

Milton Damerel Parish Council

Minutes

Of the Parish Council Meeting held of Wednesday 18th March 2015 commencing at 7.30pm
Present: Councillors Stephen Moyse (Chairman), Richard Piper (Vice Chairman), Grace Millman, Jim Richardson and Lorraine Buttery (Clerk).

1. **Apologies:** Councillor John Webb and Rose Haynes, P.C.S.O. Raquel Rowe

2. **Chairman's Announcements**

There were none

3. **Public Comments**

Councillor Robin Julian apologised for being late, the Chairman Councillor Stephen Moyse agreed that he could give his report after planning matters had finished.

Councillor Julian said there is not a lot to report just that at the budget meeting held on the 19th February a 20% cut in the highways budget had been announced and 1.7million pounds cut in the Public Transport budget, with front line services being re-visited. There will be years of 'austerity' for all. Central Government takes no notice of what people want and haven't a clue as to what's going on in rural areas.

Councillor Grace Millman commented that "Our youth are already at a disadvantage and if you take away rural Public Transport this only exacerbates the problem. Councillor Julian whole heartedly agreed and he suggested that maybe Senior Citizens could pay a small amount for their bus passes, the funds to help alleviate the problem of cutting services. Councillor Julian went on to say that there has been a lot of investment in the A39 but that stops at Barnstaple. The state of roads in Devon are dreadful, one of the biggest problem is lorries driving on roads that were never intended for such heavy vehicles.

Councillor Grace Millman asked whether Councillor Julian would be getting a 'locality budget' this coming Financial year, Councillor Julian said he believed so, if the Parish Council or any organisation wish to make a request be sure to get it in quickly as the money soon goes. He spent all his budget of £30,000 this year.

4. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 18th February 2015. The minutes having been emailed to all councillors prior to the meeting, they were signed as being a true record of the meeting.

5. **Matters Arising**

a) **Annual Parish Meeting:** Will be held on the 15th April 2015 The Clerk informed the Parish Council that she had invited Sallie from Devon and Somerset Fire & Rescue to be the guest speaker. Sallie has accepted the invitation. The clerk will now prepare the Notices for notice boards and send invitation to local organisations.

b) **Scrutiny Task Group for Communities questionnaire;** this matter was discussed and all Councillors were requested to have a look at the questionnaire on line and send their answers to the Clerk who would send them on behalf of the Parish Council.

c) **New Paperwork for Annual Audit,** The clerk presented the 'Risk Assessment', 'Financial Controls' and the 'Statement of Internal Controls' to the Chairman Stephen Moyse and the Councillors. The Clerk thanked Councillor Grace Millman for her very valuable input for the preparation of the statements. The documents had been emailed to the Councillors who unanimously accepted the papers and Chairman Stephen Moyse duly signed them.

6. **Review of Parish Plan**

This was discussed by the Councillors and Councillor Grace Millman will prepare a review for the Annual Parish meeting, what's been done and ask for views from the Parishioners if they thought a new survey of, for instance 'Housing needs' is needed.

7. **Planning Applications**

Councillor Grace Millman declared an interest in this application and left the room.

1/0126/2015/AGMB (Received after agenda had been written and circulated)

Proposal: Prior notification for the change of use of agricultural building to 2 No, dwellings under class MB (a) and MB(b)

Location: Barn at Woodford Farm, Milton Damerel, Devon

Councillors discussed and studied the plans, the clerk pointed out that only comments relating to Highway Safety, flood risk or land contamination will be taken into account. It was the decision of the Councillors to Send a reply to Torridge Planning department stating that they had no comments to make other than to ensure resident that might be affected by the application had been notified.

8. **Planning Decisions**

1) 1/1138/2013/FUL

Proposal: Single wind turbine 77m to tip with associated infrastructure, including crane hard standing Access road, substation and temporary metrological mast, with a micro siting tolerance of 35m

Location: Land near Badworthy Farm, Shebbear, Beaworthy, Devon

The above application was refused

Signed

Date

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- 2) 1/0897/2014/FUL
Proposal: New industrial building for storage, MOT and SOCO bay
Location: W.Sanders & Sons, Horreelsford Garage, Milton Damerel, Holsworthy, Devon
The above application was granted permission
- 3) 1/1335/2014/FUL
Proposal: Rear Extension
Location: Glovers Cottage, Milton Damerel, Holsworthy, Devon
The above application was granted permission

Planning Appeals

- 1) 1/0653/2014/FUL
Proposal: Conversion of Barn to residential and extensions
Location: West Wonford Farm, Milton Damerel, Holsworthy, Devon

9. Financial Matters

- a) Three Councillors signed a cheque for the Clerks monthly salary £138.66 and quarterly expences of £33.90
- b) The Clerk had prepared an up-to-date financial report which was distributed to the Councillors along the bank reconciliation. The current account has a balance of £1926.56, comprising of £1657.76 Parish general funds, £183.02. Step Back in Time Fund and the balance of £85.78 TAP fund. Also the receipt of £100 the P3 grant had been received.
- c) Cheque for £30 for hire of hall for 3 Parish Meetings was signed by three Councillors

10. Correspondence

- i) DCC Road closure, 3-9th March Valley Cross- Thornbury Cross ii) Community News round up
- iii) Traffic Signs iv) DALC Update v) Planning Department
- vi) Torridge reference elections vii) Mcti meeting agenda 9th March

The above correspondence were all circulated to the Councillors before the meeting and no further action needs be taken.

viii) Received after the agendas were circulated. An email received from Teresa Bird at Beech Tree Game Farm was read out by Chairman Stephen Moyse, this was in regards to Galsworthy Wind Farm which she believed Milton Damerel Parish Council had objected to. Councillor Grace Millman thought this unlikely as at that time Torridge planning were not consulting neighboring parishes. This Wind Farm is not in Milton Damerel Parish. The clerk was requested to reply to the email offering the Councillors sympathy but feel that there is nothing that they can do to help the situation.

11. Urgent Matters brought forward with the permission of the Chairman

- 1) Councillor Stephen Moyse reported that he had had a request from the 'Keep Fit Class' as to whether The Parish Meetings could be held at a different time and place. It has been pointed out to the 'keep fit class' that they knew of the Parish Council Meetings being held on the third Wednesday in every month. The matter was discussed fully and it was the unanimous decision of the Councillors That it would be inconvenient to hold the meetings any later as there is a deadline for meetings to Finish at 10pm. This would not be possible if the meetings did not start till after the keep fit class. It was also pointed out that th Parish Council Meetings should be held in the Parish Hall.
- 2) Once again the question of parking at the Chapel/Church has been raised, with Chairman Stephen Moyse receiving another complaint of a resident having a notice placed on their car during a funeral. Councilloy Moyse will make general enquiries with John Elliott and Highways to see if there is something That could be done to the 'grass strip' near the Chapel entrance to ease the situation. The question of who would pay for any work if the proposal was successful. It was suggested that it could be a joint venture for the Church and Chapel.
- 3) The Clerk reported that the Notice Board at Holsworthy Beacon needed a little TLC, Councillor Gareth Piper agreed to meet up with the Clerk when she next visits the board when he will see what needs to be done.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.25pm