

Milton Damerel Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes

of the Annual Parish Meeting held at the Parish Hall on Wednesday 17th April 2019 the meeting commenced at 7.30pm. Present: Councillors Stephen Moyse (Chairman), Richard Piper (Vice-Chair), Jim Richardson, Rose Haynes, Grace Millman, and the Clerk Lorraine Buttery.
There were 6 members of the public present,

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

Councillor Stephen Moyse chaired the meeting and opened by welcoming Residents of Milton Damerel.

2) **Apologies** were received: Devon County Councillor Barry Parsons, Councillors Gareth Piper and John Webb
P CSO Emma Moakes, David Taylor, Colin Boucher, Michael Jackson and Mel Richardson

3) **Presentation by Lorraine Buttery, Senior Tutor, Royal Life Saving Society.**

Lorraine gave a short power point presentation detailing the importance of Defibrillators and what they actually did, talking through the types of AEDs (artificial external defibrillators) and how along with CPR (Cardio Pulmonary resuscitation) saves many lives, she then gave a practical demonstration with a Manikin and a training AED. Questions were asked and answered from the those present. There was an open invitation to 'have a go'. Pocket information leaflets were also made available.

The Chairman Councillor Stephen Moyse thanked Lorraine for the very important information and demonstration.

4) **Report from Parish Paths Partnership (P3) reports from Michael Jackson were read by the Chairman Councillor Stephen Moyse**

All of our footpaths are now open and useable although there is still a tree down and blocking the path just past the top of the boardwalk on FP 16. It is not a problem and you can walk around it because the field fence has been brought down. Alan knows about this and he has said that he would clear it. A new footbridge has been built on FP 1 between Glovers Cottage and Wordon Cross. It's a really substantial construction and well worth a short walk just to have a look at it. The bottom part of Butterfly Lane has remained useable all through the winter with the pipe drains which were put I last year doing a good job and getting the surface water away. The only problem area is that we are still waiting for the contractor to come back to install the pedestrian gate at the Chapel View end of FP 15. I'm thinking that we may need to ask Martin if we can get another contractor in to do this job, but this is the only job on the horizon for the foreseeable future.

Neighbourhood Watch: There have been a couple of changes to report since last year's APM. Roger Copp who was our area co-ordinator has moved away from the Parish and I have taken over that role. Edwina Hale, who was one of Roger's neighbours, has taken over as the co-ordinator for the Strawberry Bank area. We still don't have anyone to cover the Holsworthy Beacon area despite regularly advertising and it looks like we will shortly be losing Anne who covers Gidcott, as her house is up for sale. The Parish is still a very low crime area and along with other parts of rural North Devon remains a good, safe place to live. If we all keep our outbuildings and garages locked when we are not using them then the biggest threat which we all face are from the many and varied scams which are thrown at us daily – on the phone, over the internet and even doorstep cold callers. In the region of £1 million is being lost across Devon and Cornwall each year in this way and this is only reported crime. A lot of people will be too embarrassed to admit being caught out this way and so the true figure is probably a lot higher. I'd like to finish by thanking the Newsletter Group for allowing us space in the newsletter and to all the residents who have reported unfamiliar vehicles which they have noticed parked around the Parish from time to time.

5) **Slightly condensed Reports from local organisations:**

i) **Parish Hall:** The committee would like to thank the Parish Council for the annual grant which is much appreciated and for hiring the Hall for the Parish Council meetings. Other regular users are Milton Damerel Gardening Club and Milton Damerel & District Sixties Club. The Skittle Alley is used for weekly matches by three skittles clubs over the season September to March. The Hall is also used by TDC for elections and there are occasional private functions also held at the hall. We also appreciate the quarterly payment received from D J Watkin with regards the wind turbine at Youldon.

The Committee organised Whist Drives on the third Saturday of each month has a loyal attendance.

The December event was as usual a Charity Whist Drive and along with Carol Singing around the parish, £293 was sent to Devon Freewheelers the biker's charity that provides out of hours emergency transport of blood products for hospital. Last September a Macmillan Coffee Morning was again held when £165 was raised.

Over the year fundraising events for the hall have included the very popular Easter Bingo and a Soup & Sweet Social Evening last December. The Community Lunch held last April was well attended. Tickets are still available for this year's lunch being held on Sunday 28 April.

We would like to thank all hirers and everyone who supports our events

A new outside notice board has been installed and is available for any local organisation to use. The keys are on the top of the board on cords as both keys are required at the same time to open the front cover. The committee are currently discussing possible ways of upgrading the hall, fitting a lower ceiling and adding loft insulation.

All events are advertised locally and in the Parish Newsletter. Facebook users can add Milton Damerel Parish Hall as a 'friend' to keep up to date with all that is happening at the Parish Hall.

ii) Milton Damerel & District Over 60s: Read by the Chairman

We have meetings on the first Tuesday of each month except January, an average of twenty-five 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. We are looking forward to our monthly summer outings, this year we are having a river cruise on the Exe, a visit to Coates English Willow and a few seaside locations.

iii) Milton Damerel & District Gardening Club: read by Lesley Self

Firstly, we would like to thank the Parish Council for our grant which helps to pay for our speakers.

The garden group has now been going for 10years. We have 19 members and have had 11 visitors.

We have had several changes of officers this year.

During the year we have had talks from, Tony Kingdon on Dahlias, Border Alpines in Chasty, Rob Lee on Heritage Apples, Paul Rendall on Wild flowers of Devon to name just a few. We have also visited open Gardens.

Our Garden show which is always well supported will be on 7th September and not October as put in the Newsletter.

We finished our year with a quiz by one of our members and a shared Christmas Supper.

iv) Newsletter Group

Councillor Rose Haynes apologised for there being no report, due to an oversight. There is a full report in the Last newsletter distributed.

v) Baby and Toddler Group and Holiday club:

The toddler group has now been going for over six years, all is OK at present, with not much to report.

We are looking forward to our monthly summer outings

vi) Milton Damerel Ladies Skittles Team: Following last year's success and promotion to Division 1, MD ladies have had another successful season. The 'A' team were winners of division 1 with 66 points, three team members qualified to be included in the Devon County Competition. The 'B' team won the wooden spoon.

The MD lady's 'A' and 'B' team held their end of season dinner and presentations at the Bell Inn, on the 4th April.

vii) Holy Trinity Parochial Church Council:

Thanks, were given to the Parish Councillors for the annual grant which helps to keep machinery in good order. Volunteers do a grand job in keeping all the grass cut and our sincere thanks to all who help.

Two trees have been lost this year, one blown down by the gales and the other was deemed unsafe and was Removed by 'Organic Mechanic' owners.

At present there is a problem with the pathway breaking up and concerns have been voiced regarding public Safety. Enquiries will be made to the P3 co-Ordinator to see if money could be available for repairs, also after The elections approaches could be made to local and District Councillors.

6) Any other matters:

Roberta Jackson enquired about the new Bus Shelter soon to be erected at Holsworthy Beacon, and who Would be responsible. The Chairman replied that the Parish Council would be the new owners, as such will be responsible for its insurance and upkeep.

The Chairman congratulated all the representatives of local organisations for their successes of the year and wished them all every success in their future endeavours.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm and everyone was invited to remain for refreshments before the Parish Council general meeting commenced.