Milton-under-Wychwood Parish Council

Milton under Wychwood Parish Council meeting

18th January 2023 at 19.30hrs

Milton Village Hall

Present:
Councillor Rod Blackman (RB)
District Councillor Jeff Haine (JH)
County Councillor Liz Leffman (LL)
Councillor John Pratt (JP)
Councillor Peter Rawlins (PR)
Councillor Graham Smith (GS)
Chairman Chris Trotman (CT)
Councillor Pat Ward (PW)

Parish Clerk: Mrs L. Jacques (LJ)
1 member of the public

Approved Minutes

1. **Apologies for absence**
   None

2. **Declaration of Interests**
   JH – Village Hall / Planning

3. **Proposal to approve the minutes of the November and December EGM meeting November**
   JP Proposed
   GA Seconded
   All in favour

4. **Matters arising from the November meeting**

4.1 – Commemorative Benches – GA still awaiting an update from S106 team on whether the Commemorative benches fit the S106 criteria.
4.2 – Update from PR regarding quotes for repairs to play equipment –
Playdale have postponed and will be attending in February to carry out the repairs.
4.3 – Wychwood Scout Hut Update – Still in progress but no further updates

5. Public session for all items related to this Agenda

None

6. To receive the following reports:

6.1 – Chairman's Report (CT)

Jonathan Ayres is standing down as Scouts leader but his replacement will continue the drive for sourcing an appropriate space for a Scout Hut.

CT is still awaiting an update from the Charity Solicitor's regarding the completion of the Cemetery transfer. An invoice has not been received yet.

6.2 – District Councillor's Report (JH)

JH would like to thank the PC and members of the village for attending the Milton Xmas carols. It was very successful and was a great atmosphere. The owners of the Old Post Office provided mulled wine and mince pies which was well received. As the owners do not wish to accept the monetary donation, GA will write a letter of thanks for their kind offer.

The DC has voted to increase Council Tax for a band D property by £5 a year. The price of green waste will also increase £5 to £40 a year.

Voting has changed. Anyone wishing to vote in local elections must now bring valid photo ID details of which can be found on the WODC website. There are no local elections this year but this will apply for 2024 onwards.

6.3 – County Councillor's Report (LL)

The CC are finalising work on the budget – there will be an increase in Council tax to the maximum allowed of 2.99%. If the CC does not increase it the government have made clear they will not receive any grants.

The CC have managed to source some additional income from other areas and reallocate to rural transport. They will also be tackling flooding and improving the management of vegetation on the roadsides including the repainting of road signs.

There will be an allocation of £2million towards the cost of living for those at the bottom end of the Council tax scale.

Bus fares will continue to be subsidised - £1 fares for young people and £2 for adults. Park and ride prices will also stay the same.

The CC have received a government grant of £5.2million to assist with increasing children's homes in the county.

The consultation on healthcare across the county closes on 29th January.

CT queried why the Milton High street road resurfacing has still not been addressed. LL will look into this along with the substantial road damage on the way out of Milton. LL also noted that the contract for road repairs was coming up for review.

6. S106 Update (GA)

GA met with Ian Drainer and whilst he can't comment formally he agreed the current tennis court surface was not acceptable even for recreational tennis. GA is waiting for Caloo to arrange an independent meeting. The outstanding balance will remain unpaid until this has been resolved.

There is still a sizable amount of S106 funds to be spent and GA is awaiting an update from the S106 team as to the exact amount.

8. Village Green (PR)

8.1 – The village green is still being well used. The damage to the floor area around the toddler swings is substantial and PR suggested contacting Playdale for a quote for matting around the area. LJ will contact Playdale.

The bottom area of the green near the tennis courts is flooded and will need monitoring.

PR suggested S106 money be used to provide more play equipment.

8.2 – PR stated Martin Harris is going to quote for welding wheels on to the tennis net holder so that it can be moved easily. PR will update.

JH stated no football has taken place due to bad flooding of the field. Mid week games will need to take place to catch up.

The driveway of the village green has substantial potholes again – this will need attention again very soon.

9. Examination of Submitted Neighbourhood Plan (JP)

JP thanked CT for joining the meeting on 9th December.
The team went through the examiner notes and worked through the entire checklist. The NPSG applied the same process to points raised by the DC and OCC along with other consultees. The Deadline was 19th December and the response was submitted prior to this.
The NPSG are waiting to hear the outcome of the examiner's analysis based on their response to the clarification note. They were constructive questions allowing the opportunity for answers and the NPSG corrected some information regarding LGS5.

10. Planning (PR/PW)

10.1 – 22/03531/HHD – 4 Pear Tree Close, MUW
Erection of single and two storey rear extensions
To view above applications, visit https://publicaccess.westoxon.gov.uk/online-applications/ and input relevant reference number

The PC can see no reason to object.

11. Accounts (JP/CT/GA)

11.1 To approve the November & December Payments and End of Month bank reconciliation
PW proposed
GS seconded
All in favour

11.2 – To approve the 3rd Quarter Statement
S137 have increased this year in line with the budget which is positive.
PW proposed
PR seconded
All in favour

12. Draft Budget 2023-24 (GA/CT/JP)

12.1 – The forecast of income and expenditure to 31/3/23 and bank balances carried forward as of 1/4/23 shows a bank balance of £53000. This assumes paying the outstanding payment to Caloo.
The refined budget takes into account the S137 grants and reduced Cemetery income.
The PC await an update from WODC regarding total S106 funds.
Wheelie bin emptying costs have increased also.

12.2 - Proposal to agree the revised draft budget for 2023-2024 and rolling plan
Having submitted the revised draft budget 2023-24 and rolling plan to PC for consideration, JP proposed that this is accepted.
PR seconded
All in favour of approving the draft budget.

13. S137 Grants (CT)

13.1 – Village Mosaic
The PC viewed the Village Mosaic created by the Craft café and the list of costings. The PC were in agreement the mosaic was lovely but concern was raised regarding preventing damage to the mosaic whilst in position on the village green. There was some debate about where the mosaic should be sited; it was agreed that the Craft Café should be consulted as to the best location.

The PC agreed that further investigation as to appropriate covering for the mosaic is required but all in favour of providing a current grant of £439.86 to cover costs of creating the mosaic to the craft café.
JH proposed
RB seconded
All in favour

14. Correspondence (CT)

None

15. Public session for non-Agenda items

None

16. AOB.

The policy regarding termination of pound parking will be reviewed and presented to PC in February.

JP stated access to the sand bunker at the village hall needs to remain and requested the buses leave enough space. JP also queried whether the salt bins need refilling. These have been carried out by the county council.

PR queried plans for the King's Coronation. JH stated finding volunteers is difficult but JH will speak to Alan Alday about any potential plans and whether there could be a group meeting for those interested including the Churches and village halls.

The Cemetery posts are rotten and some have been knocked over. GA will have a look and see if the last section leading out of the village can be removed so the damaged posts closer to the Cemetery can be replaced.

Toby from Wychwood Forest Trust will be coming to look at the tree plantation and to advise on any further trees that can be added in future.

Meeting concluded 2038hrs.

January Receipts

			TOTALS	***7,848.00***
Date	Description	Name	Method	Amount
05-Jan	Oliver Chapple Cemetery	Stoneletters Ltd	BACS	£100.00
03-Jan	A/C Closed Wychwood Sc	HSBC	BACS	£50.00
03-Jan	Ferriman - Cemetery	Peter Smith & Son	BACS	£100.00
27	HMRC VAT Refund	HMRC	BACS	£7598.00

January Payments

	TOTALS	£0.00	£1,810.74
Date	Description	Payee	Amount
18-Jan	PAYE	HMRC	£196.45
16-Jan	Bank Charges	HSBC	£8.00
28-Jan	Village Hall S106 VAT	MUWVH	£484.91
26-Jan	S137 1st Wychwood Scouts village	1st Wychwood	£50.00
28-Jan	Parish Online	Parish Online	£120.00
28-Jan	Basketball net	GA	£29.98
02-Feb	Cemetery Gardening	KGS	£265.00
02-Feb	Clerk Salary	LJ	£456.40
02-Feb	Lengthsperson Salary	MR	£200.00

Bank reconciliation as at end of	**January**	**TOTALS**
Opening Cash Book		**£33,760.73**
Add Receipts		£7848.00
Less Payments		£1810.74
Closing Cash Book		**£39,797.99**
Add: unpresented credit		£0.00
Less: uncleared cheques		£0.00
Current Account		£39,797.99
Difference		£0.00
Investment Account		£34,336.95
Money Market		£0.03
Balance as per statement		**£74,134.97**
Add: unpresented credit		
Less: uncleared cheques		