

DRAFT

Milton-under-Wychwood Parish Council Meeting was held on Wednesday 19 February 2014 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

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

APOLOGIES: Cllrs Laura Jones and Smith and County Councillor Rose.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: Councillor Marsden and the defibrillator.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 15 January 2014 were approved and signed

PUBLIC:

The Milton Volunteers gave an update on their latest plans. Work continues on the orchard and other members will come back and carry on with the village volunteering. Asked if it is possible to be a sub-committee of the Parish Council to reduce the cost of public liability insurance, which has increased and there would be a potential to save £200. Heard of a scheme where if hours of volunteers logged by the Parish Council could use these to gain extra funding. Cllr Helen Jones to look at this. Future plans of the Volunteers are to look at seats on the village green, notice boards, flowerbeds and working with the Welfare Trust to identify people needing support. The Volunteers would operation with a Steering Committee and no chairman. There has been an agreement on the territory for the Community Orchard with the Welfare Trust and now need to raise £3,000 to pay for the trees, which cost £35 each. Organising fund raising events.

Mention of rubbish on the Fifield Road. Councillor Haine to look at this.

Still no sign at High Farm and Parish Clerk asked to raise with Councillor Rose.

Query as to whether planning permission was sought to put up the sign for the new development off Shipton Road. Also gives address as Green Lane, which is incorrect. Councilor Haine to look at this. Pavement configuration at entrance to the new development was raised again and near misses reported. Raised at previous Parish Council meetings. PC clerk asked to write to Councillor Rose. Councillor Haine updated he was aware of an accident and would raise the issue with Councillor Rose. Chairman said he had raised this with the surveyors. Will seek clarification.

MATTERS ARISING:

Cllr Helen Jones reported that Builders Ede would start work on copse of trees at Church Meadow on 25 February.

Cllr Rawlins reported he hadn't been able to bend the damaged village green railings back. Established John Naish has the missing bolt for the children's play area. Discussed and agreed to weed cemetery and organise a group of volunteers when the weather improves.

Cllr Marsden concerned the matter of the specification from Mr Hunt for the Heath still not received, despite a reminder and felt the matter was dragging on. Also updated that the emergency plan still not operational. The Chairman said just needed the last few details to be clarified before it could be adopted, but in principle this was accepted. The Chairman would communicate by email to work out the best way for the Councillors to discuss.

Councillor Naish thanked the Parish Council for the contribution to the cost of electricity for the Christmas tree.

The Chairman gave an update on the information he had been given about work at Littlestock Brook. As soon as we have something from Mr Hunt we can see where we go. Environment Agency not sure changing the gradient of the bank will have any effect. The contractor is positive about ability to create gradient. Councillor Haine said if silt had not been removed the Heath would have flooded again. He has seen the rubbish from the stream in the skips.

The Chairman submitted plans for the cemetery gates for approval. The Council were happy for him to have these costed using local tradespeople.

WYCHWOOD LIBRARY:

Councillors Naish and Rawlins offered to attend the planned meeting with Parish Councillors from Acott and Shipton, to take the funding of the library forward.

ALLOTMENTS:

Allotments Welfare Trust met with Milton Volunteers to finalise the size and shape of the community orchard. Allotment Association Committee hopefully in place soon. Discussed again the possibility of having a combined allotment committee, but understood OALC had advised could not as sub-committee of the PC. The Chairman said he would think about whether the two Trusts could get together to decide if they want to do this and then have a representative that comes to Parish Council meetings, but not an official sub committee. It would be self-governing committee who can self-regulate.

DIFIBRALATOR:

Councillor Marsden said he was keen for the village to have one and as a village business would offer to put £400 towards the cost. Following discussions he reported it does not have to be the Parish Council who makes an application for a County Council grant for half the costs. Had registered an interest in receiving the application form for a grant when these become available. There was further discussion on the site and whether the village hall is the best place. The Chairman suggested outside the Co-op might be an option, with their permission, as central, well lit and busy for most of the day and evening. Councillor Helen Jones wondered if we could think about having two in the village, although we are only eligible to apply for a grant to fund one.

The Parish Council to support a request for funding and start thinking about fundraising and which businesses could be asked to support this.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

14/0127/P/POB

8 Harmans Court, Milton under Wychwood.

Discharge of planning obligations. Remove age restriction.

14/0087/P/POB

7 Harmans Court, Milton under Wychwood

Discharge of planning obligations. Remove age restriction.

It was felt a precedence had already been set to lift age restrictions, but concern expressed that this had been allowed to happen.

WODC has granted 13/1569/P/FP

Maur-Vale Church Road

Erection of single storey extension and increase roof height to create 1st floor.

Discussed a clarification of Councillors considering planning applications if responses needed before the next PC meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Clerk ran through the correspondence that had been received and forwarded to Parish Councillors. This included:

- A request from St Simon and St Jude to remove a Yew tree. Councillors agreed to visit the site and see if it needed to be removed on health and safety grounds or whether it could be trimmed and if the work was necessary. Clerk asked to find out what it cost to remove the last tree.
- Agreed renewal of membership of the Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association;
- Agreed a donation of the same amount as last time to Volunteer Link-up;
- Agreed Clerk to arrange for a play safety annual play area inspection with ROSPA;
- Decision not to meet with Crisis Skylight Oxford as something more relevant to urban areas;
- PC decided on the "Paddocks" as its preferred name for the new development from the list of three submitted;
- Parish Councillors to let Clerk know if anyone could attend the Flood Forum. Chairman to look at the survey sent through.

VILLAGE GREEN:

There had been no football since December due to the bad weather.

ACCOUNTS: The following payments were agreed:

OUT

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|----------------------|------------|--------|----------------------|---------|
| C Redman | - salary | 228.80 | M Ricketts | 179.79 |
| | - expenses | 12.50 | St Simon and St Jude | 400.00 |
| Alfred Groves & Sons | | 3.52 | | |
| | | | TOTAL | £831.81 |

IN

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|------------|------|--|-------|---------|
| Cemetery | £300 | | | |
| Allotments | £7 | | | |
| | | | TOTAL | £307.00 |

PUBLIC:

A representative for the Kingham and Wychwood Rotary Club explained they were looking at raising money for defibrillators. PC would need to wait for forms to apply for the grant but that did not rule out others fundraising to install one. Look to put something in the next newsletter and maybe go beyond businesses for requests for funding, as some individuals might like to make a donation.

It was pointed out that it may be enough to pollard the tree at the churchyard and that the Benefice Office was also for other churches and it might be something where costs could be shared. Milton Volunteers offered they might be able to pressure wash if the area around the Benefice office was slippery. Also mentioned very wet around the "Kissing Gate" on the Green.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Councillor Helen Jones raised the point we used to give information to new people who moved in to the village and it might be a good idea to start doing this again, possibly by producing a leaflet that estate agents could give to people moving to the area with PC details and some history about the area. Clerk to scan and send to Parish Councillors a copy of a leaflet produced in the past.

Chairman to look at whether Volunteers could be a sub-committee of the PC and whether they would be covered by insurance.

Clerk asked to report the light at the end of the Square is on permanently and Chairman to send details of another light that needs mending.

Speed signs have been supplied to display at the Milton approach to the primary school. When we have received information as to where these can be located and at what height, councillors happy to display the four signs on a rotational basis.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 19 March