

MILTON ABBOT GROUPED PARISH COUNCIL

(Parishes of Milton Abbot, Chillaton, Dunterton and Bradstone)

To all Members of the Council

You are hereby summoned to attend a Meeting of the Milton Abbot Grouped Parish Council to be held at **7.30pm on Wednesday 1st July 2015 at Milton Abbot Village Hall** for the purpose of transacting the business set out below.

H.J. Asbridge, Acting Clerk to the Council

Wednesday 24th June 2015

A G E N D A

Part 1

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
- 2. Declarations of Interest**
- 3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the meeting held on 14th May 2015**
- 4. Confirmation of the Minutes of the meeting held on 27th May 2015**

It is recommended that these minutes be approved with the following amendment to the preamble to the Parish Council's decision regarding application 00452/2015, as shown in italics

Having considered the issues referred to above and the fact that, at the conclusion of the opportunity for members of the public to speak about the application, the majority were not in favour of it being approved, the Parish Council agreed to object to the granting of retrospective planning permission for the *non-agricultural* development concerned, on the following grounds:

- 5. Confirmation of the Minutes of the meeting held on 10th June 2015**
- 6. Open Session – Members of the Public may speak regarding parish matters**
- 7. Co-option to current vacancies on the Parish Council**

As instructed, the Acting Clerk placed advertisements in village notice boards, inviting local residents to seek co-option to the two vacancies on the Parish Council; one in Milton Abbot and the other in Dunterton.

At the time of preparing this agenda, only one request had been received, from Mr Andrew Cox of 2 Milton Green, Milton Abbot who states that:

"I have been living in Milton Abbot all my life and therefore have an interest in what happens in the community where I live, along with my wife and two children, one of whom attends Milton Abbot school and the other is due to start in September. I am a self-employed forester, so spend a lot of time working in the countryside within the local area. I also farm some land within the village, keeping a small flock of sheep along with my father."

The Parish Council is requested to decide whether to co-opt Mr Cox to one of the vacancies on the Parish Council.

8. Progress Reports

To review any developments since the last meeting, regarding the following matters:

Grants to PCCs for burial ground maintenance – As agreed, the Acting Clerk has contacted Marystowe PCC for further information regarding payment of grants made in previous years, to assist in establishing whether or not all burial ground maintenance payments are up to date. Should further information be available by the date of this meeting, the Acting Clerk will report further.

Traffic issues - Felldownhead Road: current position.

MACKPlan: - The MACKPlan team had a stand at the Tractor Run and Fete held at Marystowe Church [for Chillaton] on 14th June. Members of the public were invited to identify issues that they valued or wanted to avoid, as part of an exercise to determine the scope of the questionnaire to be issued to all local residents in due course.

Application 00452/2015 Bennett's Barn Milton Abbot – To note the current position regarding the current application for retrospective planning permission for change of use, etc.

9. Protecting the local landscape

The Acting Clerk sent parish councillors the outcome of his research into the status of Areas of Great Landscape Value [AGLVs] in his email of 17th June. The Parish Council has already objected to the draft of 'Our Plan', because it does not contain provision for the implementation of Landscape Sensitivity Assessments [LSAs]. Should West Devon Borough Council [WDBC] have published its response to those objections by 1st July, an update will be given at the meeting.

It was necessary to make this formal objection, in view of local residents' concerns over the effect on the local landscape of increasing numbers of wind turbines, so that there is the opportunity to pursue this issue during the subsequent stages of the Our Plan process.

However, what is ultimately needed is a shared understanding of the value of the landscape in the Lyd and Lew Valleys, by the parish councils concerned, the Borough Council, the Dartmoor National Park and the Tamar Valley AONB, that, hopefully, then leads to a new level of formal protection.

That protection should not be such as to encourage the fossilisation of local communities, but it should make unsympathetic or unnecessary development harder to achieve, whilst encouraging agriculture and local businesses that focus on exploiting the natural qualities of the area.

We are about to enter a phase when the relevant draft policies in Our Plan are alternately defended by the Borough Council and criticised by parish councils and local pressure groups. Would it not be preferable to develop a joint initiative to examine the problem and then agree on a range of objectives; some aimed at protecting the natural qualities of the area, others at encouraging the appropriate residential and business development needed to sustain local communities? Then it would be possible to identify either a statutory status that reflected the outcome of that dialogue, or a mix of policies and processes [such as LSAs] that are given effect by their inclusion in Our Plan.

The Parish Council is requested to consider initiating this approach.

10. Proforma for Planning Advisory Panels

A draft proforma is set out below:

MILTON ABBOT GROUPED PARISH COUNCIL

CHILLATON PLANNING ADVISORY PANEL

Cllrs: Asbridge, Beighton, Brewer and Westcott

App. No:

Site address:

Proposal:

Advice to be agreed by the panel and sent by Cllr Asbridge to the Parish Clerk before:

Closing date for representations:

The Advisory Panel does not consider that this matter is so significant or contentious, or would be a departure from existing policies, or constitute development outside agreed settlement boundaries, or the public are likely to want to be present at its consideration, to warrant an emergency meeting of the Parish Council, with whatever notice is appropriate, to determine the Council's views.

*Therefore, the views of the Advisory Panel are that the Parish Clerk should take action on behalf of the Parish Council, under delegated powers, to **support/object to** [delete as appropriate] the development proposed in application /2015, on the following grounds:*

1.

We have already determined the membership of the advisory panels and their terms of reference. For the avoidance of any doubt, we should confirm that the Parish Clerk is authorised to forward the advice of an Advisory Panel as being the views of the Parish Council on any particular application, provided the Clerk has received a satisfactory assurance that the criteria for consideration of the matter by an emergency meeting of the Parish Council do not apply.

11. Payments due

In accordance with Standing Orders, the Parish Clerk will seek authorisation at the meeting for any outstanding payments to creditors, to be made by the Parish Council, as set out in **Appendix A**.

One of the items in Appendix A is the payment of a total of £109.50 to the Milton Abbot village hall committee for the hire of both the main hall and the reading room on 12 occasions during 2014/15. Of those, five were due to bookings for MACKPlan meetings, costing a total of £44.50, of which £20 has already been recovered by way of grant. Details of all bookings made in 2014/15 are shown below:

Hired for:	Date	Hall/R.Room	Invoice	Parish Council	MACKPlan
Parish Council	08/05/2014	R.Room	39	8.00	
Parish Council	02/07/2014	R.Room	39	8.00	
Parish Council	29/07/2014	R.Room	6	8.00	
Parish Council	03/09/2014	Hall	39	12.50	

Parish Council	30/09/2014	R.Room	39	8.00	
MACKPlan	09/10/2014	Hall	39		12.50
MACKPlan	21/10/2014	R.Room	17		8.00
MACKPlan	30/10/2014	R.Room	12		8.00
Parish Council	29/01/2015	Hall	30	12.50	
MACKPlan	25/02/2015	R.Room	39		8.00
Parish Council	04/03/2015	R.Room	39	8.00	
MACKPlan	25/03/2015	R.Room	39		8.00
Sub-total				65.00	44.50
Total	£109.50				

The Parish Council is requested to approve the payments of £92 to H.J. Asbridge [on behalf of the MACKPlan Team] and of £109.50 to Milton Abbot Village Hall Committee, as set out in Appendix A.

12. Accounts – quarterly reports

Our annual financial cycle includes the submission of quarterly reports that are both a statement of income and expenditure received and a reconciliation of that account to the Parish Council's bank accounts. Although Appendix A above provides details of all expenditure to date and of future liabilities, it does not show income received or a bank reconciliation. This is because at the time of preparing this agenda, no bank statements had been received since the last quarterly report.

If statements are obtained before the meeting, a revised report will be circulated.

13. Councillors' reports and items for future agenda

Each Councillor is requested to use this opportunity to report minor matters of information not included elsewhere on the agenda and to raise items for future agendas. Councillors are respectfully reminded that this is not an opportunity for debate or decision making.

14. Dates of future meetings

Wednesday 2nd September 2015 Marystowe Church Hall

Wednesday 4th November 2015 Milton Abbot Village Hall

Wednesday 6th January 2016 Marystowe Church Hall

Wednesday 2nd March 2016 Milton Abbot Village Hall

Wednesday 4th May 2016 Parish Meeting for Chillaton Marystowe Church Hall

Thursday 5th May 2016 Parish Meeting for Milton Abbot, Dunterton and Bradstone at Milton Abbot Village Hall followed by the AGM and an ordinary Council Meeting.

15. Recruitment of Parish Clerk

The Acting Clerk will report further at the meeting. Should it become necessary to discuss matters where, by the sensitive or confidential nature of the information, such discussion would be prejudicial to the public interest, a motion will be put forward that the press and public be excluded from the remainder of this meeting.