

Milton Damerel Parish Council Minutes

Of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13th December 2023 in Milton Damerel Parish Hall commencing at 19:30

Present: Councillors Stephen Moyses Chair, Richard Piper Vice- Chair, Gareth Piper, Teresa Walters, Jim Richardson Edgar Pett and Peter Bromley also present were Lorraine Buttery- Clerk, residents Bob Sage, Gary & Karen Flack

1. Apologies were received from: District Councillors Ken James, and Kit Hepple, DCC Councillor James Morrish

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 Edgar as our new Councillor after his landslide victory in the election. The Clerk requested that Edgar signed his formal acceptance as a Parish Councillor, this he did and the form was Countersigned by the Clerk.

Stephen went on to welcome everyone else present and "I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year"

Councillor Moyses informed those present that Devon Air Ambulance had contacted him to inform the Parish Council that the night time landing lights were not illuminating properly, this was discovered at a recent night time landing. The site is now classed as a 'Dark Site'. It was the unanimous decision of the Parish Council that MATT electricians who installed the lights originally, should be contacted to test the lights, and supply a quote if the lights need replacing. The Clerk reminded the Councillor that there is £900 in the bank which is the remains of grants received for the initial installation.

4. Public Comments

The Clerk reported to those present that the 'Traffic Speed issue should have been on the Agenda as a matter arising. The subject brought up by Gary Flack at the November meeting. The issue had been reported to Highways with copies sent to Councillor James Morrish. The issue is being discussed by Highways but no action has yet been taken.

The Clerk will contact Highways again after the Christmas Break. An email had been received from Michael Jackson who has in the past, with other volunteers run speed check sessions.

[Councillor Bromley asked when was the last traffic control taken place. This was unknown.

5. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 15th November 2023 which had been circulated by email, they were unanimously approved as a true record of the meeting, they were duly signed by the Chair Councillor Stephen Moyses.

6. Matters Arising

1) New Councillor- dealt with in item 3

2) Facebook Administrator- the Chair Councillor Stephen Moyses requested that this item be removed from this and future agenda, too much time has been wasted on this subject and we all have far better things to do than pander anymore to what's been going on.

3) Defibrillator cabinet, this has now been purchased and installed at the Garage, our grateful thanks to District Councillors Kit Hepple and Ken James who each approved grants of £200, and DCC Councillor James Morrish who approved the Grant of £350, this is enough to finance the new cabinet and the installation costs.

4) Broken Signs, the Milton Damerel Signs will be replaced, but no time scale has been given by the Highways department. The broken sign in the layby will not be replaced, but the broken pieces will be removed as they could be a hazard to the public.

8. Planning Applications

One application received after the Agenda had been printed and distributed

1/1200/2023/FUL

Proposal: Retrospective application for an outside hot water cylinder cupboard.

Location: Barn 1, Land and buildings at Grid Reference 238921 110622, Milton Damerel, Devon.

This was discussed by the Councillors, no issues were raised, and was unanimously approved.

9. Planning decisions

1) 1/0988/2023/FUL

Proposal: Extension of roof to accommodate conversion and alterations

Location: Rose Cottage, Milton Damerel, HOLSWORTHY, Devon

2) 1/0916/2023FUH

Proposal: Erection of single storey extension

Location: Little Derworthy, Milton Damerel, HOLSWORTHY, Devon

The above applications were approved

Planning Appeals

None received

10. Financial Matters

a) It was the unanimous decision of the Parish Councillors to sign cheques for: i) Clerk's salary £287.43

ii) M D Parish Hall Grant £150 (Omitted from September) iii) M D Gardening Club £80 (Replacement Cheque) iv) £90 Charles Brimacombe v) A. Deptford New Cabinet £606.00

All cheques were duly signed by three Councillors.

b) financial report to date, the bank balance of £4059.84 was supported by the current bank statement and the bank reconcillation. Ring fenced sums consist of SbiT £103.02, P3 £174.65, TDC Grant S £685.40 and DAAT grant £900. the remaining balance of £2196.77 being Parish Council general funds. It was noted that the balance of PC funds were lower than expected due to extra grants being given this year, and the cost of verge and hedge cutting.

c) EDF Balance, the credit on the account now stands at £83.36, enough to see us through the next financial year.

d) The Draft Budget was discussed in full with the precept request to be set at £10,900, this is double the amount of last years Precept. This is due to the Election which will cost in the region of 3-5 thousand pounds, it also includes an increase for the general funds for the Parish Council. If the invoice for the election costs arrive before the January meeting the precept request will be adjusted accordingly.

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

All correspondence received by email have been forwarded to Councillors, no issues were raised.

12. Matters brought forward with the permission of the Chairman

1) Councillor Pett had attended the recent residents meeting, who are now attempting to become an association. The complaint regarding the Slurry Pitt was at stage 2 of the complaints procedure with Torrdige DC. 2) Edgar stated that he is unable to carry on as Snow Warden on his own. He will need help in the future. He was also concerned regarding insurance coverage , the Clerk will check with the PC own insurance policies and Torridge insurance..

2) Councillor Gareth Piper reported that the bus shelter needed a good clean, Councillor Moyse will help him.

3) Councillor Richard Piper stated that the road from the Parish Hall to Whitebear Cross was still in a dreadful condition, the Clerk will report it again.

4) Councillors G Piper and Peter Bromley reported problems with excess water on the roads, one was down the hill from Shop Cross to Sanders Garage, with a continuous stream of running water, the other problem was situated from Shop Cross back to five lanes with a lot of excess water outside the rectory. The Clerk will report to Highways.

The Chair Councillor Stephen Moyse thanked all for attending.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.