

# Milton Damerel Parish Council Minutes

**Of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2024 held in Milton Damerel Parish Hall commencing at 19:30**

Present: Councillors Stephen Moyses Chair, Richard Piper Vice- Chair, Teresa Walters, Gareth Piper, Jim Richardson, and Peter Bromley, Devon County Councillor James Morrish. Also present were Julie and Robert Sage and the Clerk Lorraine Buttery

1. Apologies were received from: District Councillors Ken James and Kit Hepple, Parish Councillor Edgar Pett.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

a) Register of Interest: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests.

*None were declared.*

b) To declare any personal interests in items on the agenda and their nature. *None were declared.*

c) To declare any disclosable pecuniary interests in items on the agenda and their nature. *None were declared*

3. **Chair's announcements:**

Councillor Moyses welcomed all to the meeting.

3a)

1) It had been reported that there is a lot of Japanese Knotweed and untidy weeds on outside and on the premises Of The Old Forge bungalow, Knotweed is not reportable but is the owner's responsibility to clear it, the owner lives in a care home. Councillor Moyses will phone the care home and get permission to clear the weeds.

2) Residents who wish to complain regarding the roads and Japanese Knotweed should also contact DCC, if they let the Chair know the areas affected; a list could be compiled for further information to give to DCC.

**Public Comments** No comments from those present.

4. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting 21<sup>st</sup> August 2024 which had been circulated by email, were unanimously approved as a true record of the meeting, they were duly signed by the Chair Councillor Stephen Moyses.

6. **Reports by Local and District Councillors.**

**County Councillor James Morrish** reported that the devolution of Devon County and Torquay will happen, will it have any effect on the local community- highly unlikely.

James commented that he sees and hears things that baffle him and which he does not agree with, one at present is The motion for the DCC to become vegan. The proposers have not really thought it through as it would affect so many institutes, ie schools, care homes, canteens etc etc.

Investments by DCC are under fire, there was 150 demonstrators at County Hall objecting to the investment of Pension funds to a Chinese Company which makes springs for triggers which in the end could be use in weapons in warfare. DCC invests pension funds to reap the highest interest for its investors and future pensioners. In the past has lost millions of pounds due to not investing in certain companies. DCC is under pressure to go vegan, which is not supported by the farming community. James stated that many of his emails from parishes are complaining about pot holes, Highways are doing slightly better but much improvement is necessary. Another complaint was regarding hunting of hounds on public land. This should not happen.

DCC are faring much better financially than some other counties, and have 90million in reserves, 64 million of this is ring fenced for adult and child care.

James informed the Councillors that if they have a specific project to make sure they request the funds by January.

7. **Matters Arising**

1) State of roads, the complaints regarding the road from Strawberry bank to Whitebear Cross had been reported again To Highways and in particular regarding the repairs to potholes and the use of the wasted tarmac being dumped The reply received was that it would be looked into but no date could be given to repair the significant damage to the Road.

2) Gov.uk status, the Clerk had received the full cost of the Parish Council changing to gov.uk, the consensus of opinion was that unless it was compulsory to leave it in obeyance for the time being.

3). Closure of HSBC Bank, the account is now closed and the NatWest Bank is running.

4) Complaints regarding the nuisance of the dogs barking is ongoing, it has been reported to Torridge by residents and the Parish Council. The second complaint regarding the antisocial behaviour of a resident had been reported to the local police, they stated that they could not do much without an official complaint. It is understood that this has now been done, so is out of the hands of the Parish Council

Signed.....

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**8. Planning Applications**

1) 1/0706/2024/FUL

Proposed: Stable Block

Location: Land at Wordon Farm, Milton Damerel, HOSWORTHY, Devon

*The Above application was discussed, no objections were raised, the application was supported unanimously.*

2) 1/0784/2024/REM (Received after agenda was printed)

Proposal: Reserved matters application for access, appearance, Landscaping, layout and scale for 3 new dwellings  
Pursuant to application 1/0863/2021/OUT

Location: Land at Grid reference 235798 108378, Holsworthy Beacon, Devon

*The above application was discussed, there were no objections, the Parish Council made there comments on the Original outline application.*

**9. Planning decisions**

1) 0619/2024/FUL

Proposal: Creation of 1 new gated access (Left)

Location: Higher Woodford Farm, Milton Damerel, HOLSWORTHY, Devon

2) 0554/2024/FUL

Proposal: Creation of 1 new gated access (right)

Location: Higher Woodford Farm, Milton Damerel, HOLSWORTHY, Devon

*The above applications were approved*

**Planning Appeals**

*None receive*

**10. Financial Matters**

a) It was the unanimous decision of the Councillors to approve cheques for:

i) Clerk's salary for September £311.36 for each month.      ii) Milton Damerel Parish Hall £30  
three Councillors duly signed.

b) financial report to date, the spreadsheet of accounts had been emailed to Councillors before the meeting, no issues were raised. The Clerk informed the Councillors that Octopus Energy had refunded the payment of £78.58, The bank balance stands at £6022.47, this consists of ring-fenced funds, SbiT £53.02, P3 funds £174.65, Grant Balance £280.00, DAAT £470 and Election costs £2000. the remaining balance of £2032.06 being Parish Council General funds.

The Clerk requested that the £280 balance of grant funds be transferred to general funds to help towards the cost Of the defibrillator pads and charge sticks? The Parish Councillors replied that if it is correct to do so they have No objection.

**11. Correspondence as below and as available at the time of the meeting**

All correspondence received by email have been forwarded to Councillors, none received by post.

**12. Matters brought forward with the permission of the Chairman**

- 1) The Clerk reported that there was still a problem with the defibrillator cabinet, Councillor Moyse suggested that A new cabinet be purchased, Councillor Morrish offered to support this with a grant, the Clerk will get a quote and sort it as soon as she returns from her holiday.
- 2) The Chair had been asked by a resident whether he could erect an advertising board for his business on Parish Council ground? After discussion and seeking further advice, it was the consensus of opinion not to set a precedence as this could lead to signs being put up anywhere, Councillor Morrish suggested that the resident asks local land owners' permission to erect them in their hedges.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35pm.