

# Milton Damerel Parish Council

## MINUTES

of the Parish Council Meeting held at Milton Damerel Parish Hall on Wednesday 15 August 2012, commencing at 7.38pm

Present	Cllr Grace Millman (Chairman)	Cllr Stephen Moyse (Vice Chairman)
	Cllr Rose Haynes	Cllr Edgar Pett
	Mrs Roberta Jackson (Clerk)	

Cllr Alison Boyle attended but left at 8.30pm: there were no other members of the press or public present.

1. Apologies and reasons for absence. Cllr John Webb sent his apologies as he would not be back in time from the airport, Cllr Richard Piper was detained at another meeting and PCSO Rowe also sent apologies for not attending.

2. Chairman's Announcements. There were no Chairman's announcements

3. Public Comments. Alison Boyle attended to encourage Parish Councillors to attend either of the two meetings she has arranged for Parish Councillors at Woolsey Hall on Monday 20 August at 2.00pm and 6.30pm when the developers, **RWE**, will give presentations and answer questions on the proposed Atlantic Array off shore wind farm. Councillors able to attend should advise the Clerk by Sunday evening. Re Highways matters: Alison informed the meeting that she receives regular updates on the state of the highways and pointed out that the flooding over this summer has caused extra pressure on the Highways budget despite extra funds being made available.

4. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18 July 2012. It was pointed out that the date of the meeting was incorrect on the distributed draft minutes and it was therefore changed to correctly read 18 July 2012. The minutes were then signed as a true record of the meeting.

5. Matters Arising - not otherwise on the agenda

a) The clerk reported receipt of a thank you email from Samantha Horn following her Step Back in Time grant which was read out by the Chairman. Sam will write a report for the newsletter and send a copy to the Parish Council

b) The Monitoring Officer has been asked if a link from [miltondamerel.com](http://miltondamerel.com) to TDC Interests would be acceptable to publish Interest on the website and a reply is awaited.

6. Planning Update

a) Amendments to planning application 1/0304/2012 at Henscott Farm in the Parish of Bradford. The height of the tower has been reduced making the height to blade tip 34.5m. No response was considered necessary.

b) Amendments to planning application 1/0494/2012 at Dunstaple Farm in Holsworthy Hamlets. Correction to total height which is 34.5m not 34.2m as previously stated. No response was considered necessary.

7. To consider applications for the Co-option of one Councillor to this Parish Council.

An application for the vacant seat has been received from Jim Richardson of Mount Pleasant. Grace read out his informative application letter and members unanimously agreed that Mr Richardson should be co-opted onto Milton Damerel Parish Council. The clerk will inform him that his application was successful and supply the necessary information. Mr Richardson will be asked to sign the formal Acceptance of Office at the next meeting.

8. Review of the Snow Warden Scheme. Cllr Edgar Pett informed members that two thirds of the Snow Warden duties were co-ordination which, although the scheme was not really tested last winter, appeared to be working well but he felt he was no longer fit enough to carry out other works. It was agreed that these duties could be carried out by volunteers and Stephen offered to help with salt distribution. Edgar suggested that a meeting of the volunteers should be held in October or November and he will liaise with Grace to put together a notice for the newsletter which could also invite new volunteers. Edgar also suggested to Alison that it might be helpful to have a revision meeting with Highways for Snow Wardens before the winter. Alison is also going to contact the Young Farmers to see what assistance they might be able to offer to the parishes.

9. Torridge District Council Consultation on Proposed Dog Control Orders. After considering the questionnaire which was aimed more at individuals, the following response was sent: *The members of Milton Damerel Parish Council fully support the principle of the proposed Dog Control Orders. They agree that dog owners should be responsible for picking up and **properly disposing** of dog faeces in all public outdoor places and agree with the Dog Exclusion Order especially with regards to children's play areas.*

10. Torridge District Council Consultation on Changes to Council Tax Benefit. After considering the proposals and the questionnaire it was agreed that the Council as a group was not the appropriate responder to this consultation, which was aimed more at individual households. It was agreed that no response would be sent.

#### 11. Annual Audit

a) To report the completion of the Annual Audit. The certified Annual Return has been returned by the Audit Commission without comment. A copy is already on display at Holsworthy Beacon before moving to the other two notice boards in turn for two weeks each.

b) To Pay Audit Commission invoice. This payment has been deferred to the next meeting as the expected invoice has not yet arrived.

#### Correspondence

12. Everyone's Tomorrow - Newsletter of Senior Council for Devon was made available for members to read.

13. Notification of the first national elections for Police & Crime Commissions. D&C Fact Sheet 1 was sent to each member for their information. The offer of a talk on the subject could be considered for the Annual Parish Meeting in April.

The clerk also explained that electoral registration was early this year due to 15 November 2012 elections for Police & Crime Commissioners. Notices to remind electors to register have been displayed on the notice boards.

14. Invitation from Safer North Devon to sign up to Community Messaging. This is already encouraged when new members sign up to Neighbourhood Watch. It will be mentioned in the newsletter.

15. Devon Association of Local Councils Annual Report for 2011-2012 was made available for members to read.

16. Devon Association of Local Councils - AGM and Conference 'Localism on the Ground' is to be held on 6 Oct 2012 but there was no interest from Councillors.

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

a) Stephen reported that he had had complaints regarding the road from Gidcott to Henscott with the road surface in a very poor state. The Clerk to inform Highways of this matter.

b) Stephen has also been informed by a parishioner that a development in Holsworthy Beacon may not be being carried out in accordance with the permission granted. The Clerk will check the application and the permission and report to the Chairman and Stephen after the meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.08pm