

Milton Damerel Parish Council Minutes

Of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 19th September 2018 commencing at 7.30pm
Present: Councillors Stephen Moyse (Chairman), Gareth Piper, Jim Richardson, Rose Hayne, Grace Millman, John Webb and Parish Clerk Lorraine Buttery. Devon County Councillor Barry Parsons arrived at 8.15pm

1) Apologies received from:

Councillor Richard Piper (Vice Chairman) and P.C.S.O Emma Tomkies

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

Devon County Councillor Barry Parsons arrived late and apologised but he had been at another meeting.

He went on to give his report which included talking about month 4 of the budget of Devon County Council, he stated that there had been a large overspend in 'Children's Services', mainly due to the facts of the large number of children who were at the 'high end' of care, these children had to be fostered out of the County which is very costly. Barry asked that could all Councillors complete the 'Holsworthy Community Involvement Survey, as this was vital for the future services in the area, the deadline for the survey had been put back to the 10th October, he left copies to be distributed.

The future of the beds in Holsworthy Hospital is an ongoing issue which is discussed at the CCG Meetings held every week. The main issue is not finance but the lack of Doctors and Nursing staff which will be needed at Holsworthy if the beds are reintroduced. Staff shortages is a problem across all Hospitals in the region.

Councillor John Webb pointed out that some of original staff want to go back, and he didn't believe there was a problem regarding salaries. Holsworthy needs to used perhaps more like a 'normal hospital, but also as a Community Hospital whereby patients recovering and needing extra care, can stay on the short term which in turn would free up beds in the Major Hospitals,

Councillor Gareth Piper mentioned the crossroads at Holsworthy Beacon and how dangerous it was for tractor and drivers of large vehicles. The visibility is obstructed by a 'brown' tourist sign of which could be easily re-sited. Councillor Parsons stated that there had been many representations regarding the road to Holsworthy and he would continue to make representations on behalf of all Parishes, he went on to request that the Clerk email him with the details of cross roads problem along with a reminder of any other issues that the Parish Councillors have raised. The Chairman Councillor Stephen Moyse thanked Barry for attending.

5) The minutes_of_the Parish Council Meeting held on 22nd August 2018 had been circulated by email and read by all Councillors, they were signed by the Chairman Councillor Stephen Moyse as being a true record of the meeting.

6) Matters Arising

- 1) Air Ambulance, there had been no update from Toby Russell, a discussion took place and the outcome was that the Councillors felt that realistically and logistically Milton Damerel was not the right village to have an Air Ambulance night time landing site. The idea of having a Rota to ferry personnel to 'emergencies' was fraught with problems. The Chairman Councillor Stephen Moyse said he would contact Toby Russell to discuss the situation.
- 2) Website, Councillor Grace Millman voiced her concern that the archive of newsletters was not available, The Clerk reported that she was in contact with the Web designers to have a link put on to enable the archive to be available. There had also been a problem raised as to why this month's newsletter could not be downloaded as it was more than 4mgb. The Clerk will try to find out.
- 3) Overgrown hedge Westmere, this has now been dealt with by Devon Highways.
- 4) Residents' Complaints, the Clerk had sent emails to the Environmental Department and Planning, and was waiting for updates, the Parish Council had done what they could. Procedures take time, everyone should continue to complain. Residents at times assume someone else has complained and, in the end, no one does.

7. **Planning Applications**

There were none

8. **Planning Decisions**

1/0767/2018/FUL (Received after agenda distributed)

Proposal: Replacement dwelling

Location: Southerley, Gidcott, Holsworthy, Devon.

The above application was granted permission.

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, the bank statement was shown to support balances. There being £4,273.33 in the bank account, comprising of £183.02 'Step Back in Time' fund, £508.57 P3 funds, balance of defib grant £290.00, the balance of £3,291.74 being Parish Council General Funds.
- b) Three Councillors signed a cheque for Clerks Salary £205.84 and admin expenses of £11.67
- c) Three Councillors signed a cheque for £36.00 for the hall hire July-September.
- d) The Chairman Councillor Stephen Moyse had conducted the Clerks annual appraisal, there were no issues raised, the Clerk being happy that her hours were sufficient to complete her work. The Clerks salary was discussed with the unanimous decision of the Councillors proposed by Stephen Moyse and seconded by Gareth Piper that an annual increment should be budgeted for which should be in line with the Government's proposals for Local Government workers. The Clerk will check with DALC/NALC every year for the recommended increase which would be implemented in April each year. The Clerk will update her contract and bring to the next meeting.
- e) The Clerk gave her apologies that she had forgotten to include the annual grant cheques on the agenda. the Councillors unanimous decision was to sign cheques for the following:
 - i) Milton Damerel Newsletter £100.00
 - ii) Milton Damerel Parish Hall £150.00
 - iii) Milton Damerel Parish Church £100
 - iv) TNMWD Citizens Advice £50.00

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

All correspondence received by email had been circulated to all Councillors and no further action was required.

Received in the Post:

- 1) DALC AGM 3rd October 2018 2) Clerks Councillor Direct 3) Royal Mail – Scam Mail

No action required, the Clerk informed the Parish Councillors that she has had to cancel her attendance at the DALC AGM

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

- 1) The very poor state of the road to Holsworthy was discussed and the Clerk will put the complaints and worries in an email to Devon Highways and copy Councillor Parsons in.
- 2) The Chairman Councillor Stephen Moyse reported that a resident had contacted him as they were concerned that the road surface at Gidcott Mill was being undermined by the excess water
The Clerk will report this to Devon Highways.

The Chairman thanked the Councillors for attending, there being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm