

SOUTH MILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting.

Date: 27 th September 2021		Venue & Time: South Milton Village Hall, 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 Nat Trust Ranger Emma Reece Parishioners/Guests Present: 4	Apologies:

REF 2021/22 MINUTES

98 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

99 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Brice re minute reference 104/g Wakeham Update

100 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

The minutes of the Parish Council meetings of 26th July were approved without alteration and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed: Cllr Collyer Seconded: Cllr Brice and agreed unanimously

101 CLERKS REPORT:

- a. The website contains up to date news including information about the Healthy Start Initiative – a promotional fruit and vegetable box initiative aimed at eligible pregnant women and those families with children under four years of age. www.southmiltonparishcouncil.uk
- b. Devon Air Ambulance needs a community of volunteers to keep its 19 charity shops open and helicopters flying. The great thing about volunteering in our retail shops is that there is a role to suit everyone, whether you are young or older, an outgoing type or someone who likes to work behind the scenes. As with all volunteering roles, you can choose where, when and for how long you volunteer. To find out more about your nearest shop and how you can help, please contact our Volunteer Manager Cara Jones on 01392 304343 / c.jones@daat.org.
- c. Verges & Footpaths: Reports continue to be made to DCC regarding verges and footpaths that require attention. The autumn cuts are due to take place shortly. West Alvington Parish Council are also reporting these issues, particularly re Lane End verges.
- d. Beach Feet: The Beach Feet that were supported by Councillors at the July meeting are now in place at either end of South Milton Sands plus one at Yarmer and one at Leas Foot. We have received very favourable feedback about the feet and would like to thank Thurlestone Primary School for creating them.
- e. The perceived abandoned vehicle has now been moved following communications from ourselves and SHDC.
- f. Defibrillator Training, we are arranging a training session due to take place at the village hall. Full details will be issued shortly.
- g. Connecting Devon & Somerset Super Fibre Rollout. We have arranged an event due to take place on 6th October, 7.00pm at Malborough Village Hall. This will detail the fibre broadband rollout and will give everyone the chance to ask questions about the connection including timescales and how it will ultimately improve the connectivity in the immediate area.
- h. Domestic Energy Efficiency Information, Devon Communities Together are looking to contact anyone for whom energy affordability is a major consideration and staying warm is difficult. The information they have includes
 - Warm Homes Discount eligibility
 - Home energy saving

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- Switching energy suppliers
- Priority Services Register

You can also obtain information regarding:

- Investment in home energy saving
- The pros and cons of Smart Meters
- Devon Oil Collective
- Carbon Zero – new energy sources
- Obtaining further help with energy affordability

To find out more contact: Martin Rich, martin@devoncommunities.org.uk, 07984 001542

102 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. Emma Reece, NT Ranger joined the meeting.
 - There is now a permanent 'A' board at the car park encouraging traffic to turn left on exit.
 - The trust has had significant staffing cutbacks in the recent past but as the season has progressed, an additional staff member was appointed for South Milton Sands Car Park.
 - The outflow pipe will be extended out through the foreshore where it was before. it requires an MMO license to get it extended as well as other documentation in place. They hope to do it as soon as they can, this will be a relief to Devon Birds!
 - The Councillors requested information re volume of beach users, the National Trust will provide the information.
 - It was noted the volume of traffic through the village is high but, despite this, the overflow car park has only reached capacity on a few occasions. Having extra staff on site has helped enormously.
 - b. The Church of All Saints, South Milton, is temporarily locked due to some of the architrave falling across the organ bench. Once the relevant works have taken place and the area is secured again the church will be reopened.
 - c. The annual autumn stream inspection and preventative work will be organised by Cllr Townsend in the next few weeks.
- d. **COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT:**
1. Noted in 2017 there were 332 registered electorate, by 2021 this had reduced to 324 on the electoral roll.
 2. There are no 30mph repeater signs anywhere in South Milton, including Links Rd. It is understood that the Parish Council of the time wanted the 30 limits but were not so keen to have all the signage that goes with it. The speed limit is currently not enforceable, to be enforceable there would need to be a double-sided repeater sign every 200m minimum. The Parish Council again considered this to be excessive and opted to ask the school to design more 30mph signs. Cllr Long advised that he would provide funding for this project when it proceeds.
 3. Lane End flooding. The CCTV has shown that the system is full of concrete and tarmac which has blocked the outlet chamber. This will need a drainage system put in place to rectify the problem requiring the area being dug up and re-laid including road closure etc. It is on the list of repairs to be budgeted for but is unlikely to be done before spring. Noted that West Alvington Parish Council is also pressing for repairs to be undertaken at the earliest opportunity. A request for an 'A' frame to highlight the danger to road users will be made to Highways.
 4. Please continue to all Highways issues [online](#) – a "W" reference number will be issued, retain this and follow it up with the Parish Clerk/Rufus if no suitable response or action has taken place.

CLLR GILBERT LEFT THE MEETING.

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

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e. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT:

1. Devon & Torbay Residential Charge Point Scheme – this is a residential scheme that Parish Councils can apply for if there is a requirement for charge points in the parish. Charging points are being installed in the area, two are on the quay in Kingsbridge, more will be installed locally for residents use only.
2. Better Lives for All - a program of what the District Council will do for the next three years, full details are contained in the action plan on the website.
<https://mg.swdevon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=151&MId=1631&Ver=4>
3. SHDC Have also declared a housing crisis in the South Hams due to the lack of affordable rental accommodation which is due in part to the number of properties being used as Airbnb and Holiday Homes. A paper is going to the Executive with a view to actioning as many of the points as possible. If people are letting houses that would normally be on long lets SHDC want to ensure that they are compliant for short term lets - this will include having the relevant planning in place, they have made proper arrangements to dispose of their waste and that they are paying council tax for a separate dwelling if they are letting a property. If anyone thinks they are going to be made homeless please contact SHDC at the earliest opportunity.
4. SHDC Brown Bin Suspension of service: This was suspended mid-August due to a lack of drivers. This is a discretionary service and SHDC are the only district in Devon that do not charge for the brown bin collection. This is being reviewed every four weeks. Ideally a one-off bin collection will take place, SHDC will advise if this is to take place in due course. If the brown bin collection comes back the Executive have said that their intention is for it to remain a free service during this council. There are also other options to consider like community composting.
5. Recycling and Waste:
SHDC are aware of the shortcomings of the “service” and reiterate if you know of anyone who is not getting their assisted collection or if a collection has been missed it needs to be reported online at <https://www.southhams.gov.uk/article/6185/Missed-Bin-or-Recycling>. It must be reported on every occasion and Cllr Pearce and Long be copied in.
Email Cllr Judy Pearce: cldr.judy.pearce@southhams.gov.uk
Email Cllr Mark Long: cldr.mark.long@southhams.gov.uk
Another remedial plan from FCC is due within two weeks as, after nearly a year of continuous problems, the service has still not been fully rolled out.
6. Consultation on draft Gambling Statement of Principles. The Licensing Authority is required to review its gambling policy, known as the ‘Statement of Principles,’ every three years. The policy sets out the principles which South Hams District Council will apply under the Gambling Act 2005 over the next three years. Once approved, the updated policy will be in effect from January 2022 to January 2025.
The draft revised policy can be downloaded from the following website:
<https://www.engagement.southhams.gov.uk/gambling-consultation>

We would welcome any comments you wish to make about the draft policy during our public consultation.

These can be made by:

emailing licensing@swdevon.gov.uk

writing to Licensing, South Hams District Council, Follaton House, Plymouth Road, Totnes, TQ9 5NE.

Responses to the consultation must be received no later than **24th October 2021**.

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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103 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.

- 2890/21/LBC, Porch Cottage, Replacement doors/windows Support. Ratification only: **SMPC Support**
- 3050/21/HHO, Ocean Point, Extension for boot room & Garden Room. Ratification only: **SMPC Support**
- Request for 1099/21/FUL, New Dwelling to go to SHDC Committee for a decision: A site meeting will take place on 4th October with the decision being made at the SHDC Development Management Committee on 6th October. Cllr Townsend will attend on 4th October.

Decisions:

- 1099/21/FUL, Land adjacent to Manor Cottage, new dwelling – **SHDC No Decision**
- 2664/21/FUL, Tolcarne, Demolition & construction of new building 1099/21/FUL, New Dwelling adjacent to Manor Cottage – **SHDC No Decision**
- 0839/21/LBC & 0838/21/HHO, Trutes Court, garage conversion to accommodation – **SHDC Conditional**

Approval

- 1263/21/FUL, Wakeham Farm, retrospective application and addition of two underground LPG tanks – **SHDC Conditional Approval**
- 1971/21/VAR, Park Cottage, Variation of Condition 2. **SHDC No Decision**

- 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

104 BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED:

- a) Proposal to support the CEE Bill – drafted by scientists and experts, the bill is world-leading legislation – a key legally-binding commitment to follow the science on the climate and nature crisis. The CEE Bill would deliver:
- A legal commitment to follow the scientific advice to limit temperature rise to 1.5°C.
 - A legal commitment to restore and protect nature.
 - Annual legally binding targets to keep us on track - whichever party is in government.
 - Ordinary citizens consulted via Climate & Nature Assembly BUT Parliament still has the final say.
 - Support from across ALL main parties.

Proposed Cllr Townsend Seconded Cllr Collyer Approved Unanimously.

- b) Proposal to support the SHDC Opposition Group regarding Rubbish Collection Chaos.
Further to the information supplied earlier in the meeting the Councillors opted not to support this proposal.
- c) National Trust Update from Richard Snow, Countryside Manager:
Re the option of a solar sign, we are very interested and are looking into the options connected with a solar panel sign which we can then update through our car park teams or ranger staff. We have looked online and there are several companies which can produce this signage, but we need to look into costs and this would also require permission and involvement from the Highway Authority. The A board is an option, and we appreciate that councillors have offered to assist in managing this in the village, the details of which would need to be agreed with the car park team for next season.
In respect of the car park staffing budget, it is not appropriate for the NT to approach businesses on private neighbouring land to request financial contributions towards our staffing operations. The additional visitors the extra café are drawing to the site will have to be managed within our existing resources and partnership with the PC. If local people or businesses wish to make donations to the NT then that is entirely their own decision.

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- d) South Milton Reserve, registration of Permissive Paths by Devon Birds: Cllr Townsend advised Devon Birds have opened up the paths in the reserve to public. They have recently opened up off Mill Lane and there will also be a slight change with the routing at the seaward end near to the South West Coast Path bridge – this will increase control and visibility of who enters/exits the area. Part of process is to consult with Devon County Council re making those paths permissive. It is possible that a formal request will be made for support from the Parish Council. The Parish Council look forward to receiving further information in due course.
- e) South Milton Treatment Plant Pollution Incident: During early August we became aware of a number of children who fell ill after playing in the lagoon on the beach. It is not particularly common knowledge that there is a treatment plant situated upstream. It is believed that there may have been a number of discharges into the water but information to confirm/deny this has not been readily forthcoming. SHDC have not been advised of any issues nor have the Parish Council. The Parish Council will contact South West Water for clarification.
- f) Benches requiring preservation: The benches at Links Court, the Cemetery and Backshay need preservative. Cllr Jinks will action.
- g) Wakeham Update: Richard Keen attended to provide an update. As everyone is aware, they have been running a pre-application process in respect of the development. They are still looking at four open market dwellings but with a slightly different mix to that previously presented. The mix is now one detached four bed, two semi-detached being a three bed and four bed plus one single storey three bed dwelling. It is hoped that over the next 4-6 weeks they can pull all the supporting information together and ideally continue the consultation process with neighbours and Parish Council prior to the planning submission. They are taking their guidance in terms of the policies predominantly from the Neighbourhood Plan at a local level as well as the Joint Local Plan. SHDC Officers involved with the pre-application have given the developers confidence that the scheme could be supportable. More information to be shared with Councillors and neighbours over the coming weeks including elevations and landscape information.
- h) Parking in the Village: There are some issues with inconsiderate parking in the parish, for example, parking opposite properties on small lanes causing large machinery to hit the properties. Inconsiderate parking is significantly problematic for emergency vehicle access. It is essential that all pinch points are kept clear to ensure that restrictions are kept to a minimum. When visiting in the parish please park safely. Information in respect of this issue will be included in the next newsletter

105 FINANCE & GOVERNANCE:

- a. The accounts month 6 - **Appendix A**. A mandate sheet and transaction records were produced and signed in respect of the below payments:
Accounts to pay – Clerks Salary including HMRC £245.30, Jeremy Bell Cemetery Maintenance September payment of £162 and Ratification of £96 (July/Aug payment), Parish Magazine Printing £45.50
The payments were proposed by Cllr Jinks, seconded by Cllr Brice, approved unanimously.
- b. **Governance:**
 - 1) Proposal to adopt the Draft Memorandum of Understanding between SHDC & SMPC. This is a document which, while not legally binding, would set framework for a more collaborative working relationship; one in which there is a recognition that each party can do things to help the other.
Proposed: Cllr Townsend, seconded Cllr Berryman, approved unanimously.

MEETING ENDS **21.42** Hrs

Items for the next Agenda: **Updating the Neighbourhood Plan to incorporate a S106 Principal Residence Clause**

DATES FOR THE DIARY: 25th October, 29th November, 24th January, 28th February, 28th March, South Milton Village Hall (Covid Restrictions Allowing), 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 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

Cllrs Berryman, Booker, Brice, Collyer, Jinks, Lewis, Townsend

For Information: e-circulation to: County Cllr R Gilbert, Dist. Cllr Mark Long, Dist. Cllr Judy Pearce, South Milton Parish Council Notice Board, National Trust, Riccardo Carrelli, Jenny Brown.

APPENDIX A: South Milton Parish Council Finance: Month 6

Category	Descriptor	Date	Month No. of Report to Council	banked/Chq NO	Paid In	Paid Out	Cash Book Balance
Cash Book Balance b/f from last financial year							16,343.40
Payment	Clerk July Salary	30/07/2021	6	68		- 196.30	17,333.58
Payment	July HMRC		6			- 49.20	17,284.38
Payment	J Bell Cemetary Maintenance	26/07/2021	6	69		- 48.00	17,236.38
Payment	Clerk August Salary	30/08/2021	6	70		- 196.10	17,040.28
Payment	August HMRC		6			- 49.00	16,991.28
Payment	J Bell Cemetary Maintenance	30/08/2021	6	71		- 96.00	16,895.28
Receipts	Cemetary Fees	12/09/2021	6	Y	350.00	-	17,245.28
						-	17,245.28
TOTALS YTD Financial year 2021/22					£ 2,948.92	-£ 2,047.04	£ 17,245.28
RECONCILIATION CASH BOOK TO BANK							£
Cash book balance b/d					FY 2021/22 month	6	£ 17,333.58
					receipts	2,948.92	
					payments	- 2,047.04	
						£ 901.88	- 88.30
							Variance
ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT							
					Clerk Salary (& HMRC) paid on 31st of each month		-245.30
					J Bell		- 162.00
					Parish Mag Printing		- 45.50
							-
	Meeting Sub Total						- 452.80