

Milton Damerel Parish Council

MINUTES

of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 16 January 2013, commencing at 7.30pm prompt.

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

County Cllr Alison Boyle and PCSO Raquel Rowe were present but there were no other members of the press or public present.

1. Apologies and reasons for absence. Apologies were received from Cllr John Webb who is in hospital.

2. Chairman's Announcements.

The Chairman will send a card to Cllr Webb to wish him well.

The Chairman advised Councillors of the planning application for 27 dwellings at Town Farm and the issue of public consultation will be discussed under urgent matters at the end of this agenda.

The Santa visit in December was enjoyed by all but there was disappointment at the small number of children present.

3. Public Comments.

Cllr Boyle asked to speak under agenda item 6 which was agreed. Alison also reported weather concerns for the forecasted snow later in the week. She will also send a newsletter article on the impact of bad weather on the road network.

PCSO Raquel Rowe reported no recent crime in Milton Damerel. However despite the new scrap metal dealer regulations, there was still a risk, as ways were being found round the regulations and copper had been taken from Bradworthy. At this lambing time some sheep hurdles and a wooden gate had also been taken from a nearby parish. Raquel then left the meeting.

4. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19 December 2012. The minutes had been distributed for consideration by councillors and it was agreed that the Chairman should sign the minutes as a true record of the meeting.

5. Matters Arising (not otherwise on the agenda)

Mud on the road at Whitebear. Richard reported that he had seen the farmer at Whitebear Farm who had agreed to try and keep the road clean and there has been an improvement in the situation especially now that the cows are not going in and out of the field. At the same time Richard noticed that the ladder stile to footpath 16 at Whitebear Cottage was damaged. The clerk will ask the P3 co-ordinator to investigate.

Richard also reported car bits scattered on the verges following a couple of motor accidents and asked who would be responsible for removing them. The clerk will investigate.

6. Update on consultation re the closure of West and East Putford Primary School which includes the re designation of the school catchment area for Milton Damerel. Alison reported that the closure issue was discussed at the 9 January DCC cabinet meeting but the matter of re-designation of the school catchment area was to be discussed at a later meeting. Alison was also surprised that Milton Damerel Parish Council had never been contacted by the LLC (Local Learning Community). She was in contact with Andrea Davis who apologised for failing to send the original consultation letters to the Parish Council. Cllr Alison Boyle then left the meeting.

7.Planning Application

1/1096/2012/FUL Retrospective planning application for the retention of a solar photovoltaic array and associated equipment with a maximum capacity of 50kw (amended location to planning permission 1/1060/2011/FUL) at Higher Woodford Farm, Milton Damerel. This application was received just before Christmas and after email consultation with councillors, no extension was requested due to the array already being in situ. The application is now out of time for PC comments.

8.Planning Decisions

1/0938/2012/FUL– Proposed conversion & extension of outbuilding to form dwelling annexe at The Meadows, Milton Damerel. The PC comments were ‘lost’ by planning which gave the impression that the PC had not responded. However, permission was granted for this development, ancillary to the existing dwelling and it was also noted that ‘provision shall be made for House Sparrows habitat.’

On 21 November 2012 Members were grant dispensation to allow them to speak and vote on discussions involving the setting of the budget and precept at meetings of Milton Damerel Parish Council.

9. To confirm the proposed budget as discussed at the November 2012 meeting. The clerk handed out copies of the budget from the November discussions noting the adjustment of the audit provision down from £50 to £35 as it will be based on the figures for 2011-2012 which were below the £2500 limit. Making a total of £2320 required for the year. This budget was unanimously approved by members.

10. To approve the precept and complete the Precept Application form. For the fifth year Councillors approved a budget requirement of £2350, made up this year of a council tax support grant of £205 and a precept of £2145. With the number of properties in the base being 164.16 the Band ‘D’ figure will be £13.07 a reduction of 14p or 1.06% on the previous year. This was unanimously agreed and the application form was completed and signed by the Chairman.

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

- a) DCC Emergency Management newsletter, already emailed but hard copy made available for members to read
- b) WaterFuture ‘What’s in the pipeline’ report from S.W.Water made available for members to read
- c) Logic Salt Spreader leaflet handed to Edgar Pett as the Parish Snow Warden.
- d) Nominations for Buckingham Palace Garden Party open to Chairpersons of Parish Councils. Grace declined to be nominated for the draw.
- e) Nominations for Casual Vacancy on County Committee. No one was interested in being put forward.

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

a) Snow Warden update in view of the forecasted snow. Edgar reported that everything was under control. It was agreed that notices would immediately be put in the Parish notice boards to advise parishioners of the Snow Wardens mobile phone number.

b) Planning application ref 1/1045/2012/OUT for 27 dwellings at Town Farm including 5 social housing units will be on the agenda for the next meeting but as it was such a major development it was agreed that the plans should be put on display for public inspection when, if possible a representative from Drew’s Construction might attend. This would be followed by a public forum for the Parish Council to receive public opinion. The suggested date was 13 February, one week before the next Parish Council meeting. An extension to the usual 21 day comments period which expires on 4 February has been requested and a reply is awaited. Grace will contact Drew’s and the Clerk will check the availability of the Parish Hall.

c) The clerk reported that there had been no response from Nigel Marshall the enforcement officer on a number of matters reported to him. The clerk will send a follow up email.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.48pm.