

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF MILTON ABBOT GROUPED PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2nd NOVEMBER 2016, 7.30PM AT MILTON ABBOT VILLAGE HALL
(also available at www.magpc.co.uk)

PRESENT: Cllr's Hough (MA) (Chair), H Asbridge (C), M Pahlsson (C), R Brewer (C), C Beighton (C), A Westcott (C), J Holland (D), R Tucker (MA) A Cox (MA) J Anderson (MA)

Mrs E James (Clerk), Cllr B Baldwin (WDBC) and Cllr C Edmonds (WDBC)

83:16/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

84:16/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

85:16/17 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5th October 2016 were **agreed** as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

86:16/17 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

None

87:16/17 PLANNING

00452/2016 Stables, Edgecumbe Road, Milton Abbot

Cllr Baldwin advised that the Appeal decision relating to the above planning application had been made, the appeal having been dismissed. Partial costs had however been awarded to the applicant. The enforcement notices in place will be reactivated and monitored by the Planning Department.

Applications

3267/16/TCA The Vicarage, Milton Abbot

Consideration was given to the application for works to trees at the above property, which is located within a conservation area, and it was **agreed** to support the application.

Action: Clerk

3228/16/FUL Edgecumbe Road, Milton Abbot

Following consideration of the application for the erection of a cattle shed, the Council **agreed** that there was not enough information provided within the application to allow a proper evaluation of the proposal. When determining the application, the Borough Council should ensure that there is provision for adequate drainage from the site of the proposed development.

Action: Clerk

Decisions

Cllr's noted the below decisions:

- 2385/16/NMM 25a Fore Street, Milton Abbot: Conditional approval
- 3012/16/ARC 25a Fore Street, Milton Abbot: Discharge of conditions approved

88:16/17 URGENT ACTION

1115/16/FUL Longcross Barn, Longcross: Application for planning permission for four dwellings. The Clerk had taken action in accordance with the Council's urgency procedure due to the timescale for comments to be made regarding the above planning application which was sited just outside of the parish boundary and in Lamerton. The Council's previous comments dated 18th March 2015 for a previous application, 00257/2015 for four dwellings at this site, were resubmitted.

89:16/17 PROGRESS REPORTS

Felldownhead Road

Cllr Pahlsson reported that following the last meeting of the Council it was found that 'narrow road' signs were already in place along Felldownhead Road. Subsequently Highways had agreed to reinstate road surface 'slow' signs at locations adjacent to triangular warning signs but not in the other locations. It was **agreed** that the Council had exhausted the options available to it in relation to traffic calming at this time.

It had been ascertained by Cllr Pahlsson that there were approximately sixty-six horses stabled at seven locations within the parish of Bradstone, and in close proximity to Felldownhead Road. Highways had been asked if this number of horses would meet their criteria for the erection of warning signs, particularly in the locations in which they were missing. Highways were willing to reinstate the missing sign, if they had one available within their depots, but not to install additional signs.

Due to the narrowness of the road, the hill and bends, it was **agreed** that Cllr Pahlsson identify the particularly dangerous points along the road and Highways be asked to install signs at these locations. Cllr Edmonds was in support of this action.

Action: Cllr Pahlsson/Clerk

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) – Boundary Variation

Further consideration of the proposal by MABRAKE to include the parish within the Tamar Valley AONB was given. The Council acknowledged the benefits that the additional protection could bring to the area but also expressed concerns, which included the additional planning restrictions that would be imposed.

It was agreed that a response to be sent to MABRAKE stating that whilst the Council was not opposed to the idea in principle, a better understanding of the day to day implications and restrictions, in particular with regards to planning applications for both private dwellings and businesses were required together with any responses received so far from other interested parties.

Action: Clerk

Milton Abbot Play Area

Cllr Cox reported that he had discussed the reporting of the play area inspections to the Council with Milton Abbot Community Group and that he confirmed that the checks were being carried out on a weekly basis. It was **agreed** that there was little practical benefit in the Parish Council receiving weekly reports and that instead MAGC be requested to submit a quarterly statement confirming that such inspections have been carried out weekly and acted upon appropriately.

Action: Clerk

Chillaton Traffic Issues

Highways had carried out relining work to the road surface in the square in Chillaton, creating a modified road layout which improved pedestrian safety. The Council **agreed** to write to Highways thanking them for their assistance in improvements to the area.

Action: Cllr Beighton/Clerk

90:16/17 FINANCIAL MATTERS

Bank Reconciliation and 2016/17 Budget Review

The bank reconciliation and budget, dated 21st October 2016, were reviewed and **approved**. Cllr's noted the projected overspend of £516.25 which would be met from the contingency fund.

Payments

Clerk's pay on 31st October 2016, paid by BACS, was noted:

- Mrs E James - £144.58
- HMRC – £20.40

Asset Condition Review

Council assets, with the exception of the retaining wall which was already receiving attention, had been reviewed. There were no issues reported with the Galaxy Tablet and TAS speed signs located in Chillaton, however the noticeboards in both Chillaton and Milton Abbot required attention, or possibly replacement. Cllr's Asbridge and Pahlsson would endeavour to find a volunteer to refurbish them if this was feasible. A new noticeboard had recently been installed in Sydenham Damerel and the Clerk was asked to establish where it was obtained.

Action: Cllr's Asbridge, Pahlsson & Clerk

Draft Budget and Precept 2017/18

The draft budget for 2017/18 provided by the Clerk was discussed. Projected expenditure in 2017/18 would exceed income by £403, therefore it would be necessary to either reduce costs or raise the precept, if the budget was to balance. Confirmation had been received that the Council Tax Support Grant received by the Council would be reduced by 8.6% year on year for the coming three financial years, a reduction of £14 to £149 in 2017/18.

In order to meet the additional projected expenditure of £403 a precept increase of approximately 9.5% would be required.

Points raised during discussion included the funding of Milton Abbot retaining wall repairs from capital/earmarked funds rather than from the precept and the possible review of grants given by the Council. The funding of the wall repairs from earmarked funds would reduce the projected expenditure by approximately £300.

The Council **agreed** to give further consideration to the budget for 2017/18 at its meetings in December 2016 and January 2017, when other figures would be known.

Appointment of Internal Auditor for the 2016/17 Financial Year

The Council **approved** the appointment of Mr Jamie Rutherford as the internal auditor for the 2016/17 financial year.

On-Line Banking

Cllr Hough had established that he was already a signatory and did not need to complete the form. Clerk to forward the link for on-line banking to Cllr Hough for completion of the relevant form.

It was **agreed** by the Council that Cllr Westcott would contact the bank to establish who the authorised signatories were in order that the Council could review the situation.

Action: Cllr's Hough, Westcott & Clerk

91:16/17 BT PAYPHONE KIOSK REMOVAL CONSULTATION

BT were proposing to remove the telephone kiosk, from which only one telephone call had been made in the last twelve months, from The Green in Milton Abbot. The Council were asked for their views and given the opportunity to adopt the kiosk for the sum of £1.

Adoption of the kiosk, the maintenance costs this would add to the budget and additional insurance policy cost were discussed, as were its possible uses, and the Council **agreed** not to adopt the kiosk.

Although only one call had been made from the kiosk, it was pointed out that this could have been, or could in the future be a lifesaving call. Therefore the Council **agreed** to object to the removal of the kiosk.

Action: Clerk

92:16/17 YOUR FUTURE CARE CONSULTATION ON COMMUNITY SERVICES

Councillors noted the consultation and that individual responses were required as appropriate by Councillors and members of the public.

93:16/17 FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

The six month trial period of increased frequency of Council meetings had come to an end and was reviewed. Councillors noted that the length of meetings had been reduced from between 2 and 2½ hours, to 1½ and 2 hours and that increased frequency meant that all planning applications had been discussed at meetings of the Council.

Following a vote, it was **agreed** that the Council would permanently make the change to monthly meetings unless there were no matters requiring the attention of the Council.

94:16/17 COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Cllr Asbridge referred to the further consideration of planning application 2592/16/FUL Braemar House that would take place at the next meeting and asked if the Parish Council would wish local Cllr's to attempt to resolve the concerns of local residents beforehand. This suggestion was welcomed.

Cllr Brewer tendered his apologies for the meeting due to be held on 7th December.

95:16/17 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

7 th December 2016	Marystowe Church Hall
4 th January 2017	Marystowe Church Hall
1 st February 2017	Milton Abbot Village Hall
1 st March 2017	Milton Abbot Village Hall
5 th April 2017	Marystowe Church Hall
3 rd May 2017	Annual Parish Meeting for Chillaton - Marystowe Church Hall
4 th May 2017 (Thursday)	Annual Parish Meeting for Milton Abbot, Dunterton and Bradstone in Milton Abbot Village Hall followed by the Parish Council Annual and Ordinary meetings

Note: All meetings are on Wednesdays at 7.30pm unless otherwise specified

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

Signed:
Cllr Hough, Chairman

Date: