

Milton Damerel Parish Council Minutes

Of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 16th December 2020 commencing at 7.30pm, this was a remote meeting Held on the ZOOM platform. Present: Councillors Stephen Moyse Chair, Richard Piper Vice- Chair, Peter Buckpitt, Teresa Walters and Rose Haynes, and Lorraine Buttery Clerk.

1. **Apologies were received from:**

Torrige District Councillors Ken James and Kit Hepple, Parish Councillors Gareth Piper and Jim Richardson, PCSO Mark James

2. **Chair's Announcements**

Councillor Stephen Moyse welcomed all to the meeting.

3. **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*

4. **Public Comments**

No members of the public attended

5. **County and District Councillor's reports:**

Councillor Barry Parsons reported that at the recent Joint Advisory meeting Councillor Chris Hackett announced Barry's retirement as a County Councillor, of which he was a bit annoyed, but yes, he is standing down and would not be seeking re-election in May 2021, something he was very sad about but the reasons were because of personal family issues. In the four years he had been a Councillor for Milton Damerel he was always made very welcome and would like to give a big thank you for the terrific support given to him.

Barry continued his report by informing the Parish Council that it is likely that Council Tax will be raised to 4.99% given central government permits this, with the current pressures faced by local authorities, this could cover an increase of Social Care and a 2% general increase. This could very well cause hardship to many, but central Government has committed to covering 75% of a Councils irrecoverable debt of Council Tax unpaid.

Devon County Council is always mindful for the hardships of residents going through a hard time due to Covid Restrictions, with this in mind and with Central Government grants free meals will be supplied to all children who usually receive free school meals, this will be through the Christmas and Easter Holidays.

The Chair of the Parish Council Councillor Stephen Moyse thanked Barry for his report, and on behalf of all Councillors thanked him for all his help and support over the past four years, he would be very much missed, Stephen wished Barry and his family all the best for 2021 and the future.

Barry thanked Stephen and wished everyone a Happy Christmas and a good 2021.

6. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 18th November 2020 had been circulated by email, and were Approved as correct, the Clerk had failed to include the printed minutes in the document case delivered to the Chair Councillor Stephen Moyse, he will sign them when he delivers the cheque book back to the Clerk. This was Unanimously approved by all Councillors.

7. **Matters Arising**

- 1) Drain/Gulley- Councillors Stephen Moyse and Richard Piper and been to the site and used drain rods of 10-12 metres to try and clear the pipes, which they believe are not broken. Stephen had contacted Devon Highways who came to have a look, they have sub-contracted G.M. Contractors to try and solve the problem, they will contact Stephen if there are further problems or when the job is done.
- 2) AED Cabinet, there is still no light, Councillor Stephen Moyse said he would get the light sorted.
- 3) The Fallen branch in the cemetery has been removed, the Church Wardens had inspected the area and could see no danger of any more falling.

8. **Planning Applications**

There were none

9. **Planning decisions**

There were none

Planning Appeals :

There were none

10. Financial Matters

- a) The unanimous decision of the Councillors was for the Chair Councillor Stephen Moyse to sign cheques for: i) Clerks salary £214.15 ii) ZOOM invoice £7.19agenda, iii) Admin expenses October – December £34.88
Councillor Moyse will get the cheques signed by two further Councillors and return to the Clerk.
- b) The Direct Debit to Eon for £9.45 was acknowledged. The Clerk informed the Parish Councillors that EON was putting the cost of the daily standing charge up from 30p per day to 39.3. she will try to source a new supplier, the Chair said that if not possible we will have to accept the increase.
- c) Financial Report to date: The Clerk had emailed the spread sheet and bank reconciliation to Councillors Prior to the meeting, no issues were raised. The Bank reconciliation was supported by a current bank Statement. The bank balance is £4,926.52 which consists of £183.02 SBIT funds, £541.65 P3 funds, £940.83 DAAT funds, the remaining balance of £2,865.02 being Parish Council general funds.

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

All emails had been forwarded to Councillors; no postal communications had been received.

- 1) The Chair Councillor Stephen Moyse had received, by hand from the P3 coordinator Michael Jackson, the annual P3 report, this will be given to the Clerk for signature and to post on.

12. Matters for discussion or to be noted, and matters brought to the attention of the Chairman.

- 1) Councillor Richard Piper reported that a Churchyard Plaque for a person’s ashes was missing, Councillor Moyse commented that the grass had not been cut since October, he will have a look round to see if the Plaque was hidden in the grass.
- 2) Councillor Rose Haynes reported that she had had a complaint regarding some dogs continuous barking in Venn Green, the advice given to those concerned was to report to Torridge District Council using their online system.

The Chair Councillor Stephen Moyse thanked all for attending and wished everyone a Happy Christmas

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.05pm

signed.....

Date..... *page 2 of 2 16th December 2020*