

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE MILTON ABBOT GROUPED PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 4TH MARCH 2015 AT MILTON ABBOT VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM.

(also available at www.chillaton.net)

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

Cllr Bob Baldwin (WDBC)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

R. Tucker (MA).

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7th and 29th January 2015 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

PROGRESS REPORTS

The current position regarding the following issues was noted:

- *Proposed Wind Turbine at Beckwell Farm* – outcome of appeal not yet known.
- *Traffic issues - Felldownhead Road* – report prepared and discussions on-going.
- *Purchase of speed warning signs, Chillaton* – works in hand.
- *MACKPlan* – progress being made following latest team meeting.

LOCALISM ACT – IDENTIFICATION OF COMMUNITY ASSETS

It was agreed that, given the complexities of the process involved and the pressure of other work, the Acting Clerk would initially seek the registration of only one community asset and report back to the Parish Council before other assets were considered further.

With the current closure of the Chichester Arms for extensive remedial work, it was agreed that these premises were the most appropriate for the Council's initial request to WDBC for registration.

APPLICATION 00060/2015 BENNETT'S BARN MILTON ABBOT

It was noted that this application had now been refused and enforcement action would be taken regarding the unauthorised change of use and the erection of a building that did not conform to the planning permission previously granted.

Should there be an appeal by the applicant, it would be possible for the Parish Council to make representations for consideration by the Planning Inspector concerned. It was agreed that the views previously submitted to WDBC would form the basis of any further representations, should an appeal be made. Additional

comments would be made regarding the adverse impact of the building concerned, which was substantially larger than that for which permission had originally been granted. They would be similar to those set out in a recent statement by the Enforcement Officer, on WDBC's website.

CAB GRANT APPLICATION

Consideration was given to an application by the Torridge, North, Mid and West Devon CAB for a grant towards the cost of its operation. Although noting the number of people living in the parish who had contacted the CAB in the past year, the Parish Council did not feel that it would be appropriate to grant aid such a broadly based organisation without a specific focus in the parish.

APPOINTMENT OF PARISH CLERK

The Parish Council approved the revised job description produced by the Acting Parish Clerk and agreed that it would be preferable for any appointment to be made by the new membership of the Council that would take effect from the beginning of the next municipal year, on 5th May.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

It was noted that the Acting Parish Clerk would receive nomination papers for prospective parish councillors shortly. It was not clear whether each candidate would have to hand deliver their nomination or if they could be delivered by a third party and further advice would be provided when available.

Cllr John Spurr indicated that he would not be seeking nomination again, after 24 years as a parish councillor. The Parish Council expressed their regret at the news and thanked Cllr Spurr for his long and diligent service on behalf of the residents of Milton Abbot.

WEST DEVON - OUR PLAN: FORMAL CONSULTATION

The Parish Council considered a report by the Acting Parish Clerk on the draft Local Plan recently approved for consultation, by WDBC.

The Parish Council agreed:

- i. To make representations to WDBC regarding Our Plan, including formal objections where necessary, on the basis set out in the report of the Acting Parish Clerk and contained in the Appendix to these minutes.
- ii. To authorise the Acting Parish Clerk to make any necessarily more detailed submissions to WDBC, provided they accorded with the proposals in his report to the Parish Council and had the concurrence of the Chair and Vice-Chair.
- iii. To draw the report to the attention of other parish councils in West Devon with similar concerns.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS – QUARTERLY REPORT

The Parish Council received a report detailing income and expenditure so far in 2014/15 and reconciling that account to the relevant bank statement.

It was agreed:

- i. That the account and reconciliation be noted and the Chair authorised to endorse the relevant bank statement to that effect.
- ii. That payments for hall hire made in May 2014 amounting to £40 for Milton Abbot village hall and £60 for Marystow Church hall be endorsed.
- iii. That approval be given for the payment of £31.72 to the Acting Parish Clerk in respect of lever arch files.
- iv. That, after a review by Cllr Brewer of the analysis of grant funding produced by the Acting Parish Clerk, any necessary payments as indicated on the revised Appendix C to the Agenda be approved.
- v. That, given the satisfactory performance of J.S. Murrain and Sons Ltd, in carrying out grass cutting for the Parish Council in Milton Abbot, and the disproportionate cost of seeking competitive tenders, the relevant Financial Regulations and Standing Orders be suspended to enable a negotiated contract to be agreed with the Company, for grass cutting in 2015.
- vi. That the Acting Parish Clerk be required to carry out an initial risk assessment of the Parish Council's operations, for approval by the Chair and Vice Chair.

WEEKLY PLANNING LISTS

It was agreed that, as it was useful to know what applications had been made in areas adjacent to the parish, Cllrs would now have the weekly lists of planning applications for the whole Borough forwarded to them. The Acting Parish Clerk would continue to alert Cllrs to applications within the parish and advise on target dates for their consideration by the relevant Planning Committees.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED

It was noted that the Bradstone/Dunterton Planning Committee had supported application 00090/2015 for the conversion of an agricultural building into two residential dwellings at Eastacott Barton Farm, Dunterton.

NOTE. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Wednesday 13th May 2015 **at 7.30pm**: Parish Meeting for Milton Abbot, Dunterton and Bradstone at Milton Abbot Village Hall.

Thursday 14th May 2015 **at 7.00pm**: Parish Meeting for Chillaton followed by the AGM and an ordinary Council Meeting.