

Milton Damerel Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes

of the Annual Parish Meeting held at the Parish Hall on Wednesday 19th April 2017 The meeting commenced at 7.30pm. Present: Councillors Stephen Moyse (Chairman), Richard Piper (Vice Chairman), Grace Millman, Jim Richardson, Rose Haynes, John Webb, Gareth Piper and Lorraine Buttery (Clerk).

There were 2 members of the public present, and District Councillor Robin Julian

Apologies were received from Michael and Roberta Jackson, P CSO Racquel Rowe, Sheila Daniel and David Taylor

1) **Welcome and Introductions** by the Chairman of the Parish Council.

Cllr Stephen Moyse chaired the meeting and opened by welcoming the guest speaker

2) **Presentation by Matthew Holden, Torridge Headwaters Project Officer**

Matthew gave a very interesting and informative talk and DVD presentation entitled

'Landowners Working together to improve the environment in the Torridge Headwaters'

This Phase of the Northern Devon NIA project works hand in hand with the 'Wildlife Trust' providing advice and support to landowners across the area, encouraging them to work more closely together, share skills and knowledge and undertake sensitive management to improve natural environment across land holdings.

Landowners working more closely together can deliver real environment benefits across the landscape, adding value to farming systems and providing wider benefits for society.

Some of the progress to date is that, 70 Farmers are now signed up to the project, 18 workshops, evening talks and training were delivered, 186 people attended the workshops. The work shop details will be advertised periodically in Parish Council notice boards.

3) **Report from Parish Paths Partnership (P3)** Report read by the Chairman Councillor Stephen Moyse.

All of our footpaths are currently open and useable although some can be a bit muddy. No further problems with electric fencing has been reported. The diversion route set up on FP16 should benefit everyone although it might need a couple of steps cut into a short slope. The FP15 diversion to avoid having to go through a working farmyard will hopefully be completed within the next few weeks. All changes will be updated on the Parish Website and handbook. The inter Parish Walks remain very popular. The Milton Damerel Walk will be on the 8th May.

4) **Reports from local organisations**

i) **Parish Hall:** The report was read out by Lesley Self: Once again the Parish Hall Committee would like to thank the Parish Council for the grant received and their support by continuing to hold their meetings in the hall. We are also now receiving £1000a year for the wind turbine situated near five lanes. All grants and hire income is used to keep the hall in order and cover basic running costs.

The hall is in regular use by the, Gardening Club, over 60's, Milton Men and Ladies Skittle teams also The Thornbury Men's Skittle team. Regular Whist drives are held. A St Georges day dinner is being held on the 23rd April. The ongoing problem regarding damp/condensation is still apparent and solutions have yet to be found.

ii) **Milton Damerel & District Gardening Club:** The report was read out by Mel Richardson the new Chair person. Jim Richardson is now vice Chair, the last committee resigning after their two years. The Club is in need of a secretary. There are now upwards of 20 members who attend meetings. These are held the third Monday of each Month (excluding public holidays) March to December. There are various guest speakers and outings lined up for the coming season, with the all-important garden show on the 2nd September.

iii) **Baby and Toddler Group and Holiday club:** Sheila Daniel's report was read out by Councillor Grace Millman: We meet on a Tuesday morning in the Methodist Schoolroom, there are now 15 attending the Sessions, there is a well stocked room with lots of play equipment. The Annual party was a great success thanks to the grant received through Councillor Robin Julian and the support from parents and the group committee. The Holiday club meets once or twice during school holidays and is attended by up to 20 children of all ages. The Methodist Church is once again holding the Sunday Club on the 2nd Sunday in each month Sheila thanked everyone for their continuing support and funding.

vi) **Milton Damerel & District Over 60s:** The report was read out by Lesley Self: The Club holds its meetings on the first Tuesday of each month, an average of 25 members attend and enjoy playing cards or bingo, after which tea and biscuits are served. The February meeting is held as a bring and share tea, about 50 members and friends attended, they were entertained by Glen Johnson. Several events were held during the year and in January were invited to a New Year's Party given by the Lions Club.

Councillor Grace Millman commented how good it is that the over 60's club is flourishing

vii) **Newsletter Group.** David Taylor report was read out by the Chairman Councillor Stephen Moyse: We continue to print quarterly editions, with 235 copies containing 26/28 pages being distributed to households in the Parish and Abbots Bickington, Our thanks to all the volunteers that help deliver the newsletter each quarter. our finances show receipts of £1420.00 with expenses of £1229. 17, a gain of £190.83. Community groups continue to support us with interesting reports on their activities, for which we remain grateful, but we continue to have difficulties in encouraging input from individuals regarding content and presentation. Remember significant family events can only be included if we are made aware of them

v) **Milton Damerel Ladies Skittles Team;** Was read out by Lesley Self Milton Damerel Ladies Skittles team play in the Holsworthy & District Ladies Skittles League on Thursday nights. The 'A' team have again topped the Division for the eighth consecutive year and will be presented with their trophy at the annual dinner on May 5th to be held at Holsworthy Golf Club. As a result of combined scores of both the 'A' and 'B' teams Milton Damerel as a whole is runner up in division 2 and is likely to be promoted to Division 1, this will result in the teams playing a new set of teams during the season. The Club's end of season dinner was held on the 30th March where the trophies for highest scores were presented to Mikaela Rofe and Kate Moyse, there were also wooden spoons presented for the two lowest scores.

vi) **Holy Trinity Parochial Church Council:**

There was no report but it was noted that John and Ann Binns had resigned

6) Any other matters:

Lesley Self enquired whether there was any news on the bus shelter proposed to be erected at Venn Green, Councillor Robin Julian Replied that this was in hand. The Parish Clerk reported that she had not heard anything more, and was requested to check with Julie Pepworth.

The Chairman congratulated all the representatives of local organisations for their successes of the year and wished them all every success in the future. He also thanked Matthew Holden for his very interesting presentation. The meeting was closed at 8.15pm

Everyone was invited to remain for refreshments before the Parish Council general meeting commenced.