

SOUTH MILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting.

Date: 26th June 2023		Venue & Time: South Milton Village Hall, 19.30hrs
Present: Cllr Anne Berryman Cllr Paul Booker (in the Chair) Cllr Steve Harding Cllr Graham Jinks Cllr Marion Luscombe Cllr Nick Townsend	In Attendance: Katharine Harrod – Clerk & Minute taker Dist. Cllr Samantha Dennis Dist. Cllr Mark Long Parishioners/Guests Present: 0	Apologies: Cllr Emma Halmshaw County Cllr Rufus Gilbert

REF 2023/24 MINUTES

264 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

265 PARISHIONERS OPEN FORUM (allocated time not longer than 15 minutes, a member of the public shall not speak for more than 2 minutes as per Standing Orders):

- a) There is a gap in the cliff by the Thurlestone end of the beach and significant numbers of children & full grown adults have been cutting through here. It needs to be stopped to avoid serious erosion - the plants are starting to grow in areas to strengthen the cliff but come high summer and the hordes of people it will be destroyed and this winter we could start to lose the road there.

A simple sign to educate people about dune/cliff coastal erosion and fencing off to stop access is all that is needed. Cllr Dennis will speak with Cllr Halmshaw to take this forward.

- b) Pothole & water leak in Kerse Lane: The leak was reported on June 8th & followed up on June 22nd. SWW originally advised that this is not a priority repair despite the amount of water. They have now accepted it's their responsibility and need to organise road closures etc before the works can be attended. The pothole has occurred because of the leak.
- c) Bus route update Cllr Berryman: A meeting was held in Kingsbridge, Cllr Berryman was the only representative from the respective parish councils. The initial idea is to replace the service with a service similar to that of the Coleridge bus. Another meeting will be held in July.
- d) Rockbox, a parishioner has been in touch, apparently the South Milton Sands Beach premises license is being transferred into Rupert Stockwell's name. Can the restrictions from the Thurlestone site be added to the South Milton site? Cllr Booker will speak with Rupert Stockwell and follow this up. Cllr Dennis advised that the Beachhouse Cafe will have live music this year which is permitted under their premises license - Cllr Dennis pointed out that there is nothing we can do about this unless it causes a nuisance.
- e) National Trust report from Ranger Valda Smith:
The car park team are all ready for the main season in July and August - when staffing will be 7 days a week, with 2 members of staff (all being well). Staff hours and numbers have altered slightly from last year - Tony will be concentrating on Wembury, not covering both there and South Milton and Brenda's hours have reduced. However, we have recruited an additional seasonal member of staff, meaning overall hours will remain similar to last year but there will be a better headcount, which should help with cover if there are any staff absences or sickness.

The two boardwalks have now been completely replaced, with the main one opposite the car park incorporating a viewing platform at the beach end, allowing less able-bodied people better access to the site and a place where they can sit and enjoy the views.

Ricky and the volunteers will be replacing the chestnut paling alongside the boardwalks very soon. The access track is good condition and overall, the site around the beach is looking good and ready for the main season.

- f) Bantam Swoosh takes place on 8th July, a traffic management plan is in place for the event but it is probable that there will be more vehicles on the South Milton roads on that day.

g) DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL:

Cllr Rufus Gilbert, Email: rufus.Gilbert@devon.gov.uk

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Road Closure Notifications, within 6 months:

- WHITLOCKSWORTHY TO MIDDLE PARK TERRACE ,SOUTH MILTON, TQ7 3JT 22nd – 24th August. 8am to 6pm.
- THURLESTONE TO LOWER KERSE, KERSE CROSS TO LOWER KERSE, 4th & 5th September, 9.30 – 3.30 to remove 2 large ash trees on the boundary of a property, the road is within the drop zone.

REPORT IT:

Members of the public are requested to report all Highways issues through the Highways Website, enabling faster assessment of problem areas which can then be added to the repair/maintenance schedules. You can report potholes, overgrown vegetation, defective signs/lighting and much more.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>

h) DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS:

Email Cllr Samantha Dennis: samantha.dennis@swdevon.gov.uk

Email Cllr Mark Long: cllr.mark.long@southhams.gov.uk

1. Following the local Elections which saw administration of South Hams District Council transfer to the Liberal Democrats, at the Annual Council meeting on 25th May the new Council structure was announced.
2. Cllr Julian Brazil, ward member for Stokenham was named as Leader of South Hams District Council for the next four years and announced "We intend to be an inclusive Council and not worry about people's political allegiances; we're interested in people who want to work for their communities. We will be stronger together and therefore we will be asking all councillors, from all parties to work with us to deliver what our communities want."
3. On the new Council Cllr Mark Long was appointed as a member of the Development Management Committee (Planning) and the Council Tax Setting Committee.
4. Cllr Long was confirmed at the Council meeting as Chairman of the Development Management Committee.
5. Councillor Sam Dennis was appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and the Audit & Governance Committee.
6. The Executive Committee will be setting priorities in consultation with local people and parish councils. This includes a plan for social housing.
7. Cllr Mark Long and Cllr Samantha Dennis have been nominated to serve for the next four years on the Salcombe Harbour Board with Cllr Mark Long taking the role of Salcombe Harbour Board Chairman.
8. The new administration at the District Council Executive Committee this week will be outlining the approach to be taken in setting the priorities for the new Council for the next four years. These will be developed over the summer and a formal consultation will follow with residents, businesses and key partners. There will be online forums with Town and Parish Councils to seek thoughts on the broad principles. All of this to be agreed at Executive this week.
9. One area that is proposed for the Executive next week is a plan, with an enhanced approach to tackle poor quality Social and Private rented accommodation within the South Hams.
10. Cllr Dennis followed up on the beach signage by the ley. The National Trust are going to add the warning to their beach signage. If there is a sewage spillage this would be notified to SHDC who in turn would put additional signage out at the time. It was noted that signage would also need to be added near the beach steps at the Thurlestone end.

REPORT IT: It takes two minutes to report a problem, please help keep our community beautiful

<https://apps.southhams.gov.uk/webreportit>

Missed Bins, Abandoned Vehicle, Damaged/Full Dog Bin, Damaged/Full Litter Bin, Damaged/Full Recycling Bank, Dead Animal, Dirty Beach, Fly Tipping, Litter/Dog Mess, Planning Breach, Stray Dogs, AND MORE...

THE MEETING CONVENED

266 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** No declarations of interest were received.

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267 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meetings of 22nd May without alteration, they were then signed by the Chairman.

268 CLERKS REPORT:

1. Monitoring Officer Communications regarding use of social media, declaring interests in meetings, dispensations, access to information and bullying/harassment have been forwarded to all councillors
 2. We were recently made aware of an incident at Hillingsdown and it is likely it was caused due to the angle of the road, a Councillor assessed the area and it was noted that the vegetation had been cut back prior to the incident.
 3. Defibrillator training is taking place on 11th July, 6pm at South Milton Village Hall, this is an excellent session, is free to attend and all are welcome.
 4. Devon County Highways has advised that all diversion route signs are the responsibility of the respective traffic management contractors. If route signage is insufficient a call must be made to the number on the signage at the earliest opportunity.
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269 VACANCIES & Co-Option

One expression of interest has been received, the Councillors resolved to invite Mrs Marion Luscombe to join South Milton Parish Council as a Councillor. Mrs Luscombe accepted the offer, signed a declaration of acceptance, and took her seat with the Councillors.

270 PLANNING:

- a. **Applications** received by the Parish Council and under discussion and consideration for the last period. Any recommendation by the Parish Council to the Planning Department is noted after the application details. Those without comment remain under discussion.

NOTE: When providing a response to applications, the South Milton Neighbourhood Plan will be referenced.

1. Neighbourhood Plan: The Modification Consultation will run for a 6-week period from Friday 16th June 2023 to midnight on Friday 28th July 2023.

b. **Decisions:**

1. 3840/22/FUL, Higher Southdown Farm, (29/12) **No Decision Yet.**
2. 3947/22/TCA, Land at SX 697 429, Webbers, South Milton (11/12) **No Decision Yet.**
3. 1084/23/HHO, Mill Mead, South Milton, single storey extension to existing garage. **Conditional Approval.**
4. 1509/23/ARC, South Milton Fruit Farm. **Discharge of Condition Approved.**
5. 1512/23/COM, Hamlocks, South Milton. **Permitted Development.**
6. 1602/23/COM, Land at SX 698 042 South Milton Kingsbridge TQ7 3JQ. **No Decision Yet.**

c. **Enforcement issues:**

Please will all parishioners make a report to SHDC with full details of any violations that do not adhere to the original application for which permission was granted. ALL violations can be reported confidentially to Enforcement via www.southhams.gov.uk/article/3043/Report-a-Planning-Breach If you would like to submit a report but do not have access to the website, please contact the Parish Clerk.

271 BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED:

- a) It was resolved to approve .Gov.uk email addresses for all Councillors at a cost of £150 per annum. This is now a requirement as raised by the Internal Auditor.
- b) Parish Tree Warden & Feoffees feedback: Riccardo Carrelli has advised he is happy to keep the role but will only be able to commit to dealing with planning applications. He has spoken to Thelma and said the same. Councillors agreed that they would like Mr Carrelli to continue in the role.

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Cllrs Townsend and Halmshaw have spoken with Marion Brice, Marion is happy to continue with Feoffees for now with Cllr Halmshaw to take over in due course.

- c) To review the burial ground fees and documentation. It was agreed to undertake a site visit for a full review.
- d) Highway junctions, verges and drainage. Devon County Council have cut back the junctions and verges recently, if there are areas still requiring attention please report directly and forward the W reference number to the Parish Clerk to follow up.

A plan will be made to give to Devon County Highways showing exactly what work needs to be done with regard to verge maintenance. We will also obtain a map of the drainage in the parish, this will be reviewed with a simple system to show red blocked, green clear and will also identify any drainage not currently on the plans.

272 FINANCE & GOVERNANCE:

- a) **Accounts to pay Month 3** – Clerks Salary including HMRC, Burial Ground Maintenance, Monthly bank charge £8, Hall Hire £20, Parish Magazine Printing £58.75, Gov.UK emails Domain £100+VAT (2 years), hosting package £100.

Councillors resolved to approve all payments.

- b) **Governance:**

- 1. The website pages have been updated with the 2022/23 finances and updated information for the 2023/24 period.

273 MEETING ENDS 20.22 Hrs

Items for next agenda:

- Burial Ground Review
- Footpaths Update

263 DATES FOR THE DIARY: 21st Jul, 25th Sept, 16th Oct, 27th Nov 2023, South Milton Village Hall, 19.30 hrs.

Signed as a true record: _____

Print Name & Date: _____

Agenda Items and Updates; where possible please could these be submitted to Mrs Katharine Harrod by the 3rd Monday in the month to ensure time for inclusion, circulation and study. If a Council Member is unable to attend a meeting it would be appreciated if they could submit a brief précis of progress on their actions, if applicable, (to Mrs Katharine Harrod for distribution) together with their apologies.

Distribution List

Cllrs Berryman, Booker, Brice, Collyer, Jinks, Lewis, Townsend

For Information: e-circulation to: County Cllr R Gilbert, South Hams District Council Ward Councillors, South Milton Parish Council Notice Board, National Trust, Riccardo Carrelli, Jenny Brown.