

SOUTH MILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting;

Date: 25th January 2021		Venue & Time: Virtual Meeting, 19.30hrs
Present: Cllr Anne Berryman Cllr Paul Booker (in the chair) Cllr Marion Brice Cllr Graham Collyer Cllr Graham Jinks Cllr Tim Lewis Cllr Nick Townsend	In Attendance: Katharine Harrod – Clerk & Minute taker Dist. Cllr Mark Long Dist. Cllr Judy Pearce County Cllr Rufus Gilbert Parishioners/Guests Present: 3	Apologies:

REF 2020/21 MINUTES

038 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

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

040 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

The minutes of the Parish Council meetings of 23rd November & 29th December were agreed without alteration and will be signed at the next available opportunity.

Proposed: Cllr Jinks Seconded: Cllr Booker and agreed unanimously

041 CLERKS REPORT:

- a. The Emergency Plan has now been uploaded to the website.
- b. The review of the fees in respect of the burial ground has commenced, a document will be provided to Councillors for consideration prior to the February meeting.
- c. Minute Book project – the minute books will be collected this month to enable a quotation to be obtained.

042 **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):** No issues raised.

043 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT:

- a. South Milton Pot-Holes – an issue with potholes on the road to Shute Farm has been reported, reference number W211386149. Details of the report have been forwarded to Cllr Gilbert with a request for a tarmac to be supplied.
- b. Consultation: Future of Transport, Rural Strategy. This consultation is open until 11.45pm 16th February, open to anyone with an interest in rural transport. Please view this link for full details: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/future-of-transport-rural-strategy-call-for-evidence>
- c. DfE are providing devices (laptops and tablets) for disadvantaged children who:
 - Have no digital devices in the home
 - Only have a smart phone
 - Only a single device in the home.
- d. Recycling centres are to remain open through this lockdown. An update will be provided in February re new Van permits for recycling centres.
- e. Highways have a lot of flooding damage and pot-holes to clear after recent heavy rains.
- f. Edmeston A 379 works have commenced. There are night closures for six weeks.
- g. Contracts have now been signed for rollout of Fibre to the premise broadband across Devon and Somerset for completion by 2024.
- h. Various emails continue to be forwarded about Covid and other related matters.

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- i. DCC and Police & Crime Commissioner elections on May 6th May have not currently due to be delayed, the Government are keen for them to proceed however, no leafleting or door to door canvassing will be allowed to proceed.
- j. Car journeys in Devon are down by 33% during latest lockdown.
- k. On Sunday we walked from home to South Milton sands and back via Preston Farm. Stopped for a rest near the beach café before returning. It seemed surprisingly busy with takeaways. A letter will be forwarded to the National Trust (David Ford & Emma Reece) with SHDC copied in on the communication.

PLEASE report all highways issues ONLINE at:

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

If you do not have internet access, please contact the Clerk on 07704 941150

044 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT:

- a. The new lockdown has again led to a lot of work being added to the SHDC workload which would not normally be part of the daily work, please bear with officers if they are taking longer than usual to respond.
- b. Self Isolation Payments – over 1,000 claims have been made with 173 being approved. The limited numbers of approved claims are purely down to the Government criteria.
- c. There are a number of grants (currently 8) that people can apply, SHDC have uploaded new software that will advise past applicants which grants they can now apply for. Regulations have also changed on certain grants to make them easier to obtain. Parishioners and business owners are encouraged to revisit the site. If a previous applicant (from November onwards) logs on and inputs their reference number the system will advise which grants they are now eligible for. To date over £2.2m has been paid out.
- d. Computers for schools. SHDC have a number of machines with cameras/speakers, these are being replaced with laptops and the old equipment is going to be donated to the local secondary schools. There is also a small amount of money from the Seamoor lottery that will be spent on laptops and essential equipment for schools.
- e. A new campaign is being run, Explore from Your Door, an initiative to encourage people to discover more about the immediate area in which they live without going out in their cars.
- f. SHDC has now adopted the Climate Change Strategy & Action Plan
- g. SHDC has also gone through the draft budget process, it will be increasing by the maximum amount allowed which equates to £0.10p per band D property per week.
- h. Details in respect of the Covid-19 vaccination strategy are all available online.
- i. The police are tightening up on compliance, we understand they are now under instruction to follow up any complaints that come in. We have received confirmation that, where appropriate, second homeowners are being asked to return home or face being fined.
Please ensure all issues are reported.
- j. The SHDC housing strategy is out to consultation until 1st February. You can read a copy of the draft Housing Strategy here: www.southhams.gov.uk/housing-strategy-2021
Please fill out this short survey with your views: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/8MMVGG8>
- k. The rollout of the new recycling service has been delayed slightly. It will take place over a number of weeks with an anticipated start date of Easter for the Ivybridge area. Full information will be provided to all in good time prior to the first collections.
Cllr Townsend advised the District Councillors about a problem with reporting missed bin collections. Cllr Long has taken up the issue.
- l. All public toilets in the area are now free to use during the lockdown period.

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

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

Abandoned Vehicle, Damaged or 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...

045 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. 4265/20/FUL, Temporary mobile pop-up takeaway, land at South Huish Farm – **SMPC Conditionally Support**, please refer to Appendix B for the official Parish response to South Hams District Council.

- b. **Enforcement issues:** Continue to be dealt with.

Please will all parishioners provide the Clerk with full details of any violations that do not adhere to the original application for which permission was granted. ALL violations can be reported to Enforcement via www.southhams.gov.uk/article/3043/Report-a-Planning-Breach

046 BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED:

- a) Temporary Traffic Restrictions:

THE COUNTY OF DEVON (TEMPORARY RESTRICTION) (ROAD FROM A381 TO SUTTON CROSS, SOUTH MILTON) NOTICE 2021

TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC & PARKING

DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL hereby give **NOTICE** that:

From **MONDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2021**
for a maximum of 5 days

Anticipated Finish **FRIDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2021**

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

Roads affected -
ROAD FROM A381 TO SUTTON CROSS, SOUTH MILTON

The alternative, signed, route for vehicles will be via - A381 TO SUTTON CROSS, SUTTON CROSS TO WHITLOCKSWORTHY, SOUTH MILTON TO UPTON CROSS, UPTON CROSS TO HUXTON CROSS, HUXTON CROSS TO B3197, A381 AND VICE VERSA

This temporary restriction is considered necessary to enable -
DEVON HIGHWAYS - PATCHING

For additional information contact:
SKANSKA
Telephone: **03301052660**

Dated: MONDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2021

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THE COUNTY OF DEVON (TEMPORARY RESTRICTION) (WHITLOCKSWORTHY TO SUTTON CROSS, SOUTH MILTON) NOTICE 2021

TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC & PARKING

DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL hereby give NOTICE that:

From **WEDNESDAY 17 MARCH 2021**
for a maximum of 5 days

Until **TUESDAY 23 MARCH 2021** (both dates inclusive)

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

Roads affected -
WHITLOCKSWORTHY TO SUTTON CROSS, SOUTH MILTON

The alternative, signed, route for vehicles will be via - UPTON CROSS TO SOUTH MILTON
UPTON CROSS TO HEDDESWELL CROSS
ROAD FROM ELSTON CROSS TO HEDDESWELL CROSS
35505410 - ROAD FROM HESSESWELL CROSS TO LANGWORTHYS BARN
35505507 - A381 OLDAWAY TONGUE TO LANGWORTHYS BARN
35505521 - A381 OLDAWAY TONGUE TO BURLEIGH LANE END
35505520 - ROAD FROM A381 TO SUTTON CROSS

This temporary restriction is considered necessary to enable -
PROVIDE NEW WATER SERVICE

For additional information contact:
KIER MG LTD
Telephone: **0800 1691144**

Dated: WEDNESDAY 17 MARCH 2021

b) Footpath Closure Notice:

FOOTPATH NO. 7, THURLESTONE

TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC ORDER 2021

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

From: **THURSDAY, 14th JANUARY 2021**

To: **WEDNESDAY, 14th JULY 2021**

No persons shall proceed on the section of the affected path except for access to land or premises on or adjacent to that length of path. The order will continue in force for a period not exceeding six months or until the works have been completed, whichever is the sooner.

Public rights of way affected:
FOOTPATH NO. 7, THURLESTONE to Coronation Slipway

There is no alternative route.

The closure is necessary in the interest of public safety.

Further information may be obtained by contacting *Public Rights of Way on 0345 155 1004*.

Dated: **7th January 2021**

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047 FINANCE & GOVERNANCE:

- a. The accounts for 2020/21 month 10 were received, shown as year-to-date **Appendix A**. A mandate sheet and transaction record will be signed in respect of the payments at our next actual meeting:

Accounts to pay – Clerks Salary £245.30, Jerry’s Garden Services £78.00, CAB donation £25.

The payments were proposed by Cllr Collyer, seconded by Cllr Townsend and approved unanimously.

b. **Governance:**

1. **Precept Dispensation:**

A blanket dispensation is required for all current Parish Councillors, effective immediately and to remain in force for a period of one year, or until repealed by Council, to enable Members to speak and vote at meetings of the Council (as defined in the Code of Conduct) relating to Setting the Council Tax or a Precept. This dispensation is now due for review. The grounds for granting this particular dispensation are:

- That so many members of the Council have disclosable pecuniary interests in the matter of setting the precept/Council Tax that it would impede the transaction of the business.
- That the Council considers that the dispensation is in the interests of persons living in the Council’s area.
- That without a dispensation no member of the Council would be able to participate on the matter. Proposed Cllr Townsend and seconded by Cllr Berryman the meeting unanimously agreed to renew this dispensation for a further one year or until repealed by Council. Accordingly discussions then took place re the BUDGET & PRECEPT for the coming financial year.

2. **Precept Discussion and Agreement:**

- The monthly accounts always show the Council’s spend to date in the financial year. In December/January the Parish Council uses this information to estimate and assess the projected outturn spend for the year. This then gives the Council a likely carry forward figure for the next financial year and informs the precept discussions. .
- The meeting therefore reviewed the year-to-date financial position and worked through the modelling supplied by the Clerk to assure itself of the validity of the projected outturn.
- The meeting then considered the commitments, inflationary pressures and the likely increase in services needing to be both provided and funded locally. Year on year the Parish Council has to pick up more and more of the services previously provided by the County or District Councils – if the Parish and its’ parishioners wish them to continue.
- The Council Tax Support Grant (CTSG) from SHDC has now been removed entirely and the base band D on which precept calculations are based has decreased from 253.37 to 248.02.
- The meeting noted that the Government has decided to defer the setting of council tax referendum principles to town and parish councils for 2020/21. However it has issued a challenge to those councils to demonstrate restraint when increasing precepts that are not a direct result of taking on additional responsibilities.
- The Council concluded that they needed to increase the precept by 5% to £4,557 so the average household will pay £18.38 per year (i.e.: £0.35p per week). (Last year, the precept cost the average household £17.50 per annum so this is less than 2p per week increase). This will mean our budget increases by £57 allowing us to continue to fund the costs associated with upkeep of the parish.
- A proposal was made to request a precept level of £4,557 as per the above information. Proposed by Cllr Collyer, seconded by Cllr Jinks and approved unanimously.

MEETING ENDS **20.50** Hrs

DATES FOR THE DIARY: 22nd February, 22nd March 2021, **ZOOM**, 19.30 hrs.

Signed as a true record: _____

