

MILTON ABBAS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on 8th January 2025
in the READING ROOM, MILTON ABBAS, at 7.30pm

PRESENT

Mr S. Driver (Chair)
Mr S. Gould
Mrs J. Jordan
Mr S. Martin

Mr P. Ford
Mr T. Ives
Mr T. Khandwala
Ms D. Wyatt

IN ATTENDANCE Mrs E. Sellen (Clerk) and 4 members of the general public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Mr I. Baker (prior engagement) and Mrs. Emma Parker (Dorset Councillor)

2. DISPENSATIONS None

3. CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

SD thanked everyone for coming out in the awful weather.

4. OPEN FORUM None

5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th November 2024 had been circulated. It was proposed by TI, seconded by SD, and agreed by those who had attended the previous meeting, that they should be accepted as a true record.

6. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk has contacted Linda Kettley (Firewise) and Jo Witherden and invited both to attend a future meeting as convenient.

The Clerk has researched potential grants for refreshing the Neighbourhood Plan, however the advertised grant is only available for the current financial year and must be spent in the financial year. For 2024/2025 up to £8,000 grant funding is available (with additional funds for technical issues) but it may not be available next year.

The trees at the Surgery will be cut back next week.

The Clerk will be submitting TPO applications for tree works identified in Jane's Wood.

The Parish Council website domain is now www.miltonabbasparishcouncil.gov.uk and associated emails will be published in due course.

SD advised that he had met with IB, the Clerk and Victoria Macnamara (VM) during December to identify potential risks to Milton Abbas and consider a contingency plan. VM highlighted issues such as fire, flood, power cuts and suggested that if residents felt better connected, this would provide mutual benefits. There is scope to draw on the local knowledge of resident experts,

organisations such as the Forestry Commission and communities such as Beaminster and Studland who have implemented Emergency Plans already. Pooling resources with neighbouring parishes may be beneficial. A new "Officer Report" for the Emergency Plan will allow for regular feedback.

SD advised that Mrs E. Payne is retiring from the distribution of the "Elliegram" and thanked EP for her commitment to the valuable resource. SD suggested that the Parish Council should continue the service with the same name but a new email address. TK volunteered to assist SD.

SD advised that the local bus company has contacted landowners and requested them to cut roadside trees back to allow for a double decker bus to pass through safely. SG asked the Clerk to report overhanging trees opposite Milton Mills and Colemans farm to Dorset Council.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence had been circulated by email or was available on the table.

The clerk drew attention to the following:

Management of the Dorset Air Ambulance clothing bank has been taken over by Recycling Solutions Ltd.

A resident had emailed re alleged fox hunting activity in the parish and confirmed that it has been reported to police.

The Northern Area DAPTC meeting will be held at 7pm on 21st January.

A planning enforcement issue was reported using the Dorset Council portal.

Various road closure notices have been circulated.

SD advised that a resident had enquired regarding tree works at Little Westwood. A copy of the TPO application was emailed to the resident.

8. REPORT FROM DORSET COUNCILLOR

EP has reported resident concerns regarding blocked gullies on the Milton Abbey School road to the Highways Officer at Dorset Council.

9. REPORTS

HOMEWATCH

EP has circulated various emails including the Bulletin and road closure notices.

MATCH/JANE'S WOOD None

PLAYPARK None

TRANSPORT None

WELCOME PACK

TK will add details of the new Elliegram email address when it's confirmed. TI requested a pack to be delivered to a new resident.

CSW

JJ continues to seek additional volunteers. A minimum of four members are required to engage in activity, so a pool of eight volunteers would be handy. SD will include a new appeal in the Bulletin.

MILLENNIUM GREEN TRUST None

JUBILEE BENCH

JJ advised that a pair of cast iron bench ends are required.

MILTON ABBAS SPORTS CLUB None
EMERGENCY PLAN (As above)
REPORTS FROM OTHER PC OFFICERS None

10. PLANNING

Decisions None

Applications

P/FUL/2024/07210 Old Stable, Long Ash Farm – Continue to use barn as dwelling with associated garden and parking area, erect boundary wall. It was unanimously agreed that there were no concerns regarding this application.

P/CLE/2024/07217 Ash Barn, Long Ash Farm – Certificate of lawfulness to continue using building as an independent dwelling house with associated garden and parking area. It was unanimously agreed that there were no concerns regarding this application.

P/HOU/2024/07218 Long Ash Farm – Form vehicular access. It was unanimously agreed that there were no concerns regarding this application.

P/MPO/2024/07274 Long Ash Farm – Discharge all planning conditions contained in the S106 agreement dated 01/09/2003. It was unanimously agreed that there were no concerns regarding this application.

P/FUL/2024/06969 The Croft, Delcombe – Erection of 1no dwelling (demolition of existing). It was unanimously agreed that there were no concerns regarding this application.

P/HOU/2024/07139 & P/LBC/2024/07124 26 Milton Abbas – Alterations to facilitate erection of single storey side extension and rear extension (demolition of existing) and remodel existing garage. New external brickwork stair & patio area, repointing of 2no existing chimneys. It was unanimously agreed that as long as the garage door remains as a solid wooden door the councillors support this application.

11. HIGHWAYS AND RISK REGISTER CONCERNS

The Highways Officer has confirmed that resurfacing of Catherine's Well is scheduled to be carried out around April-July 2025.

DW asked the Clerk to report a large pothole in the centre of the carriageway in front of the bus stop at Catherine's Well.

12. FINANCE

The receipts and payments spreadsheet, latest bank statements and list of cheques for payment had been circulated by email and was available at the meeting.

Balances:

Current A/c	£ 54,799.52
Playpark A/c	£ 11,397.44

The following cheques were authorised:

Current Account

Hugo Fox Website November 2024	DD	£11.99
Mrs E Sellen Clerk's Salary November 2024	1453	£397.86
Mrs E Sellen Clerk's Expenses November 2024	1454	£298.59
Hugo Fox Website December 2024	DD	£11.99
Mrs E Sellen Clerk's Salary December 2024	1455	£397.86
Mrs E Sellen Clerk's Expenses December 2024	1456	£35.89
Dorset Council Election Fees	1457	£50.00
St James Church Christmas Tree Festival	1458	£5.00

Playpark Account

Mr C. Lovell Grounds Maintenance	161	£975.00
St James Church Christmas Tree Festival	162	£5.00

The Clerk apologised for omitting to include an agenda item to review the budget and precept and requested an extraordinary meeting on 22nd January 2025 at 7pm in St James Church.

13. CHAIRMAN'S URGENT BUSINESS None

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Councillors were reminded that following the extraordinary meeting on 22nd January, the next meeting would take place on Wednesday 12th March 2025 and, there being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.05pm.

Signed:
(Presiding Chairman)

Date: