**Milton Damerel Parish Council Minutes**

**Of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 21st June 2023 in Milton Damerel**

**Parish Hall commencing at 19:30**

Present: Councillors Stephen Moyse Chair, Richard Piper Vice- Chair, Gareth Piper, Teresa Walters,

Peter Buckpitt and Jim Richardson, also present was District Councillor Ken James and

Lorraine Buttery- Clerk.

1. Apologies were received from: District Councillors Kit Hepple
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*

1. **Chair’s announcements**:

The Chair Councillor Stephen Moyse welcomed all to the meeting, a letter of thanks had been received

from Rose thanking the Councillors for the gifts and evening meal which she very much enjoyed.

Stephen also announced that he had become a grandfather to a grandson, all Councillors

Congratulated him and gave their best wishes.

1. **Public Comments**

No members of the public were present

**5.** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 17th May 2023 had been circulated by email,

 they were then unanimously approved as a true record of the meeting, they were duly signed by the

 Chair Councillor Stephen Moyse.

**6**  **County and District Councilor’s reports:**

Councillor Moyse welcomed District Councillor Ken James and congratulated him on his

 re-election as leader of Torridge Council.

 Ken replied that it was good to be back and hoped he can carry on as he has in the past.

 Torridge has new Councillors and as such would be run as an ‘inclusive council’.

 The Council is back on track with a lot of exciting plans, in particular the Appledore Marine Project,

 Where Torridge is working with Petroc and North Devon amongst others, to develop Northern Devon

 Futures improving education, skills and employment opportunities for young people.

 Ken reported that the Council had a hardship fund of £500,000, which had been given to them by

 Central Government, this can be used for a variety of things, including help towards utility bills,

 and those that need help to buy food. It was agreed by the Councillors that a lot of people take

 advantage of this generosity and spend money unwisely, but it was good that it helped genuine people.

 Ken said that Devon had the highest rate of ‘child poverty’ in the Country. Ken went on to say that

 one and a half million pounds is being spent on housing to deal with Torridge families that have

 found themselves homeless. This figure has dropped slightly as we try to find more suitable housing

 arrangements than Hotels and caravans. Torridge Council is also working hard to get housing for

 local youngsters. Torridge has very few immigrants, if any to house. The refugees that have been

 welcomed into the area Torridge is getting funding to accommodate them working with voluntary

 groups. The ideas for the future is to approve policies to fit what the community want.

 The Chair Councillor Stephen Moyse thanked Ken for attending.

**7** **Matters** Arising

1. Permanent Memorial, this has now been ordered and permission has been given to erect the

The statue near the entrance to the Church

 2) Blocked Gulley as there has been no significant rain fall difficult to discover if this has been

Rectified.

s***igned…………………………………… Date……………………… page 1 of 2 21st June 2023***

 **Matters** Arising cont/…

 3) Sign – shop cross, no sign of this being done, the Clerk was requested to get an update.

 4) Rubble in layby this has now been removed.

 5) Hedge- Holsworthy Beacon, the Chair reported that the resident had been poorly and he has sent

 A message stating that the parish Council were unaware of this and sent sincere apologies

 Charlie Brimacombe had since cut the hedge.

 6) The parking at Holsworthy Beacon was discussed and Councillors voiced their disappointment

 with the reply received from Keiran Stanbury, as it seems nothing would be done unless there

 was a serious accident with a fatality. The Clerk was asked to send a polite letter to the

 residents of 13 & 14 Beech Park to consider parking in a safer place.

**8.** **Planning Applications**

 *None received*

**9.** **Planning decisions**

 1) 1/0240/2023/FUL Proposal: Erection of single storey extension

 Location: Threefields, Milton Damerel, HOLSWORTHY, Devon

 2) 1/0180/2023/FUL Proposal: Conversion of redundant barn to a two-bedroom dwelling

 Location: Barn at Lower Walland, Milton Damerel, HOLSWORTHY, Devon

 ***The above applications were given permission.***

 **Planning Appeals**

 *None received*

**10.**  **Financial Matters**

 a) It was the unanimous decision of the Councillors to approve the following cheques,

 and three Councillors duly signed: i) Clerk’s salary £287.43 ii) Hall Hire April-June £30

 iii) Admin Expenses £44.20 iv) Hire charge of £200 for bouncy Castle as agreed at the

 meeting on the17th May v) Internal Audit fee to Dr Julia Foster £50

 vi) Annual Insurance £247.40

 b) Councillors had received spread sheet of the accounts and no issues were raised.

 The bank reconciliation was supported by a current bank statement. There being £5002.42

 in the account, £3024.75, PC general funds, Ring fenced funds SBiT £103.02,

 TDC Grant £800, P3 account £174.65 and the balance of DAAT fund £900.

 c) **To Consider the end of year accounts/statements and approve and sign the following**:

1. The Annual Internal Audit ii) The Annual Governance Statement

 iii) The Accounting Statements iv) The Certificate of Exemption

 ***The Parish Clerk presented the relevant paperwork and read out the statements as listed,***

 ***the Parish Councillors unanimously approved the account by a show of hands,***

 ***The Chair Councillor Stephen Moyse and the Clerk duly signed the AGAR forms.***

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

 All correspondence received by email had been forwarded to Councillors when received.

 No issues were raised. No correspondence has been received by post.

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

 1) Councillor Peter Buckpitt commented how good the Parish Footpaths were looking.

 The Clerk will pass on his comments to George and Wendy Preston.

 There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25pm

***signed…………………………………… Date……………………… page 2 of 2 21st June 2023***