

Milton Damerel Parish Council Minutes

Of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 18th October 2023 in Milton Damerel Parish Hall commencing at 19:30

Present: Councillors Stephen Moyses Chair, Richard Piper Vice- Chair, Gareth Piper, Teresa Walters, and Peter Bromley

also present were District Councillor Ken James, Lorraine Buttery- Clerk and resident Bob Sage

1. Apologies were received from: District Councillors Kit Hepple, Parish Councillor Jim Richardson
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 Stephen Moyses welcomed our new Councillor Peter Bromley.
4. **Public Comments**

One member of the public present Mr Bob Sage but had no comments.
5. **Before the signing of the minutes the Clerk informed the Councillors that she had spoken to Devon association of Local Councillors (D.A.L.C) regarding the complaint by Christian Whitley that the minutes were not accurate or a true reflection of the said meeting. It was confirmed by D.A.L.C that all minutes of a meeting were not necessarily 'verbatim' but a synopsis of that meeting and it was not necessary to record every word that was spoken, instead 'bullet points' should be used to indicate what was discussed, this was also substantiated by Councillor Ken James. Councillor Moyses asked District Councillor Ken James if the recording of the meeting was permitted? Ken James said yes it was but only if the resident had asked for permission to do so. If the meeting had been recorded surreptitiously the contents could only be used by the person who did the recording and not passed to any other person or be broadcast at any other meeting. The said recording could not be used against the Parish Council in any matter arising. Therefore:** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 20th September 2023 which 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 Moyses.
6. **County and District Councilor's reports:**

Councillor Ken James said there was not a lot to report, he will be attending a meeting with Government officials re the 'leveling up fund', there is up to £20 million on the table, but no sums have been indicated as yet. Torridge has been recognised as a very deprived area so I am optimistic that we will be awarded quite a large sum.

We are now working on the budget for next year, and monies remaining from this year's budget will be put towards the Social Housing.

The Chair Councillor Stephen Moyses asked Ken if he had contacted the department regarding how they measured the distance from the slurry pit to the nearest properties. Ken replied he had and said that the measurements are taken from the N.E corner and the S.E Corner to properties.

The officers said that Peter had been very open and honest about a slight variation but the officer and environmental department were very happy, as there is also a bank which has not been included. No planning planning.

On the subject of the Slurry pit, D.A.L.C had also been consulted, they confirmed that the Parish Council do not have a role to play in the matter, if the residents association are worried they should be consulting with the environmental department. The Parish Council had done what was asked of them.
7. **Matters Arising**
 - 1) The base for the figure had been completed by Councillor Piper and Moyses, the figure will be delivered before the end of the Month.
 - 2) Sign – shop cross, Councillor Piper reported that the sign was still broken, the Clerk will contact the Highways department again
 - 3) New Councillor, Peter Bromley signed his declaration and the Clerk countersigned, Peter was welcomed by all.
 - 4) Facebook administrator, no one had yet to discover who this is, names have been mentioned but with no certainty.

8. Planning Applications

1) 1/0841/2023/FUL

Proposal: Change of use of land from agricultural to residential and erection of ancillary building

Location: Land at Upper Ley Farm, Milton Damerel, Holsworthy, Devon

2) Received after the Agenda was printed 1/0916/2023/FUH Proposal: Erection of single story extension

Location: Little Derworthy, Milton Damerel, Holsworthy, Devon

3) Also received after the agenda printed. 1/0988/2023/FUL Proposal; Extension of roof to accommodate loft conversion and alterations.

Location: Rose Cottage, Milton Damerel, Holsworthy, Devon.

the above applications were discussed in full, and Councillors had studied the plans on line,

no issues were raised and it was the unanimous decision of the Councillors to approve the applications.

The Clerk will convey the decision to Torridge Planning Department.

Although no official planning application had been received for approval the Chair Councillor Stephen Moyse felt that the notification of the Vodafone mast and box should be discussed.

This will be erected between Talltrees (Footprint) and the bus shelter.

It was felt that this would have a visual impact on the properties in the vicinity and also a safety issue regarding residents walking to the bus shelter. Would there be a lot of disruption during the excavation for the underground cabling? It is felt that the telephone company should be more sensitive to the community and could there be a more appropriate place for the works?

The Clerk will convey the above to the appropriate department.

9. Planning decisions

1) 1/0797/2023/FUL

Proposal: Two Storey extension to side of property and conversion of linked single storey barn

Location: Park House, Milton Damerel, Holsworthy, Devon

2) 1/0283/2023/FUL Proposal: Conversion of barn to form 2 no residential units.

Location: Ley Farm, Milton Damerel, Holsworthy, Devon

3) 1/0747/2023/FUL Proposal: Replacement Windows

Location: Woodford Bridge Country Park, Milton Damerel, Holsworthy, Devon

The above applications were approved

Planning Appeals

None received

10. Financial Matters

a) Councillors unanimously approved the following cheques and three Councillors signed

i) Clerk’s salary £287.43 ii) Hall hire July- September £30

b) financial report to date, the Clerk had circulated the financial spread sheets by email prior to the meeting, no issues were raised. The bank balance was supported by the current bank statement and reconciliation.

There being a balance of £4,486.90 which consists of Restricted funds: SBiT £103.02, P3 £174.65,

Balance of TDC Grant £135.40 and DAAT grant £900. The Remaining £2,793.83 being PC general funds.

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 Gareth Piper reported that there had been fly tipping in the lay-by at Chapmans Green, the Clerk will inform the environmental department.

2) A resident had asked Councillor Piper whether it was possible to see the names of the residents that had requested the election?

The Chair replied that yes, they must telephone to make it known to the Elections office that they wish to see the list, and say when they would be visiting the office, the list will then be made available to them.

3) The Clerk reported that the AED cabinet at the Garage was in very poor condition, and asked whether any grants were available? Councillor Ken James replied that she should send an email to himself and Councillor Hepple, also it might be worth contacting Devon County Councillor James Morrish, the Clerk will do so.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm

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