

Milton Damerel Parish Council Minutes

Of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 18th July 2018 commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Stephen Moyse (Chairman), Richard Piper (Vice Chairman), Gareth Piper, Jim Richardson, Grace Millman, Rose Hayne, John Webb, and Parish Clerk Lorraine Buttery.

Also Present were 6 members of the public, P.S.C.O Emma Tomkies and Devon County Councillor Barry Parsons

1) **Apologies received from:**

None received.

2) **Chairman's Announcements**

There were none

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, County and District Councillors reports**

P.C.S.O Emma Tomkies introduced herself, she informed all that she had been a P.C.S.O for five years and was now covering the Holsworthy and Rural areas with P.C Mark James. She would endeavor to attend as many PC meetings as possible, but if unable to attend would ensure a crime update was sent.

There had been very few crimes in the area but a few thefts from farms were recorded. Emma informed all regarding A new system similar to 'smart water', where equipment can be marked small dots which contain a reference Number unique to the purchaser which is only visible with 'ultra violet light'. The system costs £20.00 if Purchased from the Police at Holsworthy. Emma said that she would be happy to attend any groups or meetings. Councillor Jim Richardson reported that some eggs had been taken without payment from outside his property, although a very small amount of cash is involved Emma said she would like to report it officially in case there is a precedence.

Public Comments:

The topic of the residents' present was the re-application of the proposed development at Town Farm. They were all against the building of the houses and against the plans in their present form. It is obvious that the building company had taken no notice of the issues raised at previous meetings and comments made by them and the Parish Council in response to the previous application as the 'new' plans were practically the same.

The concerns and questions raised, in brief included:

- i) The statement that is made about a 'stunning view to the east' from the properties is incorrect as the view includes, silage, septic tanks and sewage works.
- ii) There is a health and safety issue if there is further development on the adjoining land.
- iii) Drews Property does not exist so who will deal with any future problems such as flooding?
- iv) The proposed entrance/exit from the development site is on a bend and would be very dangerous, it would make sense for it to be re-positioned.
- v) Some of the roads and lanes around the development are very narrow and the increase in traffic volume has not been considered or catered for. There is no local knowledge and the traffic speed is also a worrying issue. Although highways have approved it the Traffic survey was done at a ridiculous time.
- vi) All problems raised are due to the density of houses on this site a reduced number would help to negate some of the issues.
- vii) On the encroachment of the Church, English heritage did not take into consideration the effect the development would have on the peace and tranquillity of the area.
- viii) Removal of trees could cause damage because of the deep roots being removed this could affect the Church cemetery which has some very old headstones.

In reply Chairman Councillor Stephen Moyse said that all those present must send their comments to Torridge Planning.

Councillor Grace Millman commented that we cannot make assumptions as to what is going to happen in the future, if plans agree with planning policy they will be passed, although it seems that the planning department ignores or takes no notice of Parish Council objections, they are considered when applications are looked at and the comments can be reflected in the 'conditions of building'

One resident asked why the Parish Council had agreed in principal to the original application? The reply was that some wanted the development to go ahead.

signed.....

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PUBLIC Comments Continued/.

Devon County Councillor Barry Parsons apologised for being late but had been at another Parish Council Meeting. On the subject of the discussed planning application Barry suggested that we get our Torridge District Councillor involved. The Clerk will contact Councillor Bob Hicks.

Holsworthy Hospital - Shebbear and Hatherleigh surgeries now come under Holsworthy Clinic, these and Stratton Surgeries are run by Ruby Country Medical Group (RCMG). The total patient list is now reaching 30,000 which allows the group to apply for extra funding. The work in the background is to try to re-instate beds at Holsworthy Hospital and asks that all Parishes support him in the plans. The closure of the beds had a real effect on patients, especially end- of -term.

Highways- Councillor Parsons reiterated that he will always pass on complaints regarding the state of the roads but repairs are constrained through lack of funds, the network of roads in the Holsworthy Rural area almost equate to the mileage to London and back. One of the main problems is that the majority of road are built on clay so are less substantial than those built on a harder undersurface.

Gareth Piper commented that its not how much money there is but how it is spent, a lot of the repairs done are of very poor standard, as such do not last. Priority seem to be given to some roads which are not used very much, as a local lane of about 1.6-mile which has a dead end was recently re-surfaced, but other roads which are in constant use are left in a very dangerous condition, surely this is a waste of resources?

Councillor Parsons replied that unfortunately Priorities between say the Highways dept and residents are very different, but I will continue to represent all Parish Councillors concerns to highways, please put your complaints in writing and residents should go on to the DCC website and complain individually.

Chairman Councillor Stephen Moyses commented that now the T.A.P fund could not be used to pay for the cutting of hedges/verges he had tried on numerous occasions to try and speak to someone from Highways to find out what they would actually be cutting this year, he had been promised several times that he would be contacted but this never happens. Councillor Parsons suggested that Stephen put in a formal complaint to Alison Boyd the locality officer for the district.

- 5) The minutes_of_the Parish Council Meeting held on 20th June 2018 had been circulated by email and read by all Councillors, they were signed by the Chairman Councillor Stephen Moyses as being a true record of the meeting.

6) **Matters Arising**

- 1) Air Ambulance no update as yet.
- 2) The Website went live on the 17th July, there had been a complaint that there was a picture on the new site Which was subject to copyright, the Clerk commented that all details had been transferred from the old site and was unaware that permission was necessary, she will contact the complainant and offer to have it removed.
- 3) Verge/Hedge Cutting, this had been done and the Councillors were pleased with the standard of work done.
- 4) Complaint regarding dogs barking, the clerk reported that she had emailed the person twice and asked for further Details and whether he wanted the Parish Council to take the matter further, to date there had been no reply.
- 5) Overgrown hedge Westmere, the Clerk reported that she had sent a letter to the residents, Councillor Parsons Commented that if the hedge was causing an obstruction the Highways Dept could write to them, the Clerk will send him details.

7) **Planning Applications**

1) 1/0520/2018/FULM

Proposal: Creation of 8 number of dwellings and conversion of Barn to 2 number of dwellings- Resubmission of 1/0732/2017 (affecting a public right of way)

Location: Land at Town Farm, Milton Damerel, Holsworthy, Devon

The above application was discussed in full. After a vote the Councillors unanimously agreed not to support the application.

The issues that had been raised in the original application had not been addressed.

The Clerk was requested to email Torridge Planning reiterating the original comments and adding what extra Comments and issues have been voiced.by the members of the public.

2) 1/0650/2018/FUL

Proposal: First Floor Extension

Location: West Cottage, Milton Damerel, Holsworthy, Devon

No objections -Unanimously approved

3) 1/0598/2018/OUT

Proposal: Outline application for one dwelling with all matters reserved

Location: Brendon Fields, Woodacott Cross, Holsworthy, Devon

This application was received between meetings, Councillors were consulted by email, no objections Raised and unanimously supported.

8) **Planning Decisions**

There are none

Planning Appeals

There are none

9) **Financial Matters**

a) Financial report to date, the Clerk had emailed a spreadsheet before the meeting, no issues were raised. There being £5704.37 in the bank account, comprising of £183.02 'Step Back in Time' Funds, £508.57 P3 funds, balance of defib grant £290.00, the balance of £4716.78 being Parish Council General Funds.

b) Three Councillors signed cheques for Clerks Salary £205.84

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

All received emails had been circulated to all Councillors and no further action was required.

11) **Urgent matters brought forward with the permission of the Chairman**

1) Councillor Jim Richardson commented on bags of salt suddenly appearing by the Salt bin, there is a danger of theft, the Clerk will contact Edgar Pett to enquire why they are there.

The Chairman thanked the Councillors for attending, there being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30pm