

MILVERTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT VICTORIA ROOMS, MILVERTON ON MONDAY 2nd JUNE 2025 at 7:00 pm

Present	J Townend (Chair)	A Mather	I Partridge
	L Heald	G May	

In attendance: Mr T Payne, Clerk to the Council
4 members of the public

	Public Questions Comment was made on the following: The validity of the sum suggested as a cost for a one-way system; A request was made that the PC commit to an independent expert to look at alternative one-way systems in Milverton; Vegetation overhanging from property was noted in Butts Way (<i>to be reported to SC</i>). Reports from County Councillors None
1.	Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from Cllrs R Burton, J Hoyle, C Mann, T Phelps and M Pine SC Cllr G Wren sent apologies for being unable to attend
2.	Declarations of Interest None declared
3.	Minutes of the meetings held on 12th May 2025 The minutes of the May meeting and the Annual Meeting were approved as circulated.
4.	Actions from previous meetings - Openreach is to be contacted about the possibility of the grounds of the exchange in Rosebank Road being made available for parking - Quotes still to be obtained for the siting of a defibrillator in Houndsmoor - Cobblestones - in view of the deteriorating pathway in Fore Street, quotes to be obtained for repair work, as well as Transco being contacted to ascertain whether the exposed gas pipe is live.
5.	Planning 5.1 Consideration of Planning Applications for comments to SC - 23/25/0023/CQ <i>Application for Prior Approval for proposed change of use from agricultural building into 2 No. dwellings (Class C3) and associated building operations at Luckham Farm, Luckham Bridge Road, Bickley</i> After discussion the PC resolved to respond advising that the PC is not sufficiently qualified to assess whether the criteria to meet Class Q requirement has been met but would seek assurance that the need to build up the walls behind wooden cladding does not breach the limitation on rebuilding as opposed to converting a property. - 23/25/0022 <i>Removal of cement based render and re pointing of stone wall in lime based mortar at Old Chapel House, Fore Street, Milverton (retention of works already undertaken)</i> After discussion the PC resolved to support the application - 23/25/0021 <i>Erection of timber shed in the garden to the rear of Chapel House, Fore Street, Milverton (retention of works already undertaken)</i> After discussion the PC resolved to support the application

Signed..... Date..... Minute Book Page Number.....

	- 23/24/0041 Engineering operations including the laying of underground electricity cables and associated infrastructure to connect the consented solar farm to the connection point with a 33kV overhead line on land at Preston Farm, Wiveliscombe Road, Preston Bowyer After discussion the PC resolved to support the application 5.2 Report on Planning Decisions and other Planning Matters Clerk reported that the application at St Mildreds, Milverton School, Milverton Meadows (all trees) and Netherfield (works) had been approved by the planning authority since the last meeting..
6.	Co-option Process Chair thanked applicants for attending the meeting but, in view of the reduced number of Councillors present, proposed that co-option be deferred until the July meeting. It was so resolved.
7.	Bus Service in Milverton and related issues Cllr J Townend reported that submissions were being made by the Bus User Group for improvements to be made to the timetables for the #25 and #27 services. A decision date is unknown but any changes are unlikely to be effected before September. Feedback is also awaited on the possibility of routing the service via Fore Street on the run towards Taunton.
8	Parking issues in Milverton It was noted that SC had deferred the consultation/proposed starting date of 1 October for charging in car parks. The wording for a letter to go to Fore St/Silver St/Creedwell residents had been agreed and was to be circulated in due course. It was also agreed to put up a metal postbox at the Book Nook which would allow hard copy responses (and other PC correspondence) to be delivered.
9.	Village Communication It was agreed to trial a quarterly Parish Council report, to be accessed by people subscribing, as well as being made available via website and Facebook.
10.	IT Update Clerk reported on the three formats for a Parish Council gov.uk domain. After discussion, the favoured choice was for milvertonparish.gov.uk . Clerk to liaise with the Comms group on the new website provider.
11.	Committee Reports 11.1 Allotment Committee A meeting to be arranged shortly. An informal meeting of the previously co-opted members and PC representatives had concluded that given the amount of debris on various plots that had accumulated over time, the best means of disposal was by having a skip. It was resolved that this be paid for from allotment funds, at a cost in the order of £500. It was noted that future plans for the allotments of a community nature may mean a grant may be sought from General PC funds. 11.2 Emergency Planning Committee A meeting to be arranged shortly. Cllr I Partridge reported that he has updated the Emergency Plan but would be welcoming input from the new Committee members 11.3 Parish Plan Working Party Cllr J Townend had previously circulated a report. ‘20 is Plenty’ signs have been put up. An online survey has been launched with approx 60 responses received to date. It was agreed to reimburse Cllr J Townend for the cost (c£97) to upgrade the subscription to Survey Monkey to enable this level of responses to be reviewed. 11.4 Traffic Issues Working Party Discussion took place on the way forward towards an ultimate village consultation on a one-way system. It was agreed to point out to SC that the issue was a clear safety concern and ask for its views on whether a

	one-way system would meet criteria allowing it to go ahead, seek a firmer indication of the cost, as well as getting an indication from the police as to whether they would be likely to support such a proposal. A request is to be made on the Magazine for instances of HGVs seen in the village to be reported to the Clerk who will then send a letter to the owners, seeking justification for them coming through the village.
12.	Local Community Networks Updates No matters to report
13.	Roads and Footpaths 13.1 Footpaths Monthly Report Cllr C Mann had previously circulated a report. Options for access to the SC footpath map/a map indicating path references to be investigated, including a link on the PC website 13.2 Roads Monthly Report Nothing to add to topics covered above
14.	Annual Audit and submission of AGAR Forms 14.1 Internal Audit report The report by the Internal Auditor had been circulated, this had the conclusion that there were no matters of non-compliance identified. Comments made by the Auditor will be considered at a future meeting 14.2 Approval of the Annual Governance Statement The Annual Governance Statement was reviewed and it was resolved that this be approved 14.3 Approval of the Annual Accounts and Accounting Statements The Annual Accounts and Accounting Statements were reviewed and it was resolved that these be approved
15.	Finance 15.1 Schedule of Payments and Bank transfers The following regular payments were noted as being due: T Payne - May Clerk's fee £1,080.77 Claire's Cleaning - re toilet cleaning May £370 <u>Payments for approval</u> A Dakowski - Reimbursement for Allotment First Aid Box £35.22 J Larcombe - Internal Audit fee £155.00 It was resolved that the payments be approved DDs for June yu - Toilet Electricity approx £12.00 Google - website costs £24.00 Unity Bank - Monthly bank charge £6.00
16.	16.1 Crime Report The Crime Report received was noted without comment
17.	Matters of Report No matters reported
18.	Date of next meeting The next meeting was confirmed for Monday 7th July 2025, at the Victoria Rooms.
	The meeting closed at 8.59pm