

SOUTH MILTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 28th JANUARY 2019

OPS

- It was agreed that the Parish Map of footpaths should be updated and reprinted. This will tie in with proposals in the emerging Neighbourhood Plan.
- Councillors discussed the purchase of a dedicated laptop. Apart from the obvious benefits for security with data etc, from 1st April 2019 SHDC will no longer be sending hard copies of planning applications so a laptop with a large memory and able to display drawings etc in high resolution would enable councillors to determine applications electronically in the hall. It was agreed to seek funding for this purchase; RG and SW both agreed to support it and they were thanked by MB.

Police No report received.

1. Present/Apologies: Cllrs M. Brice, T. Lewis, R. Luscombe, E Grant, G. Collyer and P. Booker (SMPC) present. Also present Cllr S. Wright (SHDC) and Cllr. R. Gilbert (DCC). Apologies from P Davies (SMPC), J Pearce (SHDC) and E Reece (National Trust).

2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 26th November 2018 had previously been circulated and were taken as read. They were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters Arising not raised in agenda items below None

4. Declarations of Pecuniary or Other Interests on agenda items – RL declared an interest in planning application. 3708/18/FUL Didwell and took no part in the voting thereon.

5. Correspondence

- Letters of thanks: at PD's request, thanks had been sent to T Darke and R Rogers for their help in clearing areas around Horswell Lane following heavy rain in December. A letter had also been sent to P Field to thank him for his great work on the planting round the war memorial. MB asked that a letter should be sent to E Stidston to thank him for removing the tree which had been overhanging the road between Greenway and Vineyard.
- A request for help from a student at Bath Spa University: Natalie Keane is researching the sustainable future for South Milton Sands in conjunction with the National Trust and has requested help for her dissertation. Several people had already offered assistance.

6. Neighbourhood Plan Update – TL advised the Examiner has now confirmed the Plan can proceed to referendum without further consultation. A site visit is planned for Tuesday 5th February and referendum should now take place April/May.

7. Budget and Precept 2019/20 – The proposed paper had been circulated in advance. This showed that we were working well within our means and there was no need to increase the precept which will remain at £4,500 for the coming year. Councillors voted unanimously to agree the budget and for the precept to remain at £4,500.

8. Planning matters

- 3708/18/FUL Didwell, South Milton: a special meeting was held on 18th December 2018 when Councillors voted to SUPPORT the application
- 0053/19/TCA Meadows Meet, South Milton - SUPPORT
- 3999/18/HHO Millers Cottage, South Milton - SUPPORT
- 0164/19/TCA Hingstons Farm, South Milton - SUPPORT

9. South Milton Sands/National Trust

- PB reported on the meeting held in December with T Darke and R Rogers. Generally they support proposals to ease congestion in Horswell Lane but said that cutting back vegetation at passing places before the summer holidays would help the situation. SMPC will monitor this. PD was due to speak to G Stidston who had not been at the meeting, PD also spoke to the owner at Horswell Cottages about cutting back trees.
- Dog Poo Bin: The National Trust has been in contact with SHDC but, as neither Emma Reece nor Judy Pearce were at the meeting, the present situation is unclear.

10. District Councillors' Report - SW

- JLP: the inspectors need no further information and will now write the report. There will be a special Full Council meeting in March to ratify the JLP.
- Waste: SHDC is now in partnership with FCC, current providers at WDBC. We should see no changes in the immediate future but hopefully in time there will be an increase in what can be collected roadside. FCC also taking responsibility for road sweeping which is under review. We hope for an improvement to what is currently provided.
- Peer Review: now completed. Overall a good result for SHDC.
- MB asked for financial support for our plan to get a laptop and SW said he would contribute what he could.

11. County Councillor's Report – RG

- MB asked for financial support for the purchase of a laptop and RG undertook to provide funding. Clerk to request the appropriate form.
- Budget: central government will allow local authorities to raise council tax by 2%-2.9/3% without a referendum so we will have a 3% increase. This will help fund adult social care; 50% of DCC tax collected goes on care for the elderly – the cost is huge.
- Roads – more money available for roads (£18m) of which £6m will go on A roads, £1.3m on bridges and £11.3m on B and C roads.
- Business news – Flybe probably not being sold and Appledore report three good quality sources of interest, but any boat building will be on a smaller scale.
- Broadband – RG seeking clarification as to when we might be connected.

12. Finance

- The balances at bank totalled £16,132.90 after deducting the following payments which were approved:

• PMP Parish Magazine Printing	£ 43.50
• Hall hire	£ 40.00
• Clerk's salary	£ 400.00

13. Date of next meeting – Monday 25th February 2019 at 7.30 p.m.

OPS

Approved.....
(Chairman)

Date.....