

Milton-under-Wychwood Parish Council Meeting

Village Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 15th July 2015

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs: Naish (in the chair), H. Jones, Collett, Haines, Rawlins, Smith, County Cllr Rose,
Acting Parish Clerk: Lisa Wilkinson, 11 members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr Laura Jones, Cllr Ian Marsden

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS. Cllr Haine re: planning issues

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The June minutes were amended (Para 6: 'Donation' was added to Wychwood Wild Garden Annual Subscription), approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. PUBLIC

- Chris Trotman explained that there has always been a good working relationship between the volunteers and the Parish Council. The link may have been lost in the past but has now been re-established.
- Update on overhanging tree on Church Road: Mr Cheeseman, who owns the tree, has been contacted by letter. He has agreed to cut the tree back although he is upset by the way he was contacted.
- Paths in general around the village seem to be half taken over by adjacent hedges. This includes a hedge on the corner of Green Lane where it is difficult to walk along the pathway. It was agreed that this issue will go into September's newsletter and owners will be asked to cut their own hedges back.

5. MATTERS ARISING

- Littlestock Brook: Cllr Collett is obtaining quotes from different contractors and aims to have a quote agreed by September when the work can be started. He is also looking into the issue of the sewer pipe.
- There is no further news on the cemetery gates. Cllr Collett will follow this up.

6. CODE OF CONDUCT

Cllr Naish reminded people that the Standing Orders have been changed to keep electronic information confidential until it is brought to a Parish Council meeting.

7. QUART POT

There was a discussion about registering the Quart Pot as a Community Asset. Cllr Haine will follow this up.

8. TRANSPORT

Cllr Naish attended the recent transport meeting in Witney. At the meeting, it was suggested that all subsidised buses may be removed next April. Cllr Rose disputed this. Cllr

Naish made available transport surveys for the public to complete and return to ORCC. She requested that as many people as possible return the questionnaires.

9. COPSE IN CHURCH MEADOW

Cllr H. Jones reported. This land is causing concern from local residents as the trees are too high and swaying considerably in the wind (to the extent that birds are falling out and damage may be caused) and a general tidy up is needed. Maintenance was done on this site 3 years ago, approved and paid for by West Oxfordshire District Council (WODC). It has now returned to a similar state as before. Nic Dalby (Landscape and Forestry Officer, WODC) will revisit the copse, because of local concern. It was resolved to put this issue on the agenda in September when Nick Dolby's report has been received. Neil Bound (Builders Ede who own the land) has suggested handing this land over to the Parish Council. Cllr H. Jones will follow this up.

10. OCC GRASS CUTTING

Cllr Rose was asked if Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) was no longer cutting the verges. Cllr Rose explained that the Parish Council should have been notified 12 months ago about which areas were due to be cut this year. Cllr Rose will investigate.

11. LOCAL COUNCIL INSURANCE RENEWAL with Cam and Company Insurance Brokers.

Cllr Haine proposed that the Parish Council extends their Local Council Insurance Long Term Agreement until July 2018 (it is currently due to expire in July 2016). There would be a considerable financial saving in doing this. It was resolved that the Long Term Agreement would be renewed.

12. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Please see separate report.

13. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a. New:

15/01967/FUL Manor Farm, Upper Milton, MUW. Conversion of barn to dwelling for agricultural tenant. **No objections**

15/02277/HHD The Old Farmhouse, 35 High Street, MUW. Formation of new porch to front of existing building and glazed light to front elevation. (Comments by 3rd August). **No objections**

b. Ongoing:

None at present

c. Decisions:

14/01759/FUL High Fields, Church Road, MUW. Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of 4 (no.) three bedroom dwellings with associated access and landscaping works (Amended plans). **Approved subject to Legal Agreement**

15/01882/FUL Wood Hay, 10 Green Lane, MUW. Demolition of existing garage and erection of new garage and single storey dwelling to rear of 10 Green Lane. **Objection submitted. Approved.**

14. CORRESPONDENCE

New Community Information Network Directory	Age UK

15. DONATIONS

None this month

16. VILLAGE GREEN

The fete, held at the beginning of July, was a success. There was record attendance this year.

The Aunt Sally team and the M.S.A. have offered to dismantle the Aunt Sally if required, as it will not be used now until next year. The Parish Council would like to take them up on their offer.

The trader, who has been selling goods on the Village Green, has been asked to leave because of concern that his goods being laid out (for example knives and saws) were not safe for children playing at the park.

Cllr Rawlins and Chris Trotman have repaired, replaced and removed broken parts of the play equipment.

Concern was raised about overhanging trees adjacent to the play equipment. Cllr Smith to contact Kevin Grant.

17. ACCOUNTS

a. Payments out were authorised and cheques signed:

1. Came & Co Insurance Renewal	£2,284.72
2. Bin liners and hardware	£19.55
3. Weed control Prysebros Ltd	£750
4. Clerk Maternity cover – Lisa Wilkinson	£67.14
5. M. Ricketts Lengthperson salary	£163.29
6. K. Grant grasscutting	£1572.50
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TOTAL	£4,857.20

b. Payments in

None received.

Bank balance as of 30/06/2015:

£96,140.91

18. PUBLIC

- There was an enquiry about who was cutting the grass and the trees on Church Meadow. The owners of the land actually contract someone to do this.
- The bench in Church Road has been sawn through and the plaque removed. It was resolved that the Parish Council would replace the plaque and Milton Volunteers would reinstate it. It was agreed that an article on vandalism will go into the newsletter in September.
- Milton Volunteers will also look at the noticeboard at the far end of The Sands, which is being propped up at present.

19. AOB

- The Pound at the end of the High Street, has a collapsed wall which requires rebuilding or removing. Cllr Haine will follow this up.
- Hatwells: the fair is arriving on Sunday 26th July, opening 29th July – 1st August and leaving on 2nd August; last year the PC approved a new memorial bench for Hatwells. They would like to go ahead with it this year. There were no objections.
- The Co-op has offered to help with fund-raising for new play equipment.
- Application received for a memorial for Dorothy Gurntrip, in Milton Cemetery.

Meeting closed at 8.34pm