

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE MILTON ABBOT GROUPED PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER 2014 AT MILTON ABBOT VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM.

(also available at www.chillaton.net)

PRESENT: Cllrs J. Anderson (MA) (Part), H. Asbridge (C), R Brewer (C), P. Hough (MA), M. Pahlsson (B), J Spurr (MA), and Mrs A Westcott (C) (Chair)

Cllr Bob Baldwin (WDBC)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Anderson apologised for his late attendance at the meeting.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 29th July 2014 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

3. PROPOSED WIND TURBINE - CARDWELL FARM

Members of the Longcross Action Group attended the meeting and spoke about their concerns over the impact of this proposed turbine, including the likely effect of construction traffic on Chillaton. The Group intended to fly a balloon at the same height as the turbine blade tip, on the 22nd September. They were also holding a fund-raising event on 28th September.

The Parish Clerk referred to the fact that no application for planning permission had yet been submitted. He stated that the consultants concerned now intended to submit their analysis of the responses to their recent public consultation on the proposal, in time for it to be considered by the Parish Council at its meeting on 5th November.

4. PROPOSED WIND TURBINE - BECKWELL FARM

It was noted that no decision had yet been made regarding the appeal against the refusal of planning permission for this turbine.

5. URGENT ACTION TAKEN SINCE THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Parish Clerk reported on action taken by him, with the concurrence of the Chair and Vice-Chair under the Parish Council's urgency procedure, because the schedule of meetings did not permit consideration otherwise, as follows:

Cardwell Farm: The Parish Council had been invited to give its views on the scope of the Environmental Impact Assessment of the proposed wind turbine at Cardwell Farm, now required by WDBC and this had been done, as set out in Appendix A to the agenda.

TAP fund -application for Vehicle Activated Signs [VAS]: After consideration by Lifton Parish Council, a joint application for two VAS; one in Lifton, one in Chillaton, had been made to the Town and Parishes Fund, instead of the original proposal for funds to clear a backlog of street cleaning work. The application would be considered at the Southern Area Link Meeting on 18th September.

Application 00844/2014 - Erection of four industrial units at Hayedown: The Parish Council objected to this proposal because no constraints had been offered as to the number of HGV journeys that it would generate.

6. CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS BY PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEES

Application 00797/2014 Dunterton Farm, Dunterton: Cllr Gradidge having declared an interest in this application, the Dunterton Planning Sub-Committee comprised Cllrs Anderson and Pahlsson, when considering this proposal. The Sub-Committee approved of the proposed development, subject to conditions, as set out on the Agenda [Item 7.]

7. FUNDING FOR VEHICLE ACTIVATED SIGN [VAS] IN CHILLATON

For several years, the Parish Council had earmarked £3,000 in its reserves, for the purchase of a VAS in Chillaton. This was needed in addition to that the subject of a current application for TAP funds. As the cost of a VAS was now £3,200, the Parish Council agreed to approve the expenditure of £3,200 from its reserves, for the purchase of a VAS for Chillaton.

8. NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Parish Council reviewed progress towards the launch of the neighbourhood plan process and noted that the grant aid requested had been approved in full and a dedicated website was already operational.

It then agreed to the following action:

1. To approve the leaflet and MACKPlan logo as set out in Appendices B and C to the agenda.
2. To accept the quotation of Dart Print for printing 500 leaflets on semi-gloss 160gsm paper, for £85. This quote was £5 higher than the lowest offer, but that would have used a much lighter weight paper.
3. To appoint Cllr Peter Hough as the third representative of the Parish Council on the MACKPlan team.
4. To appoint Cllr Howard Asbridge as the Chair of the MACKPlan team.
5. To approve the collection of home as well as email addresses of those registering for e-newsletters, to enable those concerned to be removed from postal mailing lists and so avoid duplication and unnecessary expense.
6. To agree that the initial public meeting to invite residents to join or support the MACKPlan team should be held at 7.30pm on Thursday 9th October at Milton Abbot Village Hall and that the first meeting of the team should be held on Tuesday 21st October at the same venue.

9. LOCALISM ACT 2011 – IDENTIFICATION OF COMMUNITY ASSETS

Following reports in the national press that thirty-one pubs in the UK go out of business each week, the Parish Council considered whether or not to use the powers contained in this legislation to identify 'community assets' such as pubs, village halls, etc and seek their registration as such, by WDBC.

Once registered, those 'community assets' could not be put up for sale without the local community having the opportunity to decide whether it wanted to make a purchase offer and then having a further six months within which to raise the necessary funds.

The Parish Council considered that this approach was worth exploring further, but decided to defer a decision until its next meeting to allow Cllrs to identify potential community assets and seek the views of local residents.

10. TRAFFIC ISSUES – FELLDOWNHEAD ROAD

Cllr Pahlsson reported on correspondence he had had with the Neighbourhood Highway Officer regarding measures to reduce the excessive speed of vehicles on Felldownhead Road. The Parish Council noted that Cllr Pahlsson was in discussion with Highways regarding the possibility of having signs erected to indicate that this road was for 'Local Access Only' and that it would be informed of the outcome.

11. VODAFONE RURAL OPEN SURE SIGNAL PROGRAMME

Vodafone had invited villages with little or no mobile phone reception to apply for the installation of small signal boosters that collectively would create a 3G phone signal within a given area. Up to 100 villages would be able to obtain this equipment at no cost. It would be

available to all Vodafone users at no additional cost, but it could not be accessed by those using other mobile service providers.

Although the units were free, they would cost about £30 a year each in electricity charges. Six residents in Chillaton had agreed to host these units and the Parish Council was asked to consider whether it would support the application to Vodafone and also if it would either pay the cost of the electricity, or guarantee any shortfall not made up by other contributions. The maximum cost would be £300 a year, based on ten units.

Individual parish councillors were aware of different products with the same purpose on offer from other mobile phone service providers and, as this service would be limited to Vodafone users, did not consider it appropriate that the Parish Council should meet or underwrite the costs involved.

However, as any improvement in mobile signals would be welcome and in recognition of the community effort involved in this project, the necessary approval for an application to be made to Vodafone was agreed, on the basis that no cost would be incurred by the Parish Council.

Cllr Anderson arrived at 8.45pm.

12. OPENNESS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT BODIES REGULATIONS 2014

Advice had been received from DALC that Parish Councils might need to amend their Standing Orders, to reflect changes in the law regarding the ability of the public to access documents, attend meetings and record and report what takes place.

It was noted that the Parish Clerk had already begun to publish all papers to be considered by the Parish Council, on the Chillaton website and that recent changes in reporting urgent and delegated action complied with the new Regulations.

It was therefore agreed to note the new obligations and make any necessary changes to Standing Orders in the overall review that would be considered shortly.

13. PAYMENTS DUE TO CREDITORS

None were required.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.55pm.

NOTE. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Wednesday 5th November 2014 Milton Abbot Village Hall

Wednesday 7th January 2015 Marystowe Church Hall

Wednesday 4th March 2015 Milton Abbot Village Hall

Wednesday 13th May 2015 Parish Meeting for Milton Abbot, Dunterton and Bradstone at Milton Abbot Village Hall.

Thursday 14th May 2015 Parish Meeting for Chillaton followed by the AGM and an ordinary Council Meeting.