

# **Milton Damerel Parish Council**

## **MINUTES**

of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 21 November 2012, commencing at 7.32pm

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

There were no members of the press or public present.

1. Apologies and reasons for absence. Apologies were received from Cllr Alison Boyle and Cllr John Webb who was detained by another appointment.

2. Chairman's Announcements. As Parish Councils are allowed representation at the Holsworthy Area Market and Coastal Towns Initiative (MCTi) and Councillors were asked if anyone would be prepared to attend the meetings, which are held about every six weeks. No one was available on a regular basis but anyone who is available may attend if they are available.

4. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17 October 2012. The minutes were signed as a correct record of the meeting

5. Matters Arising - not otherwise on the agenda

a) North Devon Nature Improvement Area project - Confirm speaker for APM. Matt Edworthy, the Biosphere Reserve Outreach Co-ordinator has agreed to talk about this project at the next Annual Parish Meeting on 17 April 2013 and has also sent an article for the newsletter.

b) Parish Gritter. There has been no further word from Thornbury Parish

c) No word from Nigel Marshall, enforcement officer, regarding the construction of the building which has planning permission or the park home at Brendon Fields for which the expected planning application has still not been received.

d) Nigel Marshall and Simon Phillips (Highways) are looking into the matters reported at Jonleen and The Oaks. Ian Sorenson (Highways) has also been updated on the Jonleen matter following his return to work.

6. To discuss communications via email. Councillors agreed to accept communications by email, many of which are forwarded by the Clerk from other sources to keep members informed. The Clerk asked that members respond promptly when a reply is required. Planning application numbers will be forwarded to all members for their information at the time of receipt so that they may familiarise themselves with the application before a meeting but a paper copy at the meeting is still necessary as it is not always possible to get access to the necessary documents online for various technical reasons.

7. To approve a blanket dispensation so that all Councillors can discuss and vote on setting of the annual budget and precept until 31 May 2015. As the discussions about budgets and setting of the parish precept affect disclosable pecuniary interests of all councillors a dispensation was requested for this matter. The resolution to grant a dispensation to each Milton Damerel Parish Councillor until 31 May 2015 in accordance with Section 33 of the Localism Act 2011 was proposed by Rose, seconded by Edgar and unanimously agreed.

8. To consider amending Standing Order 30(b) for delegation of decision on granting of dispensations. The revised wording as distributed, delegates the granting of future dispensations to the Proper Officer (Parish Clerk) on receipt of written request at least two days prior to a meeting. It was proposed by Stephen, seconded by Jim and unanimously agreed by all members to adopt the revised wording of SO 30(b).

9. Planning Application

a) 1/0831/2012/FUL – Erection of single wind turbine (77m to blade tip) formation of new vehicular access track and associated infrastructure at Battledown Farm, Buckland Filleigh (Part of the site is within the adjacent parish of Shebbear). *Councillors have no comment to make on this development provided that any properties within the Parish of Milton Damerel that may be affected in any way by this development have been informed of the proposals.*

The Clerk also advised that a phone call from Cllr Margaret Wells, Shebbear Parish Council was enquiring about Milton Damerel support in their opposition to wind turbines but Councillors agreed that no further action need be taken on this matter.

b) 1/0938/2012 – Proposed conversion & extension of outbuilding to form dwelling annexe at The Meadows, Milton Damerel. After careful consideration of the plans *Councillors unanimously agreed to support this application for the conversion of outbuilding to form a dwelling annexe to accommodate the needs of the family and consider it a suitable use of this redundant building, whilst retaining the character of the building.*

10. Planning Decisions There were no decisions received.

11. Report from Highways Meeting at Woolsery on 22 October 2012 attended by Grace, Edgar and Roberta. The meeting had been arranged by Cllr Alison Boyle for the Parish Councils in her electoral division. Michael Newcombe gave an vibrant talk on road safety and the measures used to encourage driver compliance with speed limits. Simon Phillips gave an interesting and informative presentation on road inspection, maintenance and repair schedules and how he has to promote works to asset management for the funding for any works required. Disappointingly the Snow Warden Scheme was little mentioned and it was unclear if extra salt would be made available should last years unused stock be used up. Alison has recently asked to be advised of road problems and the dip on the Gratton Hill to Croyden Cross road was highlighted.

12. Report from meeting of Holsworthy Advisory Group held on 22 October 2012 attended by Richard and Stephen. The main subject was the progress of the Agri Business Centre where tenders have been sought from 6 developers by the end of November. Decision is awaited on the Tesco store and new homes redevelopment of the old Cattle Market site. The next meeting of HAAG is 28 January 2013.

13. To consider grant applications for 2013 from local organisations.

a) Milton Damerel Gardening Society. Edgar as a member of the committee did not take part in the discussion or decision. Copies of the application letter were distributed and their accounts considered. Stephen proposed, Rose seconded and it was unanimously agreed to provisionally grant **£80** to the Gardening Society.

b) Holy Trinity PCC applied for £75 towards the cost of churchyard maintenance undertaken by volunteers. The application letter and accounts were considered. Jim proposed, Richard seconded and it was unanimously agreed to provisionally grant **£75** to the Church.

c) Milton Damerel Parish Hall. Stephen did not take part in the discussion or decision as his wife is the secretary of this applicant. The letter and accounts were considered. Grace proposed, Rose seconded and it was unanimously agreed to provisionally grant **£150** to the Parish Hall.

d) Milton Damerel Newsletter Group. Stephen took the chair as Grace stepped aside along with Rose as members of the group they did not take part in the discussion or decision. Richard proposed, Stephen seconded and it was unanimously agreed to provisionally grant **£100** to the Newsletter Group.

14. To agree a draft budget for 2013-2014 and to provisionally set the precept.

Budget Planning spreadsheets were handed out. Fixed costs shown were internal audit **£50**, (no external audit costs for 2013-2014) Parish Council insurance allowing a 5% increase from this year estimated to cost **£200**. Estimated cost of DALC subscription: **£97**. Clerk's salary for 208 hours at minimum pay of £6.19: **£1288**. Clerk's expenses estimated at **£100**. Hire of hall at £10 per monthly meeting - **£120**, grass cutting as this year **£75** and the four grants as listed at 13a), 13b), 13c) and 13d) above. Total £2335. It was unanimously agreed to provisionally set the precept at **£2350**, the same as the previous four years and this will be finalise at the January meeting. At which time the precept application can be completed for return by 31 January 2013

15. Correspondence as available the at time of the meeting.

Copies of a marketing letter received from R A Rowe & Co Ltd were distributed to members

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

a) Edgar noted that he has arranged a Snow Warden meeting for 12 December at the Parish Hall.

b) This year Santa will visit the Parish on Saturday 22 December; Jim has agreed to be Santa and will supply the costume. Grace will obtain the sweets, for the children, that will be wrapped after the December meeting and she will also arrange the venue in time for it to be advertised in the next newsletter.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.50pm

Signed

Date

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