discussed this matter with Diane Layzell of SSDC, who confirmed that the area was owned by SSDC and that although the District Council could not fund the creation of a car park, it may consider, subject to members' agreement, transferring the land to the Parish Council at nominal cost. If members agreed in principle to any such request, the Parish Council would then need to produce a plan of the scheme and confirmation of funding in order for SSDC to then take the matter further. The Parish Council unanimously agreed that an in principle agreement from SSDC should be sought. If obtained, details of the required scheme, including any conditions required, would be drawn up and funding sought. In the meantime it had been agreed with SCC on site that white lining would be added to Piece Road junctions with both Bauntons Orchard and Manor Road
- *Gunville* SCC agreed to improve signage both at the top and bottom of Lower Gunville. Also a hatched area would be added to stop cars parking and aid cars trying to drive round from Higher Gunville into Lower Gunville.
- *Coldharbour/Station Road junction* SCC had agreed to add white lining on this corner to aid visibility on this junction.

11. **Correspondence:**

- **Mr Anthony Elliot-Square** – request for parish council support re Higher Gunville surface maintenance and parking. *Mr Elliot-Square's request was discussed in some detail and it was agreed that although the Parish Council was not in a position to make a decision as to ownership of the roadway in Higher Gunville, it should support Mr Elliot-Square's efforts by, in the first instance, writing to Somerset Highways with a request that they repair the roadway; if Somerset Highways then claimed only to be responsible for the 4m footpath, they would be asked to confirm ownership of the road.*
- **Commonalty Charity Lands** – request for permission to dig out and lay new water pipes across the Clump to properties in the High Street and Church Lane. *On behalf of the Commonalty Charity Lands, Mr Biss confirmed that stop taps would be installed on the road side of the clump; also that no trees would be affected. After discussion it was agreed to give permission on the understanding that the area was subsequently reinstated and re-seeded.*
- **Saveria Moss, South Somerset Together** – invitation to attend Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 13th July 2011, 7m in the Council Chamber, Brympton Way *Noted – Mr J Farley to attend.*
- **Julian Gale, Group Manager – Community Governance, SCC** – notification that Somerset is to be the subject of a Further Electoral Review by the Local Government Boundary Commission. *Mr J Farley explained the background to the electoral review.*
- **SSDC** – Vacancy for Parish Council representative on the SSDC Standards Committee *Noted*
- **Sheila Wheeler, Chief Executive Somerset County Council** – confirmation of successful bid for £30m of government funding for high speed broadband (joint bid with Devon, North Somerset, Plymouth and Torbay) *Noted*
- **Somerset Local Authorities' Civil Contingencies Unit** – request for assistance with civil emergency planning *Noted – and agreed that Emergency Planning should be included on the agenda of the next full council meeting.*
- **Sherborne Transport Action Group** – Chairman's report for the year 2010/11 and minutes of a meeting held on Thursday 2nd June 2011 *Noted - Mr J Edmonds also gave a verbal report of the meeting.*
- **Sherborne CAB** – Acknowledgement of donation and plea for help in promoting the work of the CAB *Noted.*

12. The date of the next Parish Council meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 19th July 2011