

SOUTH MILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting.

Date: 21 st July 2023		Venue & Time: South Milton Village Hall, 19.30hrs
Present: Cllr Paul Booker Cllr Emma Halmshaw Cllr Steve Harding Cllr Graham Jinks Cllr Marion Luscombe Cllr Nick Townsend (in the Chair)	In Attendance: Katharine Harrod – Clerk & Minute taker Dist. Cllr Samantha Dennis Dist. Cllr Mark Long Parishioners/Guests Present: 1	Apologies: County Cllr Rufus Gilbert Cllr Anne Berryman

REF 2023/24 MINUTES

274 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

275 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):

- John Stevenson has taken down the dead ash tree, the remainder of the tree will be removed once the bee's that are nesting in it have gone. The Parish Council thank John for his work.
- The tree by the bridge has been cleared but still requires work to one of the boughs. Cllr Townsend will attend.
- A parishioner advised the parking issues in the village are getting worse. A number of vehicles, particularly the larger ones, are catching edge of a thatched property on the main through road. The parishioner has added a bollard by the gully but this still did not prevent a large articulated vehicle getting stuck under the thatch. Councillors advised the signage is there through peak periods because the farm vehicles and emergency vehicles are unable to turn the corner when other vehicles are parked there. A suggestion was made for the homeowner to put two bollards outside the property or attach a metal frame as erected by other properties in a similar predicament.

d) DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL:

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

Road Closure Notifications, within 6 months:

- WHITLOCKSWORTHY TO MIDDLE PARK TERRACE ,SOUTH MILTON, TQ7 3JT 22nd – 24th August. 8am to 6pm. It will be fed back to Devon County Council that this timing is unacceptable and the works, which are not essential, should be delayed until the schools reopen.
- 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/>

e) DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS:

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

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

- The new administration at the District Council Executive Committee have outlined 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.
- There will be a Town & Parish Council forum online 6pm, 26th July, this will be the start of conversations with focus being on the next four-year plan, Cllr Booker hopes to attend to represent South Milton Parish Council.

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3. The Executive agreed to give a sizeable grant of £40k to support the work of Sustainable South Hams. Plus, it was agreed to form a new council advisory panel for climate matters. Sustainable South Hams support grass roots climate projects as well as sharing knowledge and inspiration. Their website resources are particularly valuable, please see <https://www.sussh.org/> for full information.
4. The Active Travel project is being funded from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. This will identify the most effective initiatives to help people make more short journeys on foot/wheels. There is a survey online, details of which were forwarded to South Milton Parish Council. An online session (open to all) regarding the project took place on 11th July. A separate meeting can be arranged by Parish Councils if required.
5. Cllr Dennis has been speaking with a number of parishioners in the Ward regarding the increased cost of taxi fares. There is a maximum fare set by South Hams District Council (<https://www.southhams.gov.uk/article/9087/Hackney-Carriage-Fares-2022>) and it has recently come to light that some taxis have exceeded this. If anyone has been charged more than the maximum amounts stated please contact Cllr Dennis.
6. The Executive have been approached to tackle poor quality rented housing across the South Hams covering both social and private lets. Residents now have the ability to report issues of disrepair i.e. works not being dealt with, mould, condensation. There is an online form to report issues with the facility to upload photographs. When an enquiry is received South Hams District Council guarantees a response within two weeks however, each received report is triaged and if it is a problem deemed to require more urgent attention it will be dealt with as a priority. If affected parishioners are not available to access the internet they have the ability to phone in to make a report. <https://www.southhams.gov.uk/report-disrepair>
7. A training session in respect of planning is due to be organised to provide training for newer Councillors and a refresher for those who have been in office some time. This is due to be set up early September. Councillor questions/queries should be forwarded to Cllr Long prior to the event to ensure the session is as current and relevant as possible.
8. A Housing Needs meeting took place on 18th July to introduce Councillors to the consultation that is due to take place during August and early September. It was well attended by Councillors across the four parishes (Malborough, South Huish, South Milton & Thurlestone). An amended version of the questionnaire will be issued to all four parishes for additional comments prior to the consultation going live. Communications are also preparing marketing material for local publication. Parish Councillors should be aware that their input to ensure a good response will be critical.
9. Ward Councillors have a localities budget which can be used to support projects and local organisations. Please see the South Hams District Council website for full information.
10. Wakeham Farm is due to commence construction of the four new builds, groundworks due to start 31st July, the construction program is to take place over sixty weeks working Monday to Friday (and Saturday when required).

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

276 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: No declarations of interest were received.

277 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meetings of 26th June without alteration, they were then signed by the Chairman.

278 CLERKS REPORT:

1. Defibrillator Training 19th September 7pm, Malborough Annex, free of charge, all welcome, book your place by emailing the Parish Clerk.

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2. Housing Needs Survey & Meeting: Covered in South Hams District Council report.
3. Town & Parish Forum 26th July: Covered in South Hams District Council report.
4. Road Warden Scheme: See separate email. It transpires that South Milton Parish Council signed up to the scheme in 2017. Cllr Booker to confirm the status of his Chapter 8 qualification.

279 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.
2. Local Planning Update: See South Hams District Council report.
3. 2226823/ARC, Tolcarne, South Milton, Application for approval of details reserved by condition 4 (landscaping scheme) of planning consent 2664/21/FUL. **No Comment.**

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. 1602/23/COM, Land at SX 698 042 South Milton Kingsbridge TQ7 3JQ. **Objection Recommend Refusal.**

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.

280 BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED:

- a) To agree the future requirements in respect of the burial ground plans, fees and documentation.
The Councillors having met at the burial ground prior to the meeting resolved to have a working group comprising Cllrs Jinks, Luscombe, Townsend, Berryman and the Parish Clerk to undertake a comprehensive review of the burial ground and the restrictions as to who can currently be buried there. During the review of documentation and fees the Parish Council will consider and respond to all requests to be buried in the burial ground.
- b) Highway junctions, verges and drainage.
Cllr Halmshaw & Cllr Harding will review the verges.
Cllr Townsend will review the drainage/gulley's.
- c) Maintenance of Public Rights of Way in the parish.
In summary: 14 Footpaths and 1 bridleway. This will give a total mileage of 3.24 miles -this sum does not include any Unclassified Roads (UCRs) or the sections of the coast path (this is not included in the P3 scheme) The basis annual grant each year based on £30 per mile would be 4 miles x 30 = £120 plus any UCRs and the parish would be eligible for special project money for the larger projects.
Councillors resolved to leave the maintenance of the public rights of way with Devon County Council.
- d) It was resolved to approve upkeep of the area surrounding the War Memorial by Mr & Mrs Richardson.

281 FINANCE & GOVERNANCE:

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a) **Accounts to pay Month 4** – Clerks Salary including HMRC, Burial Ground Maintenance £90, Monthly bank charge £8, Hall Hire £20, Otter Nurseries £19.98, War Memorial Plants & Care £65, SLCC Renewal £39.06, Parish Magazine Printing £58.75

Councillors resolved to approve all payments.

b) **Governance: None**

282 MEETING ENDS 20.16 Hrs

283 DATES FOR THE DIARY: 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

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.