

# SOUTH MILTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting.

<b>Date:</b> 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2023		<b>Venue &amp; Time:</b> South Milton Village Hall, 19.30hrs
<b>Present:</b> Cllr Anne Berryman Cllr Emma Halmshaw Cllr Steve Harding Cllr Graham Jinks Cllr Nick Townsend (in the Chair)	<b>In Attendance:</b> Katharine Harrod – Clerk & Minute taker  Dist. Cllr Samantha Dennis County Cllr Rufus Gilbert Parishioners/Guests Present: 2	<b>Apologies:</b> Cllr Paul Booker Dist. Cllr Mark Long

REF 2023/24 MINUTES

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### 250 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

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### 251 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

This being the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, District Cllr Samantha Dennis taking the Chair whilst the 2023/24 Chair of the Parish Council was elected. Cllr Booker was proposed as Chairman by Cllr Townsend, seconded by Cllr Jinks and voted through unanimously.

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### 252 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

District Cllr Samantha Dennis then called for nominations for Vice Chairman. Cllr Berryman proposed Cllr Townsend; this was seconded by Cllr Jinks and again approved by all. Cllr Townsend thanked Cllr Dennis and took the chair.

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### 253 ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE & ADHERENCE TO THE CODE OF CONDUCT

Cllr Booker will sign his acceptance of Office as Chair of the Parish Council for the 2023/24 year at the June. All Councillors again undertook to abide by South Milton Parish Councils' Code of Conduct.

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### 254 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) The parking signage has been placed on either side of the affected road, it appears to be working well at present.
- b) Valda Smith, National Trust Area Ranger submitted the following update:  
The main boardwalk, opposite the carpark has now been fully replaced and the additional viewing platform for disabled access has been added at the end. There is still a handrail to be added, this should be happening in the next couple of weeks.  
The upper boardwalk, opposite the cafe, is being replaced this week.  
The overflow car parking field has now been fenced ready for use during the season. The eroded section at the bottom, near the entrance gate, has been fenced to prevent cars parking on it and potentially getting stuck, and also, to allow the ground to recover.

### c) DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL:

Cllr Rufus Gilbert, Email: [rufus.Gilbert@devon.gov.uk](mailto:rufus.Gilbert@devon.gov.uk)

- £2 bus fares will continue – good news for parishioners.
- The recent accident at Harraton Cross was due to a gentleman having a heart attack while crossing the road.
- Devon County Council are looking to work with South Hams District Council to continue the works that have already commenced between the two organisations.
- Finances are better than anticipated. A full review is taking place, more information will be shared at the next meeting.

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- We have seen a dramatic increase in the number of potholes over the last six weeks. Noted the number of potholes being reported and repaired has fallen year on year. However, there is currently a backlog and a time delay in filling the existing holes.

### 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/>

### d) DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS:

Email Cllr Samantha Dennis: [samantha.dennis@swdevon.gov.uk](mailto:samantha.dennis@swdevon.gov.uk)

Email Cllr Mark Long: [cllr.mark.long@southhams.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.mark.long@southhams.gov.uk)

1. Cllr Dennis was welcomed to the parish as our new Ward Councillor.
2. Following the recent elections, the council is now administered by a Liberal Democrat majority. All positions are yet to be filled, this will be confirmed at a full council meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> May.

### 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...

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## THE MEETING CONVENED

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### 255 APPOINTMENT OF COUNCILLORS TO COMMITTEES/LEAD ROLES

The mandate of the Clerk as Responsible Financial Officer for the Council was renewed after a proposal by Cllr Townsend, seconded by Cllr Berryman and voted unanimously. This gave the mandate solely to Mrs Katharine Harrod. The Chairman outlined the following roles/liasons/leads on outside bodies and asked whether those concerned were content to continue. Proposed by Cllr Townsend and seconded by Cllr Jinks

- Police & N/Watch Liaison - Cllr Jinks
- Feoffees - Marion Brice will be asked if she would like to continue.
- Tree Warden - Riccardo Carrelli
- Footpaths - Allocated between the Councillors. Clerk to investigate P3 & other options.
- Emergency Planning Officer- Clerk
- Flood Planning Officer - Cllr Townsend
- Village Hall - Cllr Berryman
- Neighbourhood Plan - Cllr Townsend
- Snow Wardens - Cllr Harding
- Burial Ground - Cllr Jinks
- GDPR Officer - Clerk
- Defibrillator Reports - Kate Ladd
- Trough Planting (Hillingsdown) - Cllr Halmshaw
- Enforcement Liaison - Cllr Townsend
- Church Liaison - Cllr Berryman
- Climate & Ecology - Cllr Townsend

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

### 257 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meetings of 24<sup>th</sup> April without alteration, they were then signed by the Chairman.

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### 258 CLERKS REPORT:

#### 1. Vacancies:

The Representation of the People Act 1985, Section 21 allows the elected members, provided there is a quorum (i.e. – one third of the whole number of members with a minimum of three) to co-opt members to fill the remaining vacancies. If the Parish Council fails to exercise their power to co-opt within seven weeks (35 working days) or if there is no quorum, South Hams District Council may order a fresh election to properly constitute the Parish Council. We therefore have one vacancy to fill by co-option at the June Parish Council Meeting.

- a. <https://www.southwestwater.co.uk/environment/waterfit/waterfitlive/> on 27<sup>th</sup> April SWW's Waterfit map showed that sewage was overflowing into the South Milton stream. We encourage all residents to keep a link to this map to ensure that they are aware of all sewage overflows in the area.  
A request was made to Cllr Dennis regarding the signage that was previously organised by Cllr Pearce. One of the signs was previously washed away and should be replaced prior to the summer season if possible.
- b. Parish Housing Needs Survey. The Housing Team have changed the approach to Housing Needs Surveys (HNS), they are timetabling surveys over the next 18 months so that no Parish or Town should have an HNS more than 5 years old.  
The Team will be looking to attend Town and Parish Council meetings to explain the process and the end use. In this area the plan is to do the surveys in a cluster of the four parishes of South Huish, South Milton, Malborough and Thurlestone all at the same time, in August this year.

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### 259 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: Councillors resolved to formally approve the modified proposal consultation statement for the new housing policy.  
All documentation has been sent to the independent examiner for clarification that everything is now in place and ready for formal review and approval.
2. Rockbox: Premises License Application, Field Near Thurlestone Golf Club, Sale of alcohol for consumption on and off the premises, Monday to Sunday from 11am to 10pm. 24/5  
Rockbox has confirmed that there will be no live music this year (but expect streamed music and DJ's), those placing food orders will be given hand held buzzers to indicate when food is ready.  
South Milton Parish Council have recently sent in their comments regarding issues raised following the Rockbox presence in 2022. South Hams District Council and the Police Licensing Team have responded positively and were due to discuss all the points raised by both Thurlestone Parish Council and South Milton Parish Council. Thurlestone Parish Council will continue to provide evidence and feedback to relevant parties regarding the problems experienced.  
Rockbox will be asked if it is possible to have the bar and food serving outlets turned to face the sea as it is thought this will reduce the noise issues.  
South Milton Parish Council are supportive of the stance being taken by Thurlestone Parish Council.

#### **No statutory consultation requirement for the following applications:**

3. 1509/23/ARC, South Milton Fruit Farm, approval of details reserved by condition 6 (Foul Drainage) of planning consent 3748/21/FUL. **Support.**
4. 1512/23/COM, Hamlocks, South Milton. Notice of intention to install a telegraph pole at 10.5m high (9m above ground) for the provision of FTTP. **Object** – there is already a pole sited there.
5. 1602/23/COM, Land at SX 698 042 South Milton Kingsbridge TQ7 3JQ, intention to install a telegraph pole at 10.5m high (9m above ground) for the provision of FTTP. **Object** – next to a Grade 1 listed building, there is potential damage to mature trees and they already have another pole on other side of the road.

#### **Airband Road Closure Notifications, within 6 months, dates not yet available:**

6. ROAD PAST LOWER SUTTON FARM, SOUTH MILTON, DEVON, TQ7 3JG

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7. WHITLOCKSWORTHY TO MIDDLE PARK TERRACE ,SOUTH MILTON, DEVON, TQ7 3JT
8. KERSE CROSS TO UPTON CROSS, SOUTH MILTON, DEVON, TQ7 3JF

Noted that diversion signage is not sufficient and needs improvement. This will be fed back to Highways and Airband.

**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. 4046/22/FUL, Development Site At Sx 698 428, Whitlocksworthy To Sutton Cross (3/3) **Conditional Approval.**
4. 1084/23/HHO, Mill Mead, South Milton, single storey extension to existing garage 25/5. **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](http://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.

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### 260 BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED:

- a) Road Warden Scheme: It was resolved to speak with Devon County Council about joining the scheme. Several people expressed an interest in attending Chapter 8 training.

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### 261 FINANCE & GOVERNANCE:

- a) **Accounts to pay Month 2** – Clerks Salary including HMRC, Burial Ground Maintenance, Monthly bank charge £8, Hall Hire, Hillingsdown Maintenance , Zurich Insurance (3yr LTA expires 2024) £169.66, Alison Marshall £100. **Councillors resolved to approve all payments.**
- b) **Governance:**
  1. Internal Audit: It was resolved to renew the contract with the Internal Auditor for the 2023/24 period.
  2. External Audit Update: The exemption documentation will be submitted by month end.
  3. Insurance: Zurich have offered an annual premium of £169.66, it was resolved to accept this renewal figure.

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### 262 MEETING ENDS 20.12 Hrs

#### Items for next agenda:

- Road Warden Update
- Footpaths Update

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**263 DATES FOR THE DIARY:** 26<sup>th</sup> Jun, 17<sup>th</sup> Jul, 25<sup>th</sup> Sept, 16<sup>th</sup> Oct, 27<sup>th</sup> Nov 2023, South Milton Village Hall, 19.30 hrs.

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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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.