

MILVERTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT VICTORIA ROOMS, MILVERTON ON MONDAY 7th MARCH 2022 at 7:00 pm

Present	A Dakowski (Chair)	M Dinning
	J Argles	G Lumby
	M Burton	T Phelps
	R Burton	S Potts
	P Chambers	

In attendance: Mr T Payne, Clerk to the Council
Cllr G Wren, SWT Councillor
Three members of the public

		Action By
	Public Questions - None Cllr G Wren gave information about the Local CLuster Networks, to be set up as part of the move to a UNitary Authority. These are likely to incorporate up to 20 Parish Councils as well as representatives from Police, Schools, Local Businesses, Health Boards. A pilot has been running in Exmoor, covering the sole topic of Highway matters. I t was noted that feedback was positive but it is not clear how this will translate when the LCNs are set up and are responsible for a wide range of functions, with an as yet unspecified budget/resources. It was also noted that an elder tree had been cut down by the kissing gate by Creedwell footpath.	
1.	Apologies for Absence Received from Cllrs P J Young and P L Young	
2.	Declarations of Interest - Cllrs A Dakowski and J Argles noted interests through related parties in Agenda item 7 Grant Application by the Jubilee Committee	
3.	Minutes of the meeting held on 7th February 2022 It was agreed that the minutes be approved	
4.	Actions from previous meeting - None	
14.	Roads and Footpaths 14.3 General Traffic Issues in the Village	

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

	Dan Cox (Road Safety Officer for Avon & Somerset Police and Milverton resident) spoke about the issues facing villages including vehicle speeds, weight of trucks, the need for data and analysis before an issue is resourced and options that may be considered to address problems in Milverton. It was noted that speed guns cannot be there 24/7 but the impending arrival of SIDs should lead to a difference in vehicle speeds. Additional possible actions that could be taken to have a positive effect in the village would be the removal of unnecessary signage. cleaning remaining signage and the installation of planters. The signage could be reviewed with a Highways Engineer to assess what could safely be removed. <i>(Dan Cox and Cllr G Wren left the meeting)</i>																									
5.	Planning 5.1 Consideration of Planning Applications under delegated authority - 23/21/0057 Thornwell - Planning Officer's report not received so item deferred to a future meeting 5.2 Consideration of Planning Applications for comments to SWT <u>23/22/001 - Higher Bickely Farm (tree works)</u> After considering the application it was resolved to respond supporting the application <u>23/22/0002/Kingsland</u> After considering the application it was resolved to respond supporting the application 5.3 Report on Planning Decisions - None to report																									
6.	Finance 6.1 Schedule of Payments Cheques to be paid were noted as being approved: <table> <tr> <td>- T Payne</td><td>Clerk Fee - Feb 2022</td><td>£787.78</td></tr> <tr> <td>- T Payne</td><td>Reimbursement of SID expenses</td><td>£710.97</td></tr> <tr> <td>- SALC</td><td>Course fee</td><td>£30.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>- R Burton</td><td>Reimbursement of advertising cost</td><td>£157.68</td></tr> <tr> <td>- Keith Paul</td><td>Allotment entrance works</td><td>£200</td></tr> <tr> <td>- A Dakowski</td><td>Reimbursement re allotment works</td><td>£112.10</td></tr> </table> Direct Debits made: <table> <tr> <td>- Googles</td><td>Monthly Fee</td><td>£17.004</td></tr> <tr> <td>- EDF</td><td>Toilet Electricity</td><td>£9.00</td></tr> </table> A number of contractual payments were noted as being payable prior to the year-end being Clerk's fee, HMRC deductions, room hire, dog bins and Planning Officer attendance, which would be done by 31 March if possible. 6.2 Current Financial Position The previously circulated summary of the financial position was noted 6.3 Bank Reconciliation The previously circulated bank reconciliation was noted 6.4 Dog Bins It was agreed that the Clerk amend the contract with SWT so that the dog bin on St Michael's Hill is emptied once a week, with the situation being reviewed to assess that this is adequate.	- T Payne	Clerk Fee - Feb 2022	£787.78	- T Payne	Reimbursement of SID expenses	£710.97	- SALC	Course fee	£30.00	- R Burton	Reimbursement of advertising cost	£157.68	- Keith Paul	Allotment entrance works	£200	- A Dakowski	Reimbursement re allotment works	£112.10	- Googles	Monthly Fee	£17.004	- EDF	Toilet Electricity	£9.00	
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	6.5 Appointment of Internal Auditor to cover 2021/22 audit It was noted a potential auditor had advised he was unable to take on the role. A decision on the appointment was deferred to a subsequent meeting.	
7.	Jubilee Celebrations in Milverton (Cllrs A Dakowski and J Argles withdraw from the room. Cllr T Phelps was elected as Chair for this agenda item) Mr G Whittaker, chair of the Jubilee Committee, present with Mr J Dakowski and Jilly Rumble, outlined the plans for the Jubilee weekend, emphasising the aim to be as inclusive as possible as regards the events being proposed in the village. It was noted that the summary circulated prior to the meeting had been amended and would not now include any chairs as these had been sourced from elsewhere, there was however a cost of public liability insurance which was not previously budgeted and with additional bunting, gave a request for funding of £2,441. After discussion, the Parish Council agreed to provide a grant of £1,800, making donations of tangible items where possible. (G Whittaker, J Dakowski and J Rumble left the meeting)	
8.	Parsonage Lane Seating Area It was agreed that Cllr S Potts take on this project and report back at a future meeting on the process to take it forward.	
9.	Parish Notice Boards It was agreed that Cllr M Dinning make investigations into options for a notice board to serve Butts Way and Courtfield	
10.	Village Assets of Community Value It was agreed to defer this topic to the April meeting.	
11.	Projects 11.1 Amenity Committee <u>Toilet Block Refurbishment</u> Cllr R Burton reported the roof works were completed and payment had been made to Courtney Roofing as per the original quote. Adverts had been placed in the Somerset Gazette and Wellington Weekly for the appointment of a contractor for internal works, with a closing date of 11 March. No responses have been received but further direct approaches are to be made. Somerset Building Control have been appointed to provide Building Control services at £182.50. Crofts had put forward two options, being one larger space which includes a urinal and having a separate cubicle for the urinal. The preference is for the second option though this is likely to be more expensive. An indication of the overall cost is c£40,000. The Amenity Committee considers that the two room option has advantages which are worth paying extra for eg reduced male use of the main area. A final decision on the project will not be made until prices are received. Croft has been instructed to progress the two room option. <u>Grit Bins</u> Cllr R Burton reported that the Amenity Committee considered that replacement bins should be made from recycled plastic. Based on the decision by the Council of a budget of £150, the Amenity Committee is to	

	proceed to purchase a bin from Kingfisher Direct at a cost of £76.19 plus VAT. 11.2 Speed Indicator Devices Cllr S Potts reported the date for the erection of the posts for the SIDs was now mid April. Three people had completed the course enabling them to work on the highway to move the SIDs between the different posts. A meeting had been arranged with Kate Brown of SCC Highways re the revised site for a post in Butts Way.	
12.	Allotments 12.1 Monthly report Cllr A Dakowski reported 3 x IBC units had been delivered and it was anticipated that the rainwater project would be completed shortly. The entrance works had been completed, just under the budgeted sum.	
13.	Emergency Committee It was reported that the Clerk is to review the Plan since it needs more work on the particular process of action once an emergency has been identified.	
14	Roads and Footpaths 14.1 Footpaths - Monthly Report Cllr A Dakowski reported two trees down on footpaths which had been cleared 14.2 Roads - Monthly Report Cllr S Potts reported a tree that came down across Station Road in the storms, which was removed within 48 hours. The Butts Way railings by the school are still outstanding, with no date specified for the work	
15.	Unitary Authority - update Clerk reported that a webinar presentation made to Parish Councils in February was still light on details as to how the Local Community Networks were to operate and with what budget.	
16.	Crime Report The Report provide by PCSO L Fyne was noted, this included a drink-driving offence on the B3227	
18.	Matters of Report 18.1 Dog Bins Clerk reported that the dispute with SWT over dog bin charges food 2020/21 is still ongoing 18.2 Ex Preston Bowyer Phone Box Clerk agreed to contact Rob Hendy to ascertain when the phone box refurbishment may be progressed. 18.3 WhatsApp Group Chair noted that following the recent storm 'emergency' it would be helpful for as many Councillors as possible to be on a WhatsApp group for ease of contactability.	

18.	Date of next meeting The next meeting was confirmed for Monday 4th April 2022, at the Victoria Rooms.	
	The meeting closed at 9.00pm	

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