

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF MILTON ABBOT GROUPED PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 4th JANUARY 2017, 7.30PM AT MARYSTOWE VILLAGE HALL
(also available at www.magpc.co.uk)

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

Mrs E James (Clerk), Cllr's C Edmonds and B Baldwin (WDBC) and two members of the public

108:16/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr M Pahlsson (B)

109:16/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

110:16/17 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th December 2016 were **agreed** as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

111:16/17 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

None

112:16/17 AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY (AONB) – BOUNDARY VARIATION ORDER

Chris Burchell, MABRAKE Chairman, and Gary Vanstone provided some background information about the reasons for the proposal and responses received to date from other local parish council's; some being positive and in favour of the proposal, whilst some had either not responded to date or had expressed concerns, including community sustainability.

The practical constraints which would be imposed were unclear and examples of previous planning application case history were requested. Chris Burchell advised that Tamar Valley AONB were currently working on a document which would provide additional details in line with the request.

The following proposals were made and unanimously **agreed**:

- i) to acknowledge both the merits of landscape protection and concerns about the practical implications and the sustainability of the community,
- ii) that the MACKPlan Team be asked to include questions about the proposal within their consultation, which was planned to be undertaken in the near future in order to establish the views of parishioners

Action: Clerk/Cllr Asbridge

(Two members of the public left the meeting)

113:16/17 PLANNING

1579/16/FUL Lamber Hey, Milton Abbot

The Planning Committee had met and discussed the application on 13th December when it was agreed that a site meeting was required, this was undertaken on 22nd December. Cllr Hough had attended both meetings, representing the Council and local residents' views. On 10th January 2017 the Planning Committee would be further discussing the application.

Appeal

2168/16/HHO Middle Edgumbe Barn, Milton Abbot - Cllr's noted the appeal

Application – for information only

4018/16/AGR North Ground, Milton Abbot – Cllr's noted the application for prior notification of forestry development, proposed building.

Decision

Cllr's noted the Conditional Approval granted to 2592/16/FUL Braemer House, Chillaton

114:16/17 PROGRESS REPORTS

Felldownhead Road

Cllr Edmonds had contacted Highways asking them to reconsider their decision not to provide additional horse warning signs through the 'S bends' along Felldownhead Road. It was noted that Highways were unable to assist further as such action would be outside their current policies on this issue.

Noticeboards

Cllr Hough reported that he had misunderstood the action from the last meeting to mean that, should the quote for the repair of the noticeboard in Milton Abbot be less than £120 he could go ahead and instruct the work to take place. The noticeboard had therefore been refurbished and an invoice received for the sum of £110.

Having noted that the invoice for refurbishment was substantially more cost effective than the purchase of a new noticeboard, Cllrs unanimously **agreed** to retrospectively approve this work and payment of the invoice to Mark Cousins.

Cllr's were reminded that they should not take action individually on behalf of the Council as this was forbidden under the Local Government Act 1972.

Cllr Hough was asked to seek a quotation for refurbishment of the noticeboard in Chillaton from Mark Cousins for consideration at the next meeting.

Action: Cllr Hough

Retaining Wall, Milton Abbot

Partial removal of weeds had highlighted the poor state of repair of a section of the wall and at the last meeting of the Council actions were agreed and have been undertaken as below:

J Murrain had been instructed not to undertake further vegetation removal and movement monitoring had been cancelled.

Photos of the wall, taken by Cllr Hough in December, were forwarded to Devon Building Control who responded by advising that a structural survey of the wall be undertaken as soon as possible in order to ascertain the work required to ensure the wall is safe.

Quotations for a structural survey had been sought from three companies, only one of whom had responded to date, the quote being £295 +VAT. Due to the urgent nature of the issue

and as this was in line with previous quotations sought for such a survey, ranging from £285 to £550, it was proposed to accept this quotation. Following a vote (six in favour, one against and one abstention) the proposal was **approved**.

A pre-advice planning application for repair work to the wall had been submitted.

BT Payphone Kiosk Removal Consultation – Milton Abbot

An objection to the removal of the kiosk had been made by WDBC on the grounds that the area is an accident blackspot, there having been one fatality in the area previously.

115:16/17 FINANCIAL MATTERS

Bank Reconciliation and 2016/17 Budget Review

The bank reconciliation and budget, dated 21st December 2016, were reviewed and **approved**.

Payments

The Council had **approved** the following payment at Minute No 114:16/17:

- i) Payment of £110 to Mark Cousins for the refurbishment of the noticeboard in Milton Abbot (BACS)

Clerk's pay for December 2016, paid by BACS, was noted:

- Mrs E James - £136.18
- HMRC – £18.40

Draft Budget and Precept 2017/18

The draft budget for 2017/18 was discussed and it was noted that a precept increase of 6% would be required to balance expenditure with income, leaving a small anticipated surplus of just under £10 at the end of the year.

Because the number of properties liable to the Council's precept had increased, an addition of 6% would have the effect of raising the precept on a Band D property by 4.8%. Costing each Band D property, an additional 58p per year, or 5p per month.

It was proposed that the Council approve the budget and precept increase of 6%, and that local organisations to which the Council give annual grants be asked to apply and submit proper financial statements in order to substantiate such grants in future years. The grants would be reviewed in the autumn of 2017 for 2018/19. Following a vote (seven for and one against) the motion was **approved**.

116:16/17 GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT 2017/18

Quotes received from two of three companies contacted were discussed and it was unanimously **agreed** to accept the quotation from JS Murrain & Sons in the sum of £642, this being the cheapest quotation.

Action: Clerk

117:16/17 COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT FUND

A new fund provided by Devon Highways had been announced, its aim being to supplement community self-help groups with the purchase of equipment or materials. Groups signed up to Road Warden or Self Help schemes would be given funding priority. An article about the fund to be placed in the next Chillaton newsletter.

Action: Chillaton Cllr's

118:16/17 MEETING DATES FOR 2017/18

The Council **agreed** to continue to meet on the first Wednesday of the month through 2017/18, alternating between Marystowe Church Hall and Milton Abbot Village Hall. As had been agreed in Minute No 93:16/17, the Council would meet monthly unless there were no matters requiring the attention of the Council.

Annual meetings would take place as below:

Wednesday 2 nd May 2018	Milton Abbot Village Hall Milton Abbot, Dunterton and Bradstone Parish Meeting
Thursday 3 rd May 2018	Marystowe Church Hall Chillaton Parish Meeting followed by the Council Annual and Ordinary Meetings

Action: Clerk

119:16/17 COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Cllr Tucker requested that the condition of 'Finger' posts be included on a future agenda, further information to be supplied to the Clerk.

Action: Cllr Tucker

Planning Training taking place on 30th January, hosted by Lamerton Parish Council was highlighted by the Clerk. Cllr Beighton, and possibly the Clerk to attend.

Action: Clerk

Cllr Brewer tendered his apologies for the meeting due to be held on 1st February.

120:16/17 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

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
7 th June 2017	Marystowe Church Hall
5 th July 2017	Milton Abbot Village Hall
2 nd August 2017	Marystowe Church Hall
6 th September 2017	Milton Abbot Village Hall
4 th October 2017	Marystowe Church Hall
1 st November 2017	Milton Abbot Village Hall
6 th December 2017	Marystowe Church Hall
3 rd January 2018	Milton Abbot Village Hall
7 th February 2018	Marystowe Church Hall
7 th March 2018	Milton Abbot Village Hall
4 th April 2018	Marystowe Church Hall
2 nd May 2018	Annual Parish Meeting for Milton Abbot Dunterton and Bradstone in Milton Abbot Village Hall
3 rd May 2018 (Thurs)	Annual Parish Meeting for Chillaton - Marystowe Church 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 9.20pm

Signed:
Cllr Hough, Chairman

Date: