

Milton-under-Wychwood Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 20th January 2016

PRESENT: Cllr Naish (Chairman), Cllrs Collett, Haine, Jones, Rawlins, Smith; CCllr Rose;
Parish Clerk: Jenny Miller; 20 members of the public

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr Naish announced with sadness that Cllr Marsden passed away at the beginning of January

PARISH COUNCIL CO-OPTION VOTE

Cllr Naish invited the two candidates to give a brief testimony after which a vote was taken as to which candidate should be co-opted to fill the vacancy arising from Cllr H. Jones resignation. Mr Trotman was voted in and joined the Councillors at the table where he signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Cllr Naish invited Mr Pratt to consider standing in the May election.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:

Cllr Haine declared current planning applications.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The December minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman. Clerk requested to send Acting Parish Clerk a thank you card for covering December meeting.

PUBLIC

Bus service cuts: Query regarding potential for collaboration between Wychwood villages to support bus provision to prevent further isolation of those dependent on buses was acknowledged with confirmation that Wychwood Parish Councils are working together to consult bus service providers.

November Uplands Planning meeting re: Sharba Homes statement: Question directed at Cllr Naish from December meeting was repeated regarding how Sharba Homes appeared to have foreknowledge of the contents of her statement given at 2nd Nov WODC meeting. Cllr Naish denied any contact with Sharba Homes or their agents prior to that meeting. Public concerned that the PC have apparently ignored several statements made by Sharba Homes' agents that their claims are untrue. Clerk to write to Sharba Homes ASAP.

Donations: Request made that PC consider carefully the donation to Wychwood Youth Football Club due to the high cost involved for children not necessarily resident in Milton.

Parish Council vacancy: Query about vacancy left by Cllr Marsden. PC confirmed the vacancy would be advertised in due course.

MATTERS ARISING

Hacklings vehicles: Cllr Rawlins confirmed lorries have been re-routed but have since been seen. This may have been for local deliveries but will be monitored to ensure compliance.

Molehills: Cllr Haine reported that Pestakers have dealt with the problem at no cost to PC.

Planting of roses in cemetery: Clerk confirmed rules forbid planting of shrubs in cemetery over plots but it has been noted that there are a few planted and has received a query asking if it would be possible to plant a rose bush over a plot. Cllrs Rawlins and Jones to visit cemetery before decision is made at next meeting.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Cllr Rose confirmed the budget would be set on 16th Feb so no cuts confirmed until then. Consultation underway with local bus companies serving Wychwoods in hope that agreement may be reached. Cllr Haine asked whether he could confirm reinstatement of Lollipop Lady from Easter 2016. Cllr Rose confirmed there will be funding from April for twelve months only at this stage. Cllr Haine also questioned whether Cllr Rose could provide maps of those grassy areas in village which will most likely have to be cut by PC following budget cuts. Cllr Rose confirmed he is waiting for maps to be provided.

AUTHORISATION FOR CLERK TO ORDER DEPLETED STOCKS

Chairman moved for authorisation to be given for re-ordering of regular stocks of dog poo bags for vets, paper, printer ink as and when required. PC approved. Clerk to itemise expenses under Accounts each month.

ALLOTMENTS

Cllr Rawlins reported discrepancy between size of allotments and the price tenants are paying. An idea has been proposed to make the allotments uniform in size or to charge according to area of plot(s). Cllr Trotman suggested opening dialogue with tenants of very large PC plots to negotiate either reducing size or increasing rent giving twelve months' notice of decision from Sept. Cllr Haine had a query about allowing residents from neighbouring villages to take tenancy of plots. Cllr Rawlins confirmed that provided there are no Milton residents on waiting list, they may apply for a plot through Clerk.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

New applications:

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| a. | 16/00005/HHD Orchard Bungalow, Shipton Rd, MUW
<u>Erection of single storey rear extension and conversion of loft to include dormer windows</u> | No Objection |
| b. | Wychwood Pantry Café & Deli Premises Licence, The Paddocks, MUW
<u>Alcohol to be served from 9am-10pm weekdays and 10am-10pm</u> | No Objection |
| c. | 16/00142/HHD Cotswold, Shipton Road, MUW
<u>Replacement garage and garden store</u> | No Objection |
| d. | 15/04194/HHD Malt house, Shipton Rd, MUW
<u>Garden wall and fence alterations and summer house relocation</u> | No Objection |
| e. | 15/04253/HHD 52 High Street, MUW
<u>Erection of single storey rear extension</u> | No Objection |
| f. | Disabled person' parking place, outside 102 High Street, MuW | No Objection |

Applications approved:

15/04059/HHD Dougden, Frog Lane	<u>Erection of single storey rear extension</u>
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Applications ongoing:

Ref APP/D3125/W/15/3132137 Land south of High Street – Public enquiry to be held on 1st June, 10am.

Cllr Trotman enquired as to whether it was possible to view contentious sites of planning applications ahead of discussion in PC meetings. Cllr Haine confirmed this is good practice.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter received from Acting RtRev.Bishop of Oxford suggestion PC organise street parties or similar in celebration of Queen's 90 th birthday on weekend of 11 th -12 th June.
Letters of thanks received from Citizens' Advice Bureau and Oxfordshire Association for the Blind in respect of donations made by PC.
Query about meeting protocol.
Concern about speeding traffic on Shipton Road between Co-Op and Green Lane.
Letter from New Zealand asking for help with Fellowship research project about farming in 1870s. She is looking to rent/housesit accommodation and a car for 6 weeks in May 2017 and would like to connect with farmers, farm workers from Milton, relatives of Joseph Pratley, historical society. Contact glendajanelewis@gmail.com

VILLAGE GREEN

Long grass: It was resolved that this would be reviewed in February/March with a possibility of an earlier cut.

New Play equipment: Cllr Rawlins reported that work will begin w/c 29th Feb weather permitting. Fundraising will continue for further equipment. Cllr Rawlins to enquire about access to site at meeting on 27th Jan as well as 'making good' following installation.

Broken railings: Cllr Collett to look into repair of railing opposite Co-Op.

DONATIONS

Wychwood Youth Football Club annual trip: around £250 requested to take 75 children to St George's Park. Cllr Trotman to look into the Milton Community Fund as a source of funding instead of PC.

Katherine House Hospice: Cllr Haine proposed £50 in memory of the late Cllr Ian Marsden. Vote carried.

Milton Village Fete: Cllr Haine proposed £50 as last year. Vote carried.

Cllr Haine proposed additional donation of £50 towards Mr and Mrs Naish Christmas tree lights running cost. Vote carried.

Cllr Haine suggested a change to the Standing Orders to allow Councillors to make emergency payments in between meetings to a maximum sum of £100. All Councillors were in favour of this change. Clerk to look into this.

ACCOUNTS

a. Payments out:

1. M. Ricketts Length person salary	£ 168.75
2. J. Miller Clerk holiday pay, salary & expenses	£ 426.33
3. H. Sandhu Clerk holiday cover & mileage	£ 81.15
4. Alfred Groves bin bags	£ 3.51
5. Thames Water (Allotments Sept-Dec 2015)	£104.80
6. Business Focus Christmas newsletter	£199.38
7. Donation under sec. 137 Katharine House Hospice	£ 50
8. Donation under sec. 137 Naish Christmas lights running costs	£ 50
9. Donation under sec. 137 Milton Fete	£ 50

TOTAL	£1133.92
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b. Payments in:

1. Pound Parking	£162.50
TOTAL	<u>£162.50</u>

Bank balance as of 31/12/2015: £87,744.69

Cheques were signed by 2 Councillors. Chairman moved to approve payments. Vote carried. Bank statements were approved and signed by Chairman.

PUBLIC

Bus service cuts: Request that PC reiterate problem of further isolating villagers reliant on bus services when in conversation with Cllr Rose. Cllr Haine enquired into whether the power the PC has to spend under section 137 has a maximum limit. Clerk to look into for next meeting. Manchester bus pass scheme suggested as a good model.

Allotments: Shipton allotments measured according to '10 rod rule' to determine whether small or large and to increase rent according to water rate increase. Cllr Rawlins would like future PC to consider increasing rent to be more in line with other parishes.

Dog mess: Concern that dog walkers with several dogs are unable to ensure they are attentive to where all their dogs are fouling.

Motorcross bikes: Report of motorcross bikes using fields between Diggers Wood, Jubilee Lane and Upper Milton.

Lift sharing: Suggestion of potential for lift-sharing to centres to supplement bus cuts. Concern that this would further decrease demand and not provide the continuity of service required.

Play equipment: Suggestion that public would benefit from knowing the details of the new play equipment to encourage more fundraising and involvement. Cllr Jones will put plans on the website and Cllr Trotman to display plans on noticeboards around village.

St Simon & St Jude defibrillator: Report that the last defibrillator has been installed and installation paid for by remaining funds of the fundraising group.

The Paddocks sign: Request for road sign into new complex for road users travelling from Shipton direction. Cllr Haine to look into.

Election information: Cllr Haine to circulate details of important dates for the May PC election.

AOB

Cemetery seating: It was suggested that the PC consider installing seating in the cemetery in memory of Cllr Marsden.

Queen's 90th: Cllr Trotman suggested a village picnic in celebration of Her Majesty's birthday. To be discussed further.

Cllr Naish closed the meeting at 9.07pm.