

## MILBORNE PORT PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2011 at Milborne Port Town Hall at 7.30pm

**Present:** Mr E Davis (in Chair), Mr J Farley, Mrs P Alexander, Mr R Biss, Mrs R Douglas, Mr R Duckworth, Mr J Edmonds, Mrs W House, Mrs M Lock, Mr M Ritchie, Mrs S Shingleton, Mr E Watts

**Also in attendance:** County Councillor William Wallace; Mrs J Freeman (clerk)

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

- Mrs Douglas reported that the drain outside Gainsborough House was blocked once again and warranted further investigation as had become a regular problem
- Mrs Lock, on behalf of the WI, made a complaint regarding the Town Hall toilet. The clerk was asked to source a paper towel dispenser and towels. It was noted that the area was due to be repainted before Christmas and that new flooring was also planned.

**Report from PCSO Mandy Forsey** (via e-mail):

- 29 phone calls had been received and 7 crimes reported (3 theft, 1 bilking, 1 assault, 1 fraud and 1 threat to commit damage).
- The non-emergency number to phone the police was now 101

**Report from County Councillor William Wallace:**

- County Councillor Wallace introduced himself, particularly for the benefit of the new elected councillors
- Temporary Speed Indicator Devices for Crackmore had been added to the SID programme for 2012, to be funded by Somerset County Council
- The boundary reviews were still under discussion but indications were that the Blackmore Vale County Council division would be increased in size, possibly to include Marston Magna and Rimpleton and that the number of Somerset County Councillors would be reduced from 58 to 55. There were also likely to be significant changes in the parliamentary boundaries

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Mr R Lockey (abroad on business); PCSO Mandy Forsey and District Councillor Lucy Wallace
2. **Declarations of Interest :**  
Mr E Davis : Personal interest - Item 9.2 – payment to Mr S Davis (*related*)  
Mr J Farley : Personal interest – Item 5.1, planning application 11/03280/LBC (*friend of applicant- Mr Farley left the room during discussion of this item*)  
Mrs P Alexander: Personal and prejudicial interest – Item 5.1 planning application 11/03280/LBC (*applicant – Mrs Alexander left the room during discussion of this item*)  
Mr E Watts: Personal interest – Item 5.1, planning application 11/03495/FUL and 11/03498/FUL (*friend of applicant*)
- 3 **Minutes of the full council meeting** held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2011 were agreed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.
4. **Matters Arising**
  - 4.1 **Parish Plan** The clerk reported that she had discussed with Mr J Oldham, Chairman of the Parish Plan Action Forum, the need for a fourth working party to deal with the commercial aspects of the plan, as it was felt these were not being adequately addressed at present. After discussion it was agreed that a Commercial Group should be formed, initially to comprise PC Chairman Ernie Davis, Vice Chairman John Farley, Mr E Watts and Mr M Ritchie. The group would itself discuss further membership of the group at its first meeting.

4.2 Future of the Library A meeting had been due to take place with Mrs Kay Allen of Somerset County Council, however this had been postponed pending the result of the Judicial Review which was due to take place at the end of September. Mr Farley reported that Friends of Somerset Libraries had asked members to pledge funds toward the Judicial Review. He reiterated that the view of the Parish Council and of the Friends of Milborne Port Library was that they would like to see a County Council funded library retained, but that the community had identified ways in which savings could be made.

4.3 Potential Car Parking – Piece Road The clerk read out a reply from Mrs D Layzell, SSDC in reply to the Parish Council’s renewed request for the grass area in Piece Road to be considered for parking – with SSDC citing their main reason for refusal as being the loss of open space for informal play. The area between 40 and 42 Manor Road was being considered as a possible alternative, however it was agreed this would not be suitable as the strip was too long and narrow, also the required planning permission may be difficult to obtain. The council did not accept that using the Piece Road area would result in a loss of informal play space. Councillor Wallace suggested that the clerk seek the support of District Councillor Lucy Wallace in this matter.

4.4 Emergency Planning No progress to report

4.5 Town Hall

- **Internal Decoration** Mr Wayne Timmins, had confirmed that the work would be carried out before Christmas as requested.
- **Electrical Inspection** The clerk reported that one estimate had been received for the remedial work arising from the recent inspection. It was agreed that two further estimates should be sought – for consideration at the October full council meeting, with a view to the work being carried out prior to the decoration work.

4.6 River Gascoigne The clerk gave details of replies received from Mr R Meecham, SSDC regarding the state of the river and confirmed he had written to all riparian owners to remind them of their responsibilities. Mr Meecham asked it to be made clear that “enforcement powers (now available to the County Council) were discretionary and would only be appropriate where there is a genuine risk of flooding. If weed growth is simply unsightly that is not a particular concern and would be down to property owners to address, with their neighbours if necessary.”

5. **Planning**

5.1 The following planning applications were considered:

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|---------------------|--|
| <b>11/03100/FUL</b> | Erection of a garden room extention<br><i>School House, Goathill Road</i> <b>No objection</b>  |
| <b>11/03280/LBC</b> | Conversion of dis-used store to ancillary residential accommodation and alterations to facilitate the proposal <i>2 Thimble Lane</i> <b>No objection</b>   |
| <b>11/03411/FUL</b> | Installation of a PV array on barn roof<br><i>Seven Wells Down Farm, Corton Denham</i> <b>No objection</b>   |
| <b>11/03470/FUL</b> | Relocation of existing highway access, demolition of existing garage, erection of new single detached garage and construction of new boundary wall (Revised application) <i>51 London Road</i> <b>No objection</b> |
| <b>11/03495/FUL</b> | Construction of a slurry lagoon (resubmission)<br><i>Coombe Hill Farm, Furlong Lane</i> <b>No objection</b>  |
| <b>11/03498/FUL</b> | Erection of a milking parlour, dairy and handling facilities (revised application) <i>Coombe Hill Farm, Furlong Lane</i> <b>No objection</b>   |

- 5.2 The following **planning approvals** were noted:
- 11/02767/FUL** Construction of aperture and insertion of window into south-east elevation  
*5 Higher Kingsbury Close*
- 11/02723/FUL** Erection of a garden room extension *1 Station Road*
- 5.3 Members were asked to note and consider copy correspondence between Mr R Tizzard and SSDC's Assistant Director (Health and Wellbeing) regarding application 09/04978/OUT – land at Wheathill Lane, details of which had been distributed with the agenda to this meeting. It was agreed that an objection should be lodged with SSDC regarding some of the comments made.
- 5.4 The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk gave a verbal report on a meeting with Mr Mike Allen, SSDC held on 26<sup>th</sup> August 2011. Following discussions with Mr Allen, contact had been made with SSDC's planning policy team and it was confirmed that the possible future needs of Milborne Port had been taken into account as part of the draft core strategy; also that drop in sessions had been organised for parishes to discuss the latest stage of the draft Core Strategy. It was noted that there would be a future need to produce a robust neighbourhood plan
- 5.5 It was confirmed that the South Somerset District Council Draft Core Strategy drop in session would take place on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 5.30pm – 8.30pm in the Council Chamber, Yeovil. Mr Watts agreed to attend on behalf of Milborne Port with the purpose of discussing the core strategy process, and the Parish Council's role within it.
- 5.6 The recent publication of the Draft National Planning Policy Framework was noted and discussed. It was agreed that, in order to give all members the time and opportunity to study the document in detail, the council's response would be discussed and agreed at the October Planning Committee meeting and that this meeting would be opened to all members of the council. Any members unable to attend would be invited to submit their comments in writing to the clerk prior to the meeting.

## 6. **Finance**

- 6.1 The following payments were approved:

Mr S Davis	General maintenance	£ 245.39
K M Dike	Grounds maintenance – August 2011	£ 892.30
Lifestyle Landscapes	The Grove/Ball Court – monthly contract	£ 116.40
Moore Stephens	Audit fee y/e 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2011	£ 660.00
Crackmore Garage	Fuel for churchyard mowers	£ 21.19
Milborne Port Computers	Supply/install refurbished PC plus call out charge*	£ 180.00
Mrs J Freeman	Petty Cash	£ 50.00
Mrs J Freeman	Reimbursement for purchase of stepladder	£ 42.90

\*\* The clerk reported that a refurbished computer had been supplied as a temporary measure and that this could be purchased for £150 + VAT (with one year's guarantee) Alternatively a new computer could be purchased for approx. £350. After discussion, it was agreed to retain the reconditioned computer.

7. **Riverside Walk – Cavanna Development** The clerk read out a letter from Mr S Sureshkumar of Cavanna Homes, replying to various points raised and confirming that although during the planning process the intention had been that “most” of the footways would be adopted as public Highway under the Section 38 agreement, during consultation with Somerset County Council, Cavanna Homes had only been able to include part of the footpath, from the footbridge to West Hill, the public right of way then diverting along the roadside. Cavanna had subsequently had to transfer the remainder of the riverside walk (i.e. nearest Rosemary Street ) to a private management company and this section was now designated a “permissive path” .

Mr Sureshkumar also claimed that the site's boundary walls were not owned by Cavanna Homes and that future maintenance of these would be the responsibility of the Highway Authority. After discussion it was agreed that the clerk should write to Somerset Highways to reiterate the Parish Council's great regret that the riverside walk had not been adopted in its entirety and stating that the PC did not accept the reasons given by Somerset Highways for not adopting the Rosemary Street section of the footpath and questioning why Cavanna had not been obliged to bring the pathway up to adoptable standard.

8. **Public Conveniences** It was noted that Councillor Henry Hobhouse, SSDC portfolio holder for properties, had been due to attend this meeting to give further details on costings etc. As he was absent, it was agreed that this matter should be deferred until he was able to attend.
9. **Review of County Council members/divisions and South Somerset Polling District and Polling Place Review** As reported by County Councillor Wallace, the review was still under discussion and detailed proposals were expected to be distributed for consultation shortly.
10. **The Clump** The clerk reported on a discussion with Mr T Gawler, solicitor at MacLachlans of Sherborne and confirmed that matters were now in hand for the new right of access to Commonalty owned properties to be correctly documented. She also confirmed that a complaint had been lodged with Wessex Water regarding the poor reinstatement of the ground.
11. **Station Copse Community Woodland** A date for the planting of the sponsored trees would be arranged once the available date of the trees was known – Mr Watts to advise.
12. **Diamond Jubilee** It was agreed that members should collate details of events already being organised in the village for the Diamond Jubilee in 2012 and plans discussed at the October full council meeting.
13. **Correspondence:**
  - **A Herridge, SSDC Area East** – invitation to Town and Parish Councils annual meeting to be held on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2011 at Churchfields, Wincanton *Noted – as the Planning and Finance committees would be meeting on this date, many members would be unavailable – however Mrs P Alexander and Mr M Ritchie agreed to attend*
  - **SALC** – notification of next meeting followed by AGM to be held at Long Sutton Village Hall on Sat 24<sup>th</sup> September at 10am. *Noted*
  - **Wincanton Sports Centre** – request for funding *Funding continued to be given indirectly in the form of a grant to Milborne Port Primary School to help with transport costs to the Wincanton Sports Centre swimming pool*
  - **Shopmobility, Yeovil** – request for support *Declined*
  - **Julia Farrar, Communications Officer – Somerset County Council** Links to Somerset County Council's County Plan and Annual Report *Noted*
  - **Sherborne Transport Action Group** – notification of meeting to be held on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2011 at 7pm *Noted – Mr J Farley gave a verbal report. The clerk reported on subsequent e-mail correspondence from Mr J Fanning regarding the 58/158 Bus Partnership, confirming that the first committee meeting would take place on 6<sup>th</sup> October and that Mr Fanning would attend as Milborne Port representative..*
  - **Avon & Somerset Police Authority** – notification of change of non-emergency number to 101 with effect from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2011 *Noted*
  - **Avon & Somerset Police Authority** – Strategic Policing Plan 2011-2014 *Noted.*
14. The date of the next Parish Council meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2011