

Milton Damerel Parish Council

Minutes

Of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 17th May 2017 commencing at 7.40 (after AGM)

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

Also present was Devon County Councillor Barry Parsons

1) **Apologies:** Councillors Grace Millman (on holiday), and Rose Haynes (at Devon County Show)

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**

Councillor Barry Parsons introduced himself to the Parish Councillors, and gave a short report, he stated that not a great deal was happening due to the recent local elections and the forthcoming General Election.

The state of the roads were discussed with Barry informing the Councillors that unless a pot hole met the specific criteria of being 300mm wide by 40mm deep they were not filled, even if there is a slightly smaller one in the vicinity. The individual workers are apportioned a time slot to do the repair and cannot deviate from this instruction. It is a ridiculous situation when you consider that the new HS2 rail link is costing 56billion pounds, this will benefit just a small proportion of the population, the cost to repair all UK roads is estimated at 12.5 billion this would benefit the majority of the population.

There are a few ideas in the pipeline to increase the revenue for roads, one is that more 'green vehicles' will have to pay road tax. The other big issue is Holsworthy Hospital, I believe that the beds were closed for the wrong issue. Due to the recent local elections and the forthcoming General Election no decisions will be made. Councillor John Webb commented on the state of the road under the bridge in Holsworthy, Barryreplied that this had been reported many times and was 'in hand. Councillor Jim Richardson asked about the future of 'superfast broadband' which is virtually non-existent in Milton Damerel, Councillor Parsons said that BT had had a large grant from central government but they were not giving value for money, he suggested that the Parish Council contacted Matthew Burrow, this will be discussed in matters arising.

Councillor Parsons went to say that he would endeavor to attend the Parish Council meetings, but as he now had 30 Parishes to look after it might not be possible, if he did not attend he would send a report. If at any time the Parish Council needed support please do not hesitate to contact him.

The chairman Councillor Stephen Moyse thanked Barry for his report and wished him well. Councillor Parsons Left the meeting at this point to attend a meeting in Bridgerule.

5) To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19th April 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, the clerk reported that as yet no contact had been made by Matthew Barrow, she was requested to contact him by email.

2) Blocked drains near Glover's Cottage, Councillors Stephen Moyse and Richard Piper had visited the site again and found the pipe eventually which was blocked solid full of stones. These were cleared, but the outlet in the field is also blocked. Until there is a substantial amount of rain it is difficult to say if the problem has been solved. Now that the pipe is exposed the Clerk was asked to contact highways and ask them to look at the problem.

3) Bus shelter at Venn Green. The clerk reported that she had written to the new Highway Officer Steven Brockman but had had no reply, the Chairman requested that the Clerk try and contact him again.

7) **Planning Applications**

1/0337/2017/FUL

Proposal: Single Storey extensions to provide guest bedroom

Location: The Oaks Annexe, Milton Damerel, Devon.

The Parish Councillors having studied the plans, discussed them in details, with the Clerk reminding them of the remarks made in Councillor Grace Millman's email, it was their unanimous decision for the Clerk to inform Torridge Planning department that they did not want to make any comments regarding the development.

8) **Planning Decisions**

There are none

Planning Appeals

There are none

9) **Financial Matters**

- a) The Clerk supplied a full financial report, there being £6199.72 in the bank, ring fenced funds of £183.02 Step Back in Time, £669.57- P3, £290.00 balance of Defib. grant, the balance of £5057.13 being Parish Council general funds.
- b) A cheque for Clerks Salary £173.33 was signed by three Councillors
- c) The annual return was explained to the Councillors and signed by the Chairman Councillor Stephen Moyse and countersigned by the Clerk
- d) A cheque for the internal audit £50 for Dr Julia Foster was signed by three Councillors, the audit had gone very well with no issues raised.
- e) To approve annual insurance quote and sign cheque, the Clerk reported that she had had to request a new quote from the insurance company as the original one did not include the defibrillators, the insurance company had failed to issue the quote in time for the meeting. It was unanimously agreed that if necessary a cheque would be issued between meetings.

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

All correspondence received by email were circulated to Councillors as received, no issues had been raised

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

- 1) Chairman Councillor Stephen Moyse reported that he had heard Drews were close to re-submitting an application for the development at Milton Town

There being no other business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending, the meeting closed at 8.30pm.