

Milton Damerel Parish Council

Minutes

Of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 19th April 2017 commencing at 8.30pm (after Annual Parish Meeting)
Present: Councillors Stephen Moyse (Chairman), Richard Piper, (Vice Chairman), Gareth Piper, Grace Millman, Jim Richardson, Rose Haynes, and John Webb, Lorraine Buttery, Parish Clerk
Also present was Devon County Councillor Robin Julian and Resident Lesley Self (first half of meeting)

1) **Apologies:** P.C.S.O Raquel Rowe

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) **Chairman's Announcements**

There were none

4) **Public Comments and District Councillors report**

Parish Clerk reported that PCSO Rowe sent her apologies but had sent an update via email, this was the 'Holsworthy Rural Policing update' and included the report of some criminal damage to property at Holiday site in Milton Damerel, Theft of Batteries at Anvil Corner and various other thefts and criminal damage in the Surrounding Parishes.

Councillor Robin Julian reported that at a recent Highway meetings over 3 million pounds had been allocated for the repair of potholes, one million for blasting, surface dressing and the cleaning of essential road signs. Money had also allocated for 'pointing' Long Bridge. Councillor Richard Piper asked whether the budget only covered Major Roads, Councillor Julian replied that the allocation included all roads. He also stated that he found it difficult to understand the mentality of how the roads are repaired, as a pothole could be filled in but one maybe just a foot away would not be done, due to IT information on laptops. It is a ridiculous situation . Counciloor Grace Millman said a classic example of this is near South Arcscott as a little patch of road has been repaired but the rest has been left.

He reported that Bideford Hospital was safe from cutbacks, Barnstaple A & E, Maternity and Paediatric departments will not be closed completely, and it is hoped that E.N.& T department would be re-established.

Councillor Julian said that this would be the last meeting of Milton Damerels that he would be attending as after the local elections on the 5th May if elected Barry Parsons would be our Councillor.

Chairman Councillor Stephen Moyse thanked Robin for his regulat attendance at the Parish Councils meetings and for all his help over the years that he has represented Milton Damerel, and wished him well in the elections.

5) To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 22nd March 2017, these having been circulated and read by all Councillors, were signed by the Chairman Councillor Stephen Moyse as being a true record of the meeting.

6) **Matters Arising**

- 1) Super-fast Broadband, although the letter from Geoffrey Cox MP stated that most of Milton Damerel were covered this is not actually the case, the clerk had written to him again and was awaiting a reply
- 2) Blocked drains near Glover's Cottage, Councillors Sephen Moyse and John Webb had visited the site and cleared what they thought was causing the the blockage in John Elliott's field, they found that the pipe does not come out where it should, which is making the problem worse. The water outlet pipe is blocked, the Stephen, John and will get some drain rods to 'rod' it through, Councillor Richard Piper said he will help. It is hoped to get it done before the next meeting.
- 3) Bus shelter at Venn Green. The clerk reported that she had written to Julie Pepworth confirming that the Parish Would agree to maintain the shelter but had had had no further information. The Chairman requested that the Clerk contact Julie Pepworth for an update.

7) Planning Applications
There were none

8) Planning Decisions
There were none

Planning Appeals
There were none

9) Financial Matters

- a) Financial report to date, the Clerk reported that there was £4,544.85 in the bank account, ring fenced amount of £183.02 Step Back in time fund, P3 funds £669.57, Balance of Defib. Grant £290.00, this has been amended from last month as the installation cost of the two cabinets £140.00 had not been deducted. This left a balance of PC general funds of £3368.74., a very healthy balance for year end accounts. The Chairman Councillor Stephen Moyse signed the spreadsheet.
- b) Three Councillors signed cheques for Clerks Salary £173.33.
- c) Three Councillors signed a cheque for D.A.L.C and N.A.L.C affiliation and annual fees.
- d) Chairman Councillor Stephen Moyse read out each section of the Annual Governance Statement, all Councillors confirmed as Stephen ticked off each section and signed and dated before the Parish Clerk also signed and inserted the minute reference.
- e) A quote for grass cutting for 2017 had been received from Charles Brimacombe, the cost being £80, this was unanimously agreed by Councillors. .
- f) It was acknowledged that £150 had been received from DCC for the locality grant applied for through Councillor Robin Julian. As the Parish Council had already paid for the entertainment cost for the Children's Party, this was put back into Parish Council general funds.

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

All correspondence received by email was circulated to Councillors as received.

Correspondence received by post:

- 1) Letter from Geoffrey Q.C., MP. This was in reply to the letter sent to him regarding Holsworthy Hospital (This letter had been scanned by the Parish Clerk and sent to all Councillors by email before the meeting) A discussion followed, Councillor Grace Millman remarked that CE Alison Diamond had admitted that no safety issues had actually been identified but she was not confident that beds would be 'opened' again. There has been so much reporting on 'bed blocking', but there is not the care packages in place for patients to be sent home, and as more community hospitals lose their beds this issue will keep arising. Councillor Stephen Moyse asked whether there is a review date, this is not known. If there was not the demand for 14-16 beds regularly, financially the reopening would not be viable. John Hutchings is trying to gather information regarding how many patients need to be referred.

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

- 1) Councillor Richard Piper notified the Councillors that signs informing residents about 'Bulls in Field' had been sprayed over with paint.
- 2) Email from Chris Stevens regarding damage to his fence on the 8th April, the Councillors said they had not seen the email, the Clerk apologised and read the email to them, the Councillors stated that there was not anything they could do about it and Chris should have reported it to the P.C.S.O, the Clerk was requested to email Chris.

There being no other business the Chairman thanked all for attending and the meeting closed at 9.30pm.