Draft Minutes of the Milton-under-Wychwood Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 15th July 2020 at 7.30pm via Zoom

Meeting ID 736 3695 0480 Password 7hZqJA

Present:

Cllrs Allcock (GA), Boulton (NB), DCllr Haine (JH), Vice-Chair Pratt (JP), Cllrs Rawlins (PR), Chairman Trotman (CT), Cllr Ward (PW). County Councillor L.Leffman (LL).

Parish Clerk: Mrs J. Miller. 3 members of the public

1. Apologies for absence

None.

2. Declaration of Interests

JH declared an interest in Planning items.

3. Proposal to approve the minutes of the June meeting.

It was proposed to approve the minutes of the June meeting. Vote taken; all in favour, motion carried.

4. Matters arising from the June meeting

AGAR 2019-20: This has been submitted and received by the External Auditor.

Weeding in park: A team of volunteers weeded the play park and raked over the bark chippings. PR wished to express his thanks to the volunteers involved in clearing up the play park.

5. Public session for all items related to this Agenda

Pump track item 11: Miriam Owen spoke on behalf of the project team regarding a proposed pump track which is hoped will be part-financed by sec 106 funding as well as or instead of a skate park. Significant work has been carried out to make a comprehensive bid to the PC. This has included site analysis; site visits with contractors/designers with resulting designs and costs; site visit with Sport England and further contact with other funding streams; survey of local residents resulted in 143 responses with those who said they would use the track aged between 4-54 . 85% households who responded said they would use it . The team feels a pump track covers a wider age-range than a skate park, can accommodate bikes and scooters and would complement existing facilities as well as providing a facility not otherwise found in the area. Estimated cost of work would be between £60,000-£100,000. CT requested that the survey results be passed to the sec 106 committee. The PC were told that the asphalt surface does not require maintenance other than grassy areas either side.

Commented [GU1]: what age range?

DMMO Footpath application item 7: A member of the public entered an objection to the diversion of 301/13 in Aug 2019 on the grounds of ecology, flooding, principle and walker safety and proposed an alternative route along the top perimeter path that runs at the bottom of The Sands Gardens and past Calais Cottage to the exit at Frog Lane – the same route proposed by the PC in its' DMMO application and supported by 80 survey respondents. The Planning Inspectorate has since agreed to a hearing locally and a site visit, date TBC. She wished to express her concern about the urbanised feel of the newly rerouted Spitfire paths and the likelihood of flooding on the diagonal path which could be exacerbated by the run-off from the new houses.

6. To receive the following reports:

6.1 Chairman's Report (CT)

Littlestock Brook: Wild Oxfordshire will install two new flood prevention bunds on Littlestock Brook on Bruern Farms' land in the Autumn.

Play park Covid-19: Risk Assessment has been carried out. There are some repairs which need to be carried out in addition to those already carried out which cannot happen until August. Signs are in place and the PC hopes that parents and children will exercise common sense and consideration to current COVID restrictions when using the facilities.

Dog waste bins: CT has carried out temporary repairs to the lids but suggested that the PC should ask WODC for replacements.

6.2 District Councillor's Report (JH)

JH informed the PC that Oxford-Cambridge Arc discussions are back on the Agenda.

JH continues to have concerns about the unitary government proposal and the impact on the residents of West Oxon not least the likelihood of an increase in Rates.

6.3 County Councillor's Report (LL)

LL added that the unitary government proposal will be decided by Central Government. However, there is evidence that shared partnership between OCC and Cherwell is proving very successful including extra care housing for older people; the central contact points are also helpful to residents and enable services to be more 'joined-up'.

OCC online: Motions are now being permitted. LL was pleased to report that incidents of Covid are very low now. Highways have been working very hard during this time of lockdown.

Weight restriction through Burford: This is an 18 month trial only, during which time the situation be monitored. Official diversion route will go via North Leigh. GA enquired about the extent of the signage to alert drivers and is concerned that poor signage may result in traffic travelling through Milton. LL to make enquiries. CT enquired about the reason for the 7.5T limit. LL said that the ultimate aim is to reduce the heavy traffic through Burford due to the concerns

Commented [GU2]: i thought this was Northleach

about building foundations. PW pointed out that a by-pass and bridge would have been preferable.

7. Proposal to continue to support restoration to public use and enjoyment of the traditional footpath around the North-Eastern perimeter of the former Sands Field (JP)

CT wanted to point out that the PC submitted the DMMO application in December 2018 following extensive consideration and reminded the PC that it should not be influenced by emotions, comments or promises that have been exchanged recently. PW expressed his disappointment that Spitfire have offered nothing to the village. He is convinced that the DMMO application will not be approved by the Inspectorate. He also has concerns about the maintenance of the hedge running behind The Sands. The diagonal path across the field offers a quicker route to the end of Frog Lane from Jubilee Lane and flooded this winter which was exceptionally wet and the path was unfinished. He feels that the mention of two roads in an objection to the rerouting of the diagonal path is inaccurate since there is just one which is a cul-de-sac and not a significant danger to children. JH feels the decision the PC made in December 2018 should be honoured. JP was grateful to those members of the public who wrote to the PC ahead of this meeting. JP requested PC approval to attend the hearing for Carol Ayres' submission for the rerouting of path 301/13 which would effectively reinforce the DMMO route. According to Savills, WODC are doing a site visit next week so it may be possible to attend this site meeting. JH will make enquiries about this. JP is happy to continue with the pursuit of the DMMO and CT confirmed that the PC would continue this course of action. The PC acknowledged that rerouting of Footpath 301/13 and the slight adjustment to 301/5 were part of the Spitfire building plan approved upon Appeal in June 2018.

8. Parish Newsletter (NB)

NB has conducting research about Parish Newsletters in other areas and wanted to hear from the PC about the future of the Newsletter. The annual cost of the paper copies is £200 (approx). PR pointed out that social media, the PC website and the Village Website provide a digital point of contact. He suggested the paper copy could be limited to a summer edition (before the fete) and a winter edition (before Christmas) to highlight village events. JP commented that the experience of delivering Newsletters around his geographical area has proved useful.

9. Neighbourhood Plan on the Parish Council website (JP)

JP thanked Steve Whiting for the briefing notes. NPSG wished to propose to work with the Clerk to develop a new drop-down menu (as in briefing notes) on the PC website to facilitate public access to the progress reports of the NP. Vote taken; all in favour. Motion carried.

JP informed the PC of the Local Green Spaces (LGS) that the NPSG hope to work on: Village Green, green areas of Elm Grove, St Jude's Meadow green areas, eco area resulting from St Jude's Meadow development including the development's path down to the stream from Upper Milton, wetland project areas of Hartley's land, the field opposite The Homestead, OCC owned horse paddocks adjacent to the Village Green. Land owned by charities cannot be

designated LGS. Further wildflower surveys will be carried out in the eco area and the lower half of the field below Spitfire development.

10. Emergency Plan distribution (JP)

Hard copies of the approved (June 2020) version will be distributed with the usual GDPR cover note to 24 volunteers listed in the Plan and electronic copies will otherwise be circulated by the Clerk.

The Village Hall key safe is out of use due to Covid precautions.

JP informed the PC that GA will look at the Risk Assessment in future and make changes to it accordingly based on the updated Emergency Plan.

JH told the PC that the Village Hall is now open and CT requested that the Covid guidelines for use of the hall be published on the village website.

11. Proposal to consider a sec 106 bid for a bike pump track on the Village Green as alternative to a skate park

PC will consider the pump track. JP supported the proposal but would like to retain the view over Heath Farm towards Merriscourt which the NP seeks to preserve. JH would like to do a noise survey comparing the noise of the pump track to a skate park. He also suggested that planning permission would be required. The sec 106 committee had hoped to use one company for all the play park improvements but this could be reconsidered. PW reminded the PC that the second tranche of the funding would not be received until 25/31 houses have been sold.

12. Planning (PR/PW)

Please click here for further details of the following applications:

12.1 Planning appeal for 19/02314/FUL Greensleeves, Lyneham Road

Conversion of redundant agricultural building.

12.2 Planning Appeal for 19/03060/FUL Vicarage Fields, Church Road

Erection of 3 detached dwellings and parking.

The PC were satisfied that their original objections stand and had no further comments to add.

13. Correspondence

Correspondence was received. There were no comments.

14. Village Green (PR)

Village Green repair work: Sleeper step has been replaced and basketball backboards will be erected this week.

Grasscutting: PR to meet with Kevin to monitor work in the Cemetery and elsewhere.

Benches: Concrete seats by the noticeboard and opposite the Co-op need replacing. PR suggested that PC asks Robin Perry to quote for concrete foundations.

Food vans: Request from Hatwells received for a Saturday afternoon burger van. The PC were not in favour. Trailer Trash van, currently outside The Hare, have asked permission to move to the Village Green when The Hare reopens. Clerk to offer the Friday evening Village Green slot to the Trailer Trash van if the Pizza van no longer wants a regular, charged slot. GA asked the PC to consider the health of residents when deciding which food vans to support.

Bin emptying Sunday 12th-Sat 25th July: GA and PR to undertake bin emptying while Lengthperson is away during the week.

15. Accounts (JP/GA/CT)

15.1 To approve the June receipts, June bank reconciliation and July payments

It was proposed to approve the June receipts, July payments and bank reconciliation. Vote taken; all in favour, motion carried.

The bank balance as of 30th June was **£69,573.54.**

June Receipts	
Pound parking rent	£195
Interest	£1.50
Shipton PC Covid flyers contribution	£192
TOTAL	**£388.50**
July Payments	
Internal audit	£337
Covid supplies	£238.50
Lengthperson materials	£8.78
Cemetery marker & weedkiller	£21.31
Playdale park equipment inspection	£234
Insurance	£1,497.89
Clerk salary	£258.35
Lengthperson salary	£221.46
Employee pension contribution	£40.45
Employer pension contribution	£24.27
Church wall Architect final invoice	£453.24
Village Green tree work	£540
Waste bin repairs	£14.47
Socket spanners for repairs	£13.36
Zoom subscription	£14.39

TOTAL	**£3,918.17**

15.2 Proposal to approve the statement of accounts for the first quarter (JP/CT/GA)

It was proposed to approve the statement of accounts. Vote taken; all in favour, motion carried.

15.3 Proposal to withdraw funds from Money Market Account (JP/CT/GA)

It was proposed to transfer a sum of £16,000 to PC Community Account to cover payments until October. Vote taken; all in favour, motion carried.

16. Public session for non-Agenda items

None.

17. AOB

JP made reference to reports continuing concern with the turbidity of the River Evenlode as reported to the Environment Agency and reports in the national news of raw sewage discharge in the Windrush River earlier in 2020.

PW informed the PC that people had been camping behind the mound of soil on the MacTaggart & Mickel site and left insanitary rubbish; it took the landowner an hour to clear up and the gate will be locked from now on.

JH suggested that the PC meet in the Village Hall from September. CT confirmed this would be possible if this is permitted under government guidelines.

NB to help JP and PW with eco area work for NP.

There will be no Parish Council meeting in August due to the summer recess.

CT closed the meeting at 9.20pm.