

MILBORNE PORT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 15th March 2011 at Milborne Port Town Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Mr E Davis (Chairman), Mr J Farley, Mr R Biss, Mr T Copper, Mr R Duckworth, Mr J Edmonds, Mrs W House, Mrs M Lock, Mr R Lockey, Mr E Watts

Also in attendance: County Councillor William Wallace, District Councillor Lucy Wallace, PCSO Mandy Forsey, Mrs J Freeman (clerk)

Public Question Time (15 members of public in attendance)

Mr Davis declared an interest in planning application 11/00555/FUL (13 Newtown) as a relative of the property owners.

- Local residents raised several objections against planning application no. 11/00555/FUL (13 Newtown). The property owners also spoke to explain their plans.
- Councillors reported receiving several complaints regarding felled leylandii at Springfield Road, Station Road. The clerk confirmed that both she and District Councillor Lucy Wallace had spoken to SSDC's Senior Environment Protection Officer on this subject. He had confirmed that there was little action which could be taken to get the area cleared, however he had asked the landowner not to burn the cuttings as this may give rise to complaints and cause a nuisance. The owner had agreed to shred the cuttings.
- The clerk reported that Cavanna Homes had confirmed that wooden fencing along the riverside opposite The Old Stables was temporary, awaiting delivery of a further supply of iron railings.
- The Give Way sign at Goathill Road had now been removed by Balfour Beatty; it was understood that there was still some dispute between Balfour Beatty and Southern Electric
- A request had been received from the Thursday morning Pilates group which at present met in the WI room to move upstairs to the main meeting room as they required more space. It was agreed that they would be accommodated; it was noted that cleaning of the Town Hall normally took place on Thursday mornings but that the cleaner would be asked to come in at a different time.
- The clerk reminded all that a Village Litter Pick would be taking place on Saturday 19th March, 10am-12pm (meet in East Street car park)

Report from PCSO Mandy Forsey (by e-mail) :

- During the last month there had been NO crimes reported; 23 phone calls had been received, of which 5 were highway related, 4 were as a result of house alarms, 3 reported anti-social behaviour and the rest were miscellaneous general calls.
- A grand opening of the skate park was planned for 9th April 2011 starting at 10am.
- Congratulations were extended to Mandy on being named PCSO of the year, not only for this district, but also for the whole of the Avon and Somerset Constabulary force. To Mandy's surprise, Jasper Conran attended the ceremony to present her with her award. County Councillor William Wallace was also present. Mandy thanked councillors for their support.

Report from County Councillor William Wallace :

- Councillor Wallace confirmed that the library had been granted an extra year of funding, until next April to give time to the community to make plans for its future. He pledged his continuing support to the community in its efforts to retain the library and offered to attend the forthcoming meeting with Kay Allen. The campaign by Milborne Port had been one of the strongest and he confirmed that the campaign group were taking the right way forward by exploring all possibilities.

Report from District Councillor Lucy Wallace:

- Councillor Lucy Wallace confirmed that she had also received complaints regarding felled trees at Springfield Road and had taken what action was available. Burning of the rubbish had been halted, but unfortunately little else could be done to enforce clearance.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received and accepted from Mr A King and Mrs R Douglas
2. **Declarations of Interest :**
Mr E Davis – Item 6.1 – payment to Mr S Davis (*related*) and item 5.2 (13 Newtown) (*related*)
3. **Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 15th February 2011** were signed as a correct record.
4. **Matters Arising**
 - 4.1 **Parish Plan** A meeting of the Action Forum was being planned for the end of March; it was hoped that Mike Allen and/or Tim Cook from SSDC would be able to attend. Mr Davis and Mr Farley were due to attend a Market Towns Initiative Group meeting on 24th March.
 - **Communications Group** The group were still in consultation with the medical centre regarding the design of the noticeboard; there had been progress regarding putting the walks leaflets with maps onto the website, following changes in Ordnance Survey rules- the group also intended to add a couple more walks; work was now starting on a new welcome pack and improvements to the village website; a flyer was due to be delivered to all households publicising the Parish Magazine.
 - **Transport** A transport questionnaire had been delivered to households in Milborne Wick; details had been received regarding cuts to the no.58 bus service (evening/Sunday and Bank Holiday services). Mr Edmonds reported that the Sherborne Transport Action Group had also discussed this matter. Councillor William Wallace drew attention to the possibility of using “core response” buses such as the slinky bus and Scat bus as possible replacements for underused buses.
 - **Social Groups and Events** An estimate of £163 for printing 500 copies of the village clubs and societies leaflet had been received from Remous. It was *agreed* to go ahead with this (proposed Mr Lockey, seconded Mrs House, all agreed)
 - 4.2 **Community Woodland** Mr Copper read out a draft report to go into the Parish Magazine. This was agreed, however it was agreed that Wheathill Garden Centre’s generous part-sponsorship of the trees should be acknowledged. It was agreed that residents would now be invited to sponsor further trees at a cost of £20 each.
 - 4.3 **Skate Park** The new equipment had now been installed and the park was being well used. An open day had been planned for 9th April. The new bin would be installed before that date.
 - 4.4 **Future of the Library** It was confirmed that a meeting had been set up with Kay Allen, SCC on Friday 25th March – to be attended by the Chairman, Vice Chairman, clerk and Mr R Lockey. Cheryl Goddard, Chairman of the Friends of Milborne Port Library Group had also been invited to attend. Councillor William Wallace also agreed to attend.
 - 4.5 **Local Elections 2011** The clerk confirmed that nomination forms for the Parish Council elections on 5th May 2011 were now available – these needed to be received by SSDC by noon on 4th April
 - 4.6 **Open Spaces – Playground Inspection Training** Mr Rob Lockey offered to attend a SSDC Visual Inspection training course on 24th June 2011 on behalf of the Parish Council. The Council agreed to fund this at a cost of £95.
5. **Planning** (This item was chaired by Mr J Farley)
 - 5.1 Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 1st March 2011 were received and noted.
 - 5.2 The following **Planning Applications** were considered:

11/00251/FUL	The replacement of existing flat roof with a pitched roof on front elevation <i>Nelmes, Little Ven. London Road</i> No objection
11/00555/FUL	Refurbishment and extension of existing dwelling and erection of a new attached terraced dwelling with new vehicular access and parking

13 Newtown It was noted that in addition to objections raised during Public Question Time, 4 letters of objection had been received. After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council's comments would be as follows:

The Parish Council resolved by vote (7 members in favour, with one abstention) not to raise an objection to this application. However the PC asked that if the District Council was minded to approve the application, conditions should be put in place to

- 1. avoid and reduce nuisance and disruption to local residents during the construction phase, particularly with regard to the size of construction vehicles*
- 2. protect and retain the existing hedgerow between the site and the field*

5.3 The following **Planning Approvals** were noted :

10/04081/FUL The conversion and extension of existing traditional buildings to form dwelling and swimming pool (Revised scheme to 03/000385/COU)
Mill Court, Milborne Wick

11/00237/FUL} Conversion of Doctors' surgery into 2 dwellings (revised application
11/00238/LBC} 10/00299/FUL)

6. Finance

6.1 The following payments were approved:

Mr S Davis	General Maintenance	£ 174.19
K M Dike	Grounds maintenance – January 2011	£ 892.30
Lifestyle Landscapes	The Grove/Ball Court – monthly contract	£ 73.99
Westree	Hedgecutting – village hall	£ 1404.00*
Hags Play Ltd	Skate Park equipment (balance less 5% retainer)	£ 9725.00
Glasdon Manufacturing Ltd	Grit Bin	£ 200.64
Principle Nameplate	Replacement plaque for East Hill seating area	£ 206.40
Mid West Office Equip.	Printer/photocopier supplies	£ 138.05
Viking Direct	Office stationery	£ 60.40
Mrs J Freeman	Petty Cash	£ 50.00
Mrs J Freeman	Burial Fees October 2010 to March 2011	£ 65.00

*It was noted that this cost was shared with the Village Hall and Playing Field Committees, from whom £390 each had now been received.

6.2 The clerk asked members to note changes to HM Revenue & Customs rules on tax treatment of parish clerks and the requirement, with effect from 1st April 2011, for the Parish Council to register as an employer with HMRC and operate PAYE on income earned by the clerk. Information and advice was being obtained from HMRC as to procedures required and details of how this new system would affect the Council and the Clerk financially.

7. Footpaths

7.1 Minutes of the Footpaths Committee meeting held on Tuesday 1st March 2011 were received and noted. Mr Duckworth reported that he had received a query regarding the moving of a footpath at Kingsbury – it was confirmed that this was carried out at the time that the new house had been built but that no official notification of this had been received, nor any complaints.

8. **South Somerset Strimmer Project 2011** The Council received an invitation from Mr Andy Stevenson, Somerset County Council Rights of Way Volunteer Co-ordinator to take part in the South Somerset Strimmer Project, which allows trained volunteers to cut vegetation on public rights of way. Members queried the rights of individuals to cut back vegetation on privately owned land – the clerk was asked to check this point with SCC

9. **Medleycott plaque in the Ball Court** A request had been received for the Medleycott plaque to be refurbished or replaced as the wording was now very faint. It was agreed that the clerk should approach the Medleycott family in the first instance for their views on this.
10. **Highways Matters**
A letter from Mr J House calling for further parking restrictions in the High Street was considered, however it was felt that recent congestion in the High Street had been exacerbated by works associated with building work at the Tippling Philosopher and that the situation should be monitored and reviewed once works were complete.
11. **Census 2011**
A request from the area co-ordinator for occasional use of a meeting room in the Town Hall was agreed.
12. **Litter Bins**
It was agreed that a litter bin, of the standard design previously ordered, should be purchased for installation at the new community woodland.
13. **Correspondence:**
 - **Mr L Howell, Chief Fire Officer, Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service** – invitation to give views on the key proposals contained within their corporate plan for 2011/12 – 2013/14 (consultation period closes 10th April 2011) – see <http://www.dsfire.gov.uk/AboutUs/WhatWeDo/OurCorporatePlan.cfm?siteCategoryId=2&T1ID=10&T2ID=123> or tel. 01392 872354 *Noted*
14. The date of the next Parish Council meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 19th April 2011; the date of the Annual Parish Meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 26th April 2011.