

SOUTH MILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting.

Date: 26 th February 2024		Venue & Time: South Milton Village Hall, 19.30hrs
Present: Cllr Anne Berryman Cllr Paul Booker (in the Chair) Cllr Emma Halmshaw Cllr Steve Harding Cllr Marion Luscombe Cllr Nick Townsend	In Attendance: Katharine Harrod – Parish Clerk Dist. Cllr Mark Long Parishioners/Guests Present: 2	Apologies: Cllr Graham Jinks County Cllr Rufus Gilbert Dist. Cllr Samantha Dennis Councillors RESOLVED to accept the apologies received.

REF 2023/24 MINUTES

324 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

325 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):

1. Valda Smith, National Trust: Matt Fuller has joined as a Welcome Manager, this does mean there will be slightly more staffing capacity across the car parks which will help with key times. The track will be regraded to help level the surface again – due to take place prior to the Easter break. A question was raised regarding how much funds have been spent on regular temporary works to the track rather than a more long term solution. The track does move depending on the changing dunes and so scraping a good option.
Cllr Townsend met with the National Trust last week to discuss the bird reserve, it was an encouraging meeting with the focus of the National Trust being on conservation and landscape. The National Trust want to increase engagement with local communities, a good forum within the village would be the Climate & Nature Group who are happy to organise a meeting at the village hall to share ideas of what could happen in the future.
2. Concern was voiced regarding the bank to the side of Greenaways which is being eroded due to the poor weather and the ash dieback situation. There are also concerns across the parish regarding debris causing blocked drains. Cllr Townsend will speak with the landowner about the Greenaways issue.
3. A request was made for the addition of hedgehog signage, The Clerk will contact DEFRA for information to request free signage.

a) DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL:

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

- Roadworks will be taking place on the A379 east of Yealmpton between 26th February and 1st March, the road will be closed with a diversion route advertised.
- DIY waste taken to recycling centres: Four visits in any four-week period will be accepted OR an unbagged item up to 2 metres. Please refer to the website for details of chargeable items.
- Information regarding Devolution can all be found on the Devon County Council website.
<http://www.devontorbaydeal.org.uk/>
- Harbertonford has delays due to road works for the next month.

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/>

b) DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS:

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

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

1. South Hams Composting Pilots: With the support of South Hams District Council, Sustainable South Hams is conducting a series of compost pilots in the region. The pilots are starting at a small scale in a few locations, but if successful, will be rolled out more widely. Composting provides a valuable and easy way to reduce carbon emissions, increase soil fertility and encourage community engagement in climate and nature action.

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The objectives of the pilot programme are

- To increase the knowledge and support for community composting schemes.
- To put redundant brown bins to good use
- To inspire and inform residents about home composting
- To explore ways to offer street level composting of food waste

This offer is also being made to Sustainability Groups across the South Hams so interested parties should liaise with your local group to avoid duplication.

Cllr Townsend advised that the Climate & Nature Group will be seeking volunteers to attend the training.

2. Full council have approved the plan for the coming year, this includes an increase in council tax of 2.99%. They also approved imposing a premium (up to 200% council tax) for second homes, this will be imposed from 1st April 2025. Changes will also be made to unoccupied properties both furnished and unfurnished. It is the intention of DC that all of the premium raised from this will be spent on affordable and social housing.
3. On 22nd February there was a council tax setting meeting to agree the final tax levels for 2024/25, bills are now being issued.
4. The Councils Overview & Scrutiny Committee met recently, this meeting saw the General Manager of Fusion Leisure attending to answer questions on some of the issues regarding cleanliness/maintenance. They have not met a number of standards and have a programme over the coming year to increase cleanliness/maintenance levels and to increase employment levels to bring the four centres back to standard. South Hams District Council will be meeting with them every six months.
5. Town & Parish training took place in January, this was a well-attended, three-hour session, with good feedback. Further training sessions will be organised.
6. Ward Councillors have a Sustainable Localities Fund and a Climate Change and Biodiversity Fund - £2,000 each per fund, full details of how to apply can be found on the District Council website.
7. The police station front office has now opened to the public in Kingsbridge.

REPORT IT: <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

326 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/AMENDMENTS TO THE REGISTER: None received.

327 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

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

328 CLERKS REPORT:

1. We have still not received an analysis of the responses to the Housing Needs Survey which closed on 22nd September.
2. Details of the new Enforcement procedure have been passed to Councillors. It is positive to note that there are currently no reported Enforcement issues in this parish.
3. A review of all policies/procedures has commenced.
4. Bank Account: Lloyds are reviewing their accounts and we are not able to apply until the end of the month assuming we still fit the new criteria.
5. Defibrillator Application/update, the payment is due to be processed for the defibrillator lease renewal. Regarding the secondary unit, we have spoken with the National Trust General Manager, Jonathan Fisher who is supportive in principle and will discuss with the café tenant at their next meeting.

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6. The parish is signed up to the Road Warden Scheme, two members (across the four parishes) have undertaken the initial training, we now await dates for the Chapter 8 training. Following successful completion of this we will be able to order the tarmac etc required subject to Devon County Council approval.
7. Anthony Mangnall MP will hold a South Milton Surgery at the village hall on 27th May commencing 6.30pm.
8. The Devolution Deal Consultation commenced 12th February, <http://www.devontorbaydeal.org.uk/>
9. The damaged road sign at the A381 junction was reported in November and more recently in January (ref W231681186 & W241709339).
10. Ponding at the same location due to drainage issues has also been reported again as there were no reports of an issue on the Devon County Council system. Reference W241716912.
11. Following support from Anthony Mangnall MP, Airband have recently been engaging with parties regarding works in the area and the impact on the AONB as well as individuals.
12. Kerse Cross to Lower Cross Roadworks:

TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC

NOTICE is hereby given that Devon County Council has made the above titled order.

From **MONDAY 4 MARCH 2024**
for a maximum of 18 months

Anticipated Finish **FRIDAY 22 MARCH 2024**

No person shall cause or permit any vehicle to proceed on the sections of Affected Roads.

Roads affected -

KERSE CROSS TO LOWER KERSE, THURLESTONE TO LOWER KERSE, SOUTH MILTON, THURLESTONE

The alternative, signed, route for vehicles will be via - COURT PARK, EDDYSTONE RD TO KERSE CROSS, EDDYSTONE RD TO ILBERT RD, ILBERT RD TO WHITLOCKSWORTHY CROSS, ILBERT RD TO WHITLOCKSWORTHY CROSS, WHITLOCKSWORTHY TO KERSE CROSS AND VICE VERSA.

This temporary restriction is considered necessary to enable -
SURFACING WORK IN CARRIAGEWAY

For additional information contact:

CORMAC SURFACING CIVILS & PATCHING

Telephone: **0300 1234 222**

13. Communications via social media and/or the parish website: Kingsbridge Repair Café, Government Childcare Funding, Devon Countryside Access Forum Recruitment. Loneliness & Isolation Survey information has been shared on social media as have consultations re Alcohol PSPO <https://alcoholinpublic.commonplace.is/> and Devolution <http://www.devontorbaydeal.org.uk/> .

329 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. When providing a response to applications, the South Milton Neighbourhood Plan will be referenced.
1. 0234/24/LBC, Collacot, South Milton. Listed building consent for proposed window replacement with matching fenestration. First floor internal bathroom fit. Internal modifications to barn annexe. 29/2 **Support.**

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2. Wakeham Farm update: No update.
3. Dairy Site update: No update.

b. Decisions:

1. 3840/22/FUL, Higher Southdown Farm, 29/12/22. **No Decision Yet.**
2. 4120/23/VAR, Brewery Quay, Salcombe request to remove Principal Residency condition. **Refused.**
3. 4091/23/CLE, Rafters, Holwell Farm Service Road, South Huish. **Withdrawn.**

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.

330 BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED:

- a. To consider an 80th Anniversary D-Day Event, Thursday 6th June. Councillors were asked to consider potential options and bring them to the March meeting.
- b. Burial Ground Update: The lady who Cllr Jinks has been dealing with regarding the land has recently left the company, he will follow this up on his return to establish who the new contact is.
- c. Climate & Nature Action Group update: A 'Doom or Hope' session was organised with speakers for and against, another session is being organised by Kingsbridge Climate Action at the Kingsbridge Care Hub on 2nd March at noon, free entry although donations are requested at the door to cover expenses.
- d. South West Water Update: A meeting is taking place tomorrow morning at 9am, the treatment plant has been overflowing continuously since 17th February and SWW have not been able to confirm why. It was noted that seven years ago there was a similar circumstance which was classed as a pollution incident. An update will be provided at the March meeting.

331 FINANCE & GOVERNANCE:

a) Receipts & Purchases Month 11

Monthly Payments: Clerks Salary & HMRC, Monthly bank charge £8, Hall Hire £20, Hugo Fox £11.99
Councillors **RESOLVED** to approve all payments.

- b) Governance:** It was confirmed that the precept request had been submitted and acknowledged by South Hams District Council.

332 MEETING ENDS 20.29 Hrs

333 FUTURE MEETINGS 2024: 25th Mar, 22nd Apr, 27th May, 24th Jun, 22nd Jul, 23rd Sept, 28th Oct, 25th Nov, 7.30pm, South Milton Village Hall.

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: South Milton Parish Council Councillors

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