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

Wednesday 16th September 2020 at 7.30pm via Zoom

Meeting ID 736 3695 0480 Password 7hZqJA

Present:

Cllrs Boulton (NB), DCllr Haine (JH), Vice-Chair Pratt (JP), Cllrs Rawlins (PR), Chairman Trotman (CT), Cllr Ward (PW). Parish Clerk: Mrs J. Miller. 3 members of the public

1. Apologies for absence

GA

2. Declaration of Interests

JH declared an interest in Planning items. PW declared an interest in item 9.1.

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

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

4. Matters arising from the July meeting

Newsletter: NB reported that when she attended the Councillor training, no other PC is currently producing a paper newsletter. She continues to look for content worth including.

Bin emptying: CT thanked PR for covering the Lengthperson on the Village Green in her absence.

5. Public session for all items related to this Agenda

None.

6. To receive the following reports:

6.1 Chairman's Report (CT)

NALC Draft revised code of conduct: CT summarised the main changes. WODC code of conduct already in place is very comprehensive and similar to the proposed code.

Unitary Council consultation: CT is of the opinion that given the current pandemic, the proposals should not be considered at this time.

Planning white paper: CT summarised some of the main proposals, most of which apply to District and County Councils and is less relevant to Parish Councils. Councillor comments please to the Clerk/Chairman who will collate them and present them next month ahead of the 29th Oct deadline for response.

6.2 District Councillor's Report (JH)

Planning white paper: JH reiterated CT's comments and it is his opinion that the District Councils work in Planning decisions is an excellent model and there is no reason to replace it with a new system.

7. Proposal to increase Clerk salary in line with NALC pay scales (CT)

It was proposed to increase the Clerk's salary (at SCP 18) in line with the NALC Clerk pay scale and to backdate the salary difference to 1st April. Vote taken; all in favour, motion carried.

8.Neighbourhood Plan update (JP)

JP requested that the PC zoom account could be used by the NPSG.

NPSG/CFO meeting with WODC: JP reported on an excellent virtual meeting on 08/09/2020. Draft policies will be submitted shortly to the PC for approval prior to a public consultation.

JP thanked Steve Whiting and the Clerk for improvements to the NP section of the PC website.

9. Planning (PR/PW)

The PC voted on the following applications. Please click on the relevant application for further details :

9.1 20/02072/HHD Harolds Gate, Jubilee Lane

Erection of single storey timber summer house in the rear garden. **No objection**.

9.2 20/02102/HHD 4 Shipton Road

Alterations and erection of a single storey rear conservatory. **No objection**.

9.3 20/01850/HHD 1 Poplar Farm Close

Erection of first and second floor front extension above existing lounge. **No comment.**

9.4 Planning Pre-Application FOR INFORMATION Alfred Groves & Sons, Shipton Road

Review and possible reapplication for residential use in former office building. The PC has seen the proposed alterations and will not be making any formal response but sees no reason for the application not to be submitted. The PC will make a formal response to the planning application when received.

9.5 MacTaggart & Mickel Eco triangle update, St Jude's Meadow, High Street (PW)

JP reported that this month the PC has seen a Deed of Variation for the St Jude's Meadow Eco-triangle and Eco-area strategy to be discarded. The Parish Council has been fully supportive of the Eco-area since it was approved within the original application and has been actively involved in developing the design since then. As such, it is a great disappointment to discover that the Deed of Variation was approved in August 2019 without consultation. JH confirmed that the Secretary of State decision regarding the original application which included the Eco area must be upheld and will make contact with the case officer involved. JP proposed to write to WODC detailing key points of this evening's discussion, and concerns about the immediate and long-term implementation of the Eco-area strategy. CT asked JP and PW to write the letter and the Clerk will send when approved by the PC. MacTaggart & Mickel have asserted that the PC was informed of the Deed of Variation. PW has requested evidence that was the case.

10. Correspondence

TTRO through Bruern 24th-25th October. Details on the village website.

11. Village Green (PR)

Fallen branches have been removed from beneath the trees opposite the Co-op.

The squeaking swing and the gate opposite the Co-op has been oiled.

The older children's play area and the inside perimeter of the tennis court need to be weeded. CT/PR will organise a working party.

11.1 Proposal to install two new benches

PR has quotes from Robin Perry to install the two benches – concrete one opposite the vets and the next one on towards the Co-op. JP proposed to accept the quote received whilst recognising that three quotes should ordinarily be sought in the interest of best value. It was noted that the contractor has recently provided some excellent free work to the PC.

The bench opposite The Heath has been damaged again. Discussion followed about replacing it with a recycled seat or repairing it. It was proposed to replace it with a recycled seat similar to the new ones on the Green. Quotes to be sought and will be compared.

12. Accounts (JP/GA/CT)

12.1 To approve the July/August receipts, August bank reconciliation and August/Sept payments

The bank balance as of 31st August was **£46,840.23.**

July/August Receipts	
Chip van rent	£37
Interest (Money Market)	£73.81
VAT refund 2019-20	£6350.11
MSA Peppercorn rent	£101
Play area/Village Green repair work credit	£162.78
TOTAL	**£6,724.70**
August Payments	
Legal fees re: Allotments Charity	£540
Grasscutting July	£1080
Grasscutting August	£1610
Clerk salary	£390.03
Lengthperson salary	£313.07
Employee pension contribution	£40.45
Employer pension contribution	£20.27
Google Drive annual subscription	£79.99
Zoom subscription	£14.39
Lengthperson materials	£10.58
Other materials	£16.87
Employee pension contribution	£40.45
Employer pension contribution	£24.27
TOTAL	**£3,039.65**
September Payments	

Church wall	£7,060.21
Playdale repairs	£1,425.36
OALC training course	£42.00
Clerk salary	£399.82
Clerk backdated pay increase from April 2020	£43.52
Zoom monthly subscription	£14.39
Grasscutting September	£1,140.00
Lengthperson salary	£338.07
Employee pension contribution	£41.54
Employer pension contribution	£24.92
Village website	£85
Village website domain	£19.19
TOTAL	**£10,634.02**

13. Public session for non-Agenda items

None.

14. AOB.

The Square: PR has received reports that delivery drivers are being taken to the pedestrian end of the alleyway.

Unmasked customers in the Co-op: NB has contacted the site manager at Spitfire who confirmed that the site workers have no health issues which would prevent them from wearing masks.

Reade Close/Ansell Way: Residents concerned about speeding on this road. Clerk will enquire about whether a 'Twenty's Plenty' sign may be erected.

Street lights: Faulty new lights in Greenlands Court have been reported several times.

OCC Fix my Street 'Super User': CT has gone through the training to be an official 'super user' which permits him to confirm FixMyStreet reported defects or defects made directly to him relating to pavements, potholes on the road and kerbs. Email contact to report defect su1miltonwychwood@gmail.com

Coercion by Spitfire: Ben Leather of Spitfire has approached the PC offering financial benefits to the village in exchange for an agreement to drop the DMMO on Spitfire land. CT reiterated that under no circumstances would the PC be coerced into reneging on their previous resolutions in return for financial reward.

Social distancing: 'Rule of 6' does not apply to civil meetings so CT hopes to meet in the Village Hall in Milton for the October meeting.

Library: Wychwood library is due to reopen at the beginning of October.

Publication of briefing notes: CT reminded Councillors to pass any agenda items, proposals and briefing notes to Clerk by the preceding Thursday so the agenda can be published three clear days before the monthly meeting.

CT closed the meeting at 8.50pm.