

Milton Damerel Parish Council

MINUTES

of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 18 January 2012 , commencing at 7.35pm

Present	Cllr Grace Millman (Chairman)	Cllr Gareth Piper (Vice Chairman)
	Cllr Rose Haynes	Cllr Stephen Moyse
	Cllr Richard Piper	Cllr John Webb
	Mrs Roberta Jackson (Clerk)	

Mike Jackson was introduced to the meeting, having attended to report on the Parish Paths Partnership Workshop. There were no other members of the public or press present.

1. Apologies and reasons for absence. Edgar Pett informed the chairman that he was unable to attend. Apologies were also received by the clerk from PCSO Rowe and Cllr Alison Boyle

2. Chairman's Announcements. There were no announcements at this stage.

3. Public Comments. There were no members of the public present but PCSO Rowe sent a message to inform members that there had been two quad bikes stolen in the area and asked people to be vigilant.

4. Declarations of Interests on matters to be considered at the meeting.

Grace declared a prejudicial interest in the planning application at 8a, being a neighbour of the landowner. Gareth declared a prejudicial interest in the planning application at 8b, being an employee of the landowner. Grace and Gareth both signed the register of declarations accordingly.

5. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 14 December 2011 were signed as a true record.

6. Matters Arising - not otherwise on the agenda.

Insurance & the Snow Warden Scheme. There has been correspondence with both the Parish Council Insurers and Devon County Council highways regarding Employers Liability and volunteers on the Snow Warden scheme without getting any definitive answer to the question of Parish Council liability and who the volunteers are actually working for. The matter has since been referred to County Councillor Alison Boyle who will take it up with highways at her meeting next Monday.

7. Report from Annual Parish Paths Partnership (P3) Workshop. The invitation to attend this event was extended to Mike and Roberta Jackson by Ros Davies the P3 Liaison Officer with Devon County Council, who attended a parish walk held in September. The event was primarily for parishes already in the scheme but also included some who were there to find out more about the scheme. A comprehensive report was given by Mike Jackson regarding the P3 scheme which has been set up to allow a local representative to inspect and organise minor maintenance of public rights of way in the parish. DCC will currently pay £30 per mile of public footpaths (thought to include Butterfly Lane) to the Parish Council as ring-fenced funds for this work, after submission of an annual report by the representative, if the Parish Council is signed up to the scheme. There would also be ongoing support from the P3 Liaison Officer who would be able to advise on any larger works that would involve the County Rights of Way warden and be funded directly by DCC. Members unanimously agreed that Milton Damerel should apply to join the scheme and Mike Jackson agreed to be appointed the P3 co-ordinator for the Parish. Mike was thanked for his presentation and left the meeting.

8. Planning Applications

a) **1/1060/2011/FUL** Installation and operation of a solar photovoltaic array and associated equipment at Higher Woodford Farm. Grace having declared a prejudicial interest in this application left the meeting and Vice Chairman Gareth Piper took the chair. It was brought to the attention of members, following comments by neighbours, that the solar panels had been observed already in situ, otherwise there were no other objections from members. Therefore the members agreed that the council would respond that the *Parish Council are concerned that neighbours have expressed the view that there is no value or purpose in responding to this retrospective application consultation as the solar photovoltaic array has already been installed. However, members have discussed the plans and agreed unanimously to support the application provided any possible impact on the neighbouring properties is taken into consideration.*

Grace returned to the meeting and took the chair.

b) **1/1074/2011/FUL** Installation and operation of a solar photovoltaic array at Worden Farm. Gareth left the meeting having declared a prejudicial interest in the application. Members discussed the plans and agreed unanimously to support the application provided any possible impact on the neighbouring properties is taken into consideration. Gareth returned to the meeting.

Signed

Date

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9. Planning Decision 1/0955/2011/FUL Rear extension at 11 Beech Park, Holsworthy Beacon was granted permission.

10. Report from Holsworthy Area Advisory Group Meeting. Both Gareth and Richard attended the meeting held on 9 January 2012. Ricky McCormack gave a very enthusiastic presentation on the arrangements for refuse collection noting that there had been a reduction from 7 to 6 rounds without any redundancies due to retirement of staff. The recycling contract is up for tender and there will have to be provision made to recycle more different types of plastic. The new market site has applied for planning permission and a decision is expected by the end of January which would allow work to start in May. Tesco is still on board to build a 1500sq foot store similar to the new one at Bideford. 86 new homes are also planned for the old market site. It is anticipated that approximately 300 new jobs will be created as a result of these developments.

11. Diamond Jubilee Souvenirs and Celebrations update. To date 27 applications for souvenirs have been received with a number of families who have yet to apply. Members agreed that the 32mm medals costing £2.25 each (plus delivery and vat) as previously discussed should be ordered. With a minimum order required of 50 medals this will be sufficient for any late applications.

Members were informed that District Cllr Robert Hicks has agreed to provide £275 of grant funding for Diamond Jubilee Celebrations in Milton Damerel, from his 2011-2012 Community Grant allowance. This grant can only be paid to community organisations and the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations committee will make the application.

12. Financial Report. Since the second half precept of £1175 was received on 28 September another 11p of interest for 3 months has been added to the savings account. After the expenses previously reported there is £608.13 in the current account and £636.55 in the savings account making a total of £1244.68. A Vat refund of £39.95 is awaited.

13. To confirm the date of the Annual Parish Meeting and consider possible speakers. It was agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 18 April 2012 followed by the usual Parish Council meeting. It was agreed to ask Ricky McCormack to speak on recycling. The clerk will email the request for him to address the APM for about 30 minutes to be followed by questions and answers from residents.

Correspondence

14. Road Closure Notices have been received to inform of the diversion via the A388 due to the road between Soldon Cross and Youldonmoor Cross being closed 6-10 February for patching work also the road through Milton Damerel will be closed from Worden Cross to Shop Cross over night from 7pm to 7am each day from 5-7 March for patching works.

15. The Localism Act and Neighbourhood Planning an update from CCD printed sheets were handed out to members for their personal information.

16. DALC Newsletter Jan/Feb 2012 to be emailed to members with two hard copies available to members at the meeting.

17. Planning Explained - Resource from CPRE in partnership with NALC. The chairman took this booklet to read and will pass on to Richard and Stephen.

18. Consultation re NHS Foundation Trust application by North Devon Healthcare NHS Trust. Booklets were handed out to members for their information and action as appropriate.

19. 'Twentyfourseven' - Newsletter of S.W Ambulance Trust. Made available for members to read.

20. Notice re Best Kept Village Competition 2012. It was agreed that this emailed information should be passed to the Gardening Society for their information.

21. Urgent matters brought forward with the permission of the Chairman.

a) An invitation has been received for the Parish Council to nominate an 'unsung hero' of the parish to attend, with a guest, a Special Service at Exeter Cathedral on 27 May 2012 to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee. They will also be able to attend one of the Devon Cream Tea Garden Parties being held either before or after the service. Potential candidates were discussed and Grace will make the necessary approaches. There will be a charge of £5 per person towards the cost of refreshments and it was unanimously agreed that this would be paid from Parish Council funds. Responses have to be returned by 29 February. The completed form and cheque will be posted immediately after the next meeting.

b) Gareth reported that he had been forewarned by a resident of Holsworthy Beacon of a protest letter the resident is preparing to send to the Parish Council regarding the part night street lighting policy, recently implemented at Holsworthy Beacon.

c) The Chairman requested that the matter of having the agenda and approved minutes of Parish Council meeting on the website should be on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

d) It was brought to the attention of members that the unauthorised fence on the verge at Jonleen, Strawberry Bank has now been removed and the ditch cleaned out by Devon County Council contractors.

The next meeting would be one week later than usual, on 22 February with the agenda produced early, on 10 February.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.55pm

Signed

Date

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