

A meeting of Milton-under-Wychwood Parish Council was held on Wednesday 17 April 2013 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Councillors Collett, Rawlins, Haine, Marsden, Naish, Smith, Helen Jones.  
16 members of the public.

APOLOGIES: Cllr Laura Jones and County Cllr Rose.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: None

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 20 March 2013 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

PUBLIC:

Resident asked the Council what action was being taken following the visit at the Allotments in March by Mr Hunt OCC Highways. Chairman confirmed that Ms Robinson from Environment Agency had tried to make contact but left no contact details to get back to her. Cllr Haine is meeting with Ms Robinson next week and will follow this up with her then.

The Council were asked permission to allow a parachute drop on Wednesday 22 May at 2.00pm on the Village Green. This was granted.

Resident is taking further the request for a local highways sign to incorporate the Benefice Office which is now located at the Church Room at St Simon & St Jude Church, Church Road.

Cllr Haine gave an update in relation to the Quart Pot. A fence has been erected to divide the property and a planning application has been made to erect detached dwelling. Cllr Haine has alerted WODC Planning Dept and has registered the Quart Pot as a Community Asset. Should here if this has been granted within the next 2 months.

A number of residents have received their Council Tax bills and feel the doubling of the Parish Precept is unjustified. This is an increase of 102% compared to other local parishes. They feel that this is ill thought out and no planned budget in place. Milton-u-Wychwood parish has the most expensive parish precept. Chairman pointed out that this matter was discussed in January 2013 following strict guidelines from WODC. The precept has remained at £25K for the last few years and in hindsight this may have been an error. Future Parish Councils may do things differently. 102% increase amounts to £35 per year for a band D property. The Parish Council has various major projects for the future and made the decision to double the precept to £50K and felt this is not unrealistic.

The entrance gate to the Allotments next to the Cemetery has not been fixed. Cllr Rawlins will speak with Mr Coombes.

## MATTERS ARISING:

Extra Care housing development should be starting work in June. It is understood that there is to be a presentation in the Village Hall but this has not been done yet.

Personal thanks to County Councillor Rodney Rose for contribution from the Area Stewardship Fund for the white gates to the entrance to the village at Bruern Road. He also contributed to the re-surfacing of the Village Hall Car Park.

Cllr Haine reported that he has received quote from electrician for the outside light at the Village Hall. He does not understand the proposal and it was agreed to leave as is for the time being.

Cllr Haine reported that the extension at Jasmine Place, Shipton Road is permitted development with WODC guidelines.

The Emergency Plan is circulating with Councillors.

Chairman reported that he has spoken with Groundworker regarding the soakaway for the swings on the Green and has quoted £420 for the work. All agreed to get this work done.

Complete Weed Control has provided quote of £300+VAT to spray the weeds on the Village Green in addition to the spraying of the whole village. The Council did not think that Milton Sports Association would be willing to contribute. A vote was taken for this work to be carried out:

5 votes in favour

2 votes against.

It was therefore agreed that Complete Weed Control would be asked to carry out this work.

## MONITORING GRASS CUTTING:

Mr Grant has made a good start with the village grass cutting. He does a good job of cutting the grass on the village green.

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

During the month and for information only:

13/0396      3 High Street. Erection of detached dwelling and formation of vehicular access. Objections: As per previous planning application. Detrimental effect on future viability of Public House. Change of use from commercial to residential. Taking away the garden and car park from the Public House. Access next to bus stop. The Parish Council would like to see the Public House re-establish and re-open.



April payments:				
E Parsons	- salary	228.80	M Ricketts	144.38
	- expenses	12.50	M-u-W Village Hall	351.00
AM Consultancy		22.50	WODC	195.00
ORCC (membership)		58.50		
			TOTAL	£1219.32

Payments received:	
M-u-W Village Hall (grit bin)	113.05
Cemetery	75.00

The Balance of Accounts as at 31 March 2013 were presented to the Council and agreed. They were then signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

SECTION 137 – Allowance for YE2013/2014  
 £6.98 per elector. 1359 electors on current Electoral Roll.  
 Allowance for 2013/2014 = 1359 electors x £6.98 = £9485

**PUBLIC:**

Mr Nick O’Keefe introduced himself and gave his contact details. He is a resident and representative of the following:  
 Village representative – Neighbourhood Action Group  
 Vice Chairman – Milton Volunteers  
 Village representative – Wychwood Wild Garden

The light at the Village Hall was discussed and the Chairman agreed to speak with the Electrician who gave the quote.

The front of Groves Industrial Site is an eyesore and this has been raised on a number of occasions with negative response. It was agreed that the Parish Council would write on behalf of residents to request that the area is cleaned up.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

Cllr Haine reported that resident at 114 High Street is complaining that dogs are fouling outside her house and owners are leaving their poo bags at her property. This property is the last house out of the village and the first one as you enter and a popular dog walking route. Resident is requesting a dog fouling bin in this area. The Clerk will obtain costs from WODC.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday 8 May 2013 and various representatives will be invited to attend.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm