

MILTON ABBAS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on 10th July 2024
in the READING ROOM, MILTON ABBAS, at 7.30pm

PRESENT

Mr I. Baker (Vice Chair)

Mr P. Ford

Mr T. Ives

Mr T. Khandwala

Ms D. Wyatt

Mr S. Driver (Chair)

Mr S. Gould

Mrs J. Jordan

Mr S. Martin

IN ATTENDANCE Mrs E. Sellen (Clerk), Mrs Emma Parker (Dorset Councillor)
and 6 members of the general public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE None

2. DISPENSATIONS None

3. OPEN FORUM

The following points were raised:

Mr R. Golledge asked for a progress update on the pavements and roads in Catherine's Well. SD advised that the Parish Council felt they'd been let down by Dorset Council responses and suggested that it would be beneficial for residents to report faults in the roads and pavements in conjunction with ongoing communications by the Parish Council, using the reporting function on the Dorset Council website. In the meantime, road conditions are severe enough to be added to the Parish Council risk register and SD advised that he would take over communications with Dorset Council.

RG asked when the Parish Council would be carrying out works to Jane's Wood trees. The Clerk advised that at present, a neighbouring landowner has been asked to suggest dates for access over the existing easement, and no reply has been received.

RG asked what progress the Parish Council had made with releasing Parish Council land for development. SD advised that the Parish Council will be reviewing this in due course.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 15th May 2024 had been circulated. It was proposed by TK, seconded by IB, and agreed by those who had attended the previous meeting, that they should be accepted as a true record.

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th May 2024 (following the Annual Parish Council meeting) had been circulated. It was proposed by JJ, seconded by DW,

and agreed by those who had attended the previous meeting, that they should be accepted as a true record.

The minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on 28th June 2024 had been circulated. It was proposed by SB, seconded by DW, and agreed by those who had attended the previous meeting, that they should be accepted as a true record.

5. MATTERS ARISING

Sovereign had confirmed that the warranty repairs to the Zip Wire would be carried out on 16th July.

Sovereign had arranged for an agent to attend the play park week ending 19th July to review the issues raised in the annual play park inspection, including rotten timbers. SG agreed to attend with the Clerk.

The Zoom pro subscription has been paused.

The Annual Parish Meeting had been attended by 9 residents and 7 councillors. Ms C. Jennings (Community Resilience Liaison Officer) and Ms L. Kettley (Firewise) presented material relating to building a resilient community. Residents suggested including the Surgery (Kelly Best) in Parish Council communications, and including additional excursions in the PlusBus itinerary (eg Bath). The Clerk has included KB in recent communications, and Ms C. Eastment has taken the PlusBus recommendation on board and suggests it could be immensely enjoyable.

HERAS fencing will be put up around the toddler swings pending inspection by Sovereign following the annual inspection report.

The July 2024 updated Welcome Pack has been updated on the website.

Councillor information, minutes, councillor vacancy and audit information has been updated on the website.

Dorset Council have advised that no highways works are scheduled for Milton Abbas at the present time. The clerk asked the residents to consider submitting their own reports, including photos, to the Dorset Council website.

Sovereign Housing Association have passed the grass cutting observations to their "Estates South" team who manage grounds maintenance issues. RG advised that he has also been contacting Sovereign HA weekly without any results to date.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence had been circulated by email or was available on the table.

The clerk drew attention to the following:

The DAPTC Northern Area meeting will be held online on 8th August at 7pm.

Neighbourhood Planning funding and news emails have been circulated.

A third release of the Community Energy Fund is open for applications.

VE Day 80 will be observed on 08th May 2025, Parish Councils are encouraged to hold street parties, light beacons and raise the VE flag.

The Play Park Inspection report was circulated by email.

A resident raised concerns regarding a parking incident at the bottom of the Street following a recent accident, and asked the Parish Council to take action.

Milton Abbas surgery Wellness Event will be held 16th July 13:00-17:00hr, no booking is required.

An alleged planning enforcement issue received from an anonymous source had been shared to Dorset Council.

Residents have emailed concerns regarding potholes by the surgery and the danger for parents and children walking to the bus stop from Park Farm.

Hugo Fox have resolved an apparent security issue reported by a parishioner.

Parishioner concerns regarding the website, parish council communications and co-option etc have been shared with councillors.

A parishioner has offered assistance with compiling a Parish Risk Assessment.

Dorset Council have advertised a road closure in Hazelbury Bryan from 22nd July for up to 5 days.

A parishioner emailed to thank councillors for introducing themselves at the Annual Parish Meeting, and thanked SM for organising the D-Day events. TK said that the D-Day events had been very enjoyable and suggested that it could become an annual event. It was agreed that an annual D-Day event could detract from the significance of the observance, but that it was a good indication that alternative events (such as the Chilli Festival) would be welcome.

7. REPORT FROM DORSET COUNCILLOR

EP was in attendance to answer questions as they arose.

8. REPORTS

HOMEWATCH

Mrs E. Payne confirmed usual style of emails have been circulated and the Head of Milton Abbey School has been included and has confirmed that he is keen to receive communications relating to events and wider interests.

MATCH/JANE'S WOOD None

PLAYPARK

SG advised that following the recent annual inspection, a meeting is required to devise an action plan to resolve the problems identified. More Play Park Committee members will be welcome. SD agreed to join the committee. SG advised that the hedging works need to be carried out early in September as soon as the nesting season is over.

SM suggested that a maintenance schedule for all assets is required, detailing volunteers, frequency, annual spend etc. and offered to put it together if someone is willing to help populate it.

TRANSPORT None

WELCOME PACK

TK confirmed that many amendments have been made to the WP, including many local businesses. SM suggested a copy should be posted on the Milton Abbas notice board in the Reading Room.

CSW

JJ confirmed that that Maria Attwood is keen to help and if a new team can be formed training can be scheduled. In the meantime, JJ will collect the SID from Winterborne Stickland and liaise with Mrs F. Robinson and issue a Facebook

post and Ellie-gram request for volunteers. IB suggested that the Parish Council could liaise with local employers to encourage their staff to drive responsibly through the village.

MILLENNIUM GREEN TRUST

RG confirmed that he still continues to cut the grass, but the overgrown hedges are significantly impinging on the facility.

TELEPHONE KIOSK

SD thanked DW and Mr B. Towers for painting the kiosk. The glass has been replaced in the doors and SD has measured for shelves. Following a review of the site, it is not safe to site a noticeboard on the back of the kiosk.

JUBILEE BENCH JJ to liaise with FR.

MILTON ABBAS SPORTS CLUB

SM noted that although the sanitary ware for the disabled toilet has been obtained, it has not yet been fitted. TI confirmed that it was discussed at a meeting the previous evening and will soon be fitted.

D-DAY 80 6TH JUNE 2024

SD thanked everyone for their input. SM confirmed that there had been a good turn out despite the cold weather, and £136 had been raised for Help for Heros.

REPORTS FROM OTHER PC OFFICERS

SD drew attention to the recently published Bulletin and invited responses anonymous or otherwise via the Parish Council.

SG asked why Dorset Council have still not supplied a school crossing sign by the resident's block of Milton Abbey school. Up to 100 pupils may cross that 60 mph road daily.

TI asked SD to add the white lining at the top and bottom of the street on the bend to the Highways inspection list.

9. PLANNING

Decisions

P/VOC/2024/01703 & P/VOL/2024/01704 46-47 St James Cottage Milton Abbas - Erect replacement extension, (demolish existing lean-to), with internal & external alterations and associated landscaping, (with variation of condition no. 2 of planning permission no. P/HOU/2023/07131 & P/LBC/2023/07132 to amend the approved plans) – Granted

P/PABA/2024/02952 Fishmore Hill Farm - Erect agricultural building for storage of straw, fodder and machinery – Prior approval not required

Applications

P/LBC/2024/02730 26 Milton Abbas - Alterations to facilitate erection of single storey side extension & rear extension. Demolition of existing rear extension & remodel of existing garage. Proposed new external brickwork stair & patio area. Proposed removal of rear elevation door & installation of window to match adjacent. Extension & repointing of 2no. existing chimneys. Having reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting, the owners attended with plans to correct some misunderstandings that had been expressed. What had been recorded as French Windows are in fact sliding doors, which are not visible from the street. The garage will be stepped back, so there will be space for two vehicles to park

off road in front of the garage, but they are happy to provide parking on the other side of the property if required. The owner was sad to inform the Parish Council that Dorset Council have already rejected the application prior to the comments of the Parish Council. It was proposed by SD, and it was unanimously agreed, that following the owner's clarification that the garage would be fronted with wooden doors and the sliding doors are not visible from the street, the Parish Council do not object to the proposed plans. SD thanked the owners for attending to provide the clarifications.

P/HOU/2024/03047 54-55 Milton Abbas – Erection of detached timber garden shed. Owners of 53a have expressed some concerns, however they were in attendance and keen to stress that following discussion with their neighbour, these concerns have been resolved, and new plans are to be submitted. It was unanimously agreed that at this time the Parish Council have no comments.

General Planning Concerns

Mr & Mrs Mott from introduced themselves as the new owners of 53a (formerly the Tea Room). They confirmed that they intend the property to be their home and not an Air B&B or business. They want to carry out some improvements including resurfacing the driveway, extending to the rear (not visible from the street) and as part of the planning process they would like to remove the restaurant/takeaway classification and have the property reclassified as a residential dwelling. They asked for the Parish Council to support this change as the Parish has several quality tea shop / restaurant facilities in better suited locations and parking for patrons of 53a as a Tea Room would be restricted at best. It was unanimously agreed that the Parish has not been detrimentally impacted by the "loss of amenity" when the Tea Room closed and therefore they have no objection to the change from business to domestic classification and they would be happy to liaise with the architect with a view to confirming this fact.

10. PARISH COMMUNICATIONS

SD outlined feedback received from the previous meeting indicating that the Parish Council should improve their community engagement (methods, frequency, who is responsible etc). SD noted the updates to the website and suggested that some of this content should be included on the noticeboards, to include Councillor photos, and QR tags etc and that the Welcome pack and Bulletin could be printed in limited quantities for placement at the Post Office, Surgery, Farm Shop etc.

11. PLAY PARK INSPECTION REPORT

The Annual Inspection report had been circulated by email. There was a serious case of structural rot in a post on the toddler swing and a long list of routine maintenance. A "service guy" will be required to carry out some remedial repairs. PF offered to help where possible.

12. RISK REGISTER

SD had circulated an updated version of the Risk Register in excel format. The new format will enable data to be filtered according to urgency / severity etc.

13. FINANCE

The receipts and payments spreadsheet, latest bank statements and list of cheques for payment had been circulated by email and was available at the meeting.

Balances:

Current A/c	£53,488.38
Playpark A/c	£24,401.91

The following cheques were authorised:

Current Account

Hugo Fox Website Hosting May 2024	DD	£11.99
Mrs E. Sellen Clerk's Salary May 2024	1437	£383.05
Mrs E. Sellen Clerk's Expenses May 2024	1438	£138.38
Hugo Fox Website Hosting June 2024	DD	£11.99
Mrs E. Sellen Clerk's Salary June 2024	1439	£383.05
Mrs E. Sellen Clerk's Expenses June 2024	1440	£842.02
Transfer Play Park Precept to Play Park Account	1441	£5,400.00
Darkin Miller Limited Internal Audit Fee	1442	£237.97

Playpark Account

The Play Inspection Company Ltd	158	£282.00
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14. CHAIRMAN'S URGENT BUSINESS

IB drew attention to the platform to the righthand side of the lovely steps overlooking the church graves and advised that it is in a serious state of disrepair. It was agreed to shut it off with marker tape and the Clerk was asked to liaise with the Countryside Ranger.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Councillors were reminded that the next meeting would take place on 11th September 2024 and, there being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:18pm.

Signed:

(Presiding Chairman)

Date: