

SOUTH MILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting.

Date: 26th September 2022		Venue & Time: South Milton Village Hall, 19.30hrs
Present: Cllr Anne Berryman Cllr Graham Collyer Cllr Marion Brice Cllr Emma Halmshaw Cllr Graham Jinks Cllr Nick Townsend (in the Chair)	In Attendance: Katharine Harrod – Clerk & Minute taker Dist. Cllr Mark Long Dist. Cllr Judy Pearce County Cllr Rufus Gilbert Parishioners/Guests Present: 1	Apologies: County Cllr Rufus Gilbert Cllr Paul Booker

REF 2022/23 MINUTES

190 WELCOME & APOLOGIES:

Cllr Townsend gave the following tribute to HM Queen Elizabeth II
Since we last met, an era has ended.

Queen Elizabeth always acted with absolute integrity, total dedication, and without fear or favour acted in sharing her wisdom with one and all. She fulfilled her constitutional duties for more than 70 years, until just two days before she died.

The scenes we have witnessed and the tributes we have heard these last few weeks reflect the feelings of the people of this country, the Commonwealth, and indeed the whole world. It was not only what she did, it was how she did it.

On behalf of the Parish Council, thank you.

The meeting then took a minute for reflection.

Cllr Townsend then welcomed everyone to the meeting with a special welcome to new Cllr, Emma Halmshaw.

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

192 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meetings of 18th July without alteration, they were then signed by the Chairman.

193 CLERKS REPORT:

- a. Bench Delivery: The Devon Birds bench has now been sited. The second bench is due to be installed at Links Road in due course. Cllrs Townsend and Jinks will consider installation options.
- b. Remembrance Wreath: The wreath has been ordered and will be delivered as normal.
- c. Localities Fund applications: Cllr Gilbert has confirmed he will support South Milton Parish Council to the sum of £500 in total for signage at Trutes/Village Sign and a £100 grant for a mosaic.
- d. Sustainable South Hams Assembly - Sat 8th October: Sustainable South Hams is a network for climate and nature groups in the South Hams. They are holding their first regional meeting, the Sustainable South Hams Assembly, on Saturday 8th October at Kingsbridge Community College from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm
They are particularly keen to have as many Parish Councillors as possible to attend at least the afternoon session (1.00 to 2.00 pm) for the new Special Interest Group for Parish Councillors. All South Milton Parish Councillors have received the invitation. Cllrs Townsend & Collier will be attending on behalf of the Council.
- e. My Place My Views: South Hams District Council have launched a pilot scheme called My Place, My Views, to make it easier and simpler for people to have their say about their local areas. They want residents to give their views on where they live, what they think about their neighbourhoods and the facilities and services available to them. My Place, My Views consists of a simple survey and interactive map, to take part in the survey and drop a pin on the interactive map visit <https://pshwd.commonplace.is/>.
The closing date for this survey is 15th October.

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- f. Application for 20mph zone: Unfortunately, this application was not successful, 105 applications were received, four of which were taken forward, the areas chosen had significantly worse issues. There will be further opportunities to apply for a speed reduction and traffic calming. Cllr Gilbert has confirmed that further funding will be found for future schemes.

194 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):

DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL: No report received.

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

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/>

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS:

Email Cllr Judy Pearce: cllr.judy.pearce@southhams.gov.uk

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

1. Information regarding the cost-of-living help is now available on the SHDC website, <https://www.southhams.gov.uk/cost-of-living-help>, this provides help and guidance on a wide variety of help available and also includes a support directory for other organisations.
2. A council meeting took place on 22nd September. The waste service comes back in house on 3rd October, there will be challenges in the first months of the new control. The number one priority is for the service to be legal and compliant. The waste service also includes street sweeping, fly tips, public waste and more. The council are engaging and collaborating with the staff to understand their perspective on the situation and how they believe improvements can be made. The brown bin service will stop at the end of October, plans are in place for a new paid for service to commence from Spring 2023. There are a lot of people who do not require a brown bin service either because they have no garden or they opt not to use the brown bins. The charge for the service from Spring will amount to £49, the scheme will operate for eleven months with no collections over Christmas and New Year. If you are left with a full brown bin in October, you will receive one final pickup before the service is stopped. Letters are being issued now with full details of the service stopping and how to apply for the new fortnightly service.
The old brown bins can be collected by SHDC if requested or they can be used by residents – but not for the storage of waste.
The Parish Councillors were again requested to feedback their views on the refuse collection service.
3. For all planning applications made after 31st October there will be an online webtool to direct applicants as to what they need to provide, this includes a lot more information regarding climate change and measures that need to be taken to mitigate the situation. Building regulations changed in June 2022 meaning that all development after this date needs to adhere to the increased requirements.
4. Homes for Ukraine, there are now 167 guests over 71 hosts, the number of arrivals is slowing but SHDC are still receiving up to 3 families per week. Hosts were asked to house guests for a period of six months, SHDC staff are now working with these people to try to provide continuity with housing/schools etc as well as support if they wish to live independently.

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5. Parts of Devon/Cornwall/Somerset are now in an avian flu zone. Avian influenza (bird flu) is a notifiable animal disease. If you suspect any type of avian influenza in poultry or captive birds you must report it immediately by calling the Defra Rural Services Helpline on 03000 200 301.
Full details can be found via this link: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/avian-influenza-bird-flu>
Clean your birdfeeders to prevent spread!

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...

195 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. Ratification: 2519/22/TCA, School House, Beech lateral crown reduction on all sides. **South Milton Parish Council support & South Hams District Council have raised no objections.**
2. Ratification: 2312/22/HHO, 4 Sunnyside, single storey side extension. **Support.**
3. 2872/22/HHO, Thorntons, South Milton, application for new garden room (29/9).
The siting of the new development affects a nearby tree. **Support subject to development being ancillary and a suitable site being found for the development which does not impact on the tree.**
4. Neighbourhood Plan update including Principal Residence Policy: John Slater, the Examiner currently has all documentation for review and will hopefully start work soon as SHDC has recently resolved administrative matters with his appointment.

b. **Decisions:**

1. 4194/21/VAR, The Old Chapel, Variation of Condition 4. **SHDC No Decision Yet.**
2. 4223/21/FUL, School House, South Milton, Proposed change of use to dwelling. **SHDC Conditional Approval.**
3. 1939/22/ARC, Wakeham Farm. **SHDC Discharge of Conditions Approved.**
5. 2117/22/CLP, School House, South Milton. **Certificate of Lawfulness Certified.**

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.

196 BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED:

- a. Rockbox Feedback and Discussion. Councillors were surprised by the size of the operation. This year there were six containers which straddled the path, there were also additional vendors including the sale of wetsuits and surf boards. The previous structures had wooden cladding, which was much better visually, this year there was no cladding and the visual impact in the AONB was extremely poor.
While people appreciated the service provided, the whole set up was too large for the plot. There were also noise issues with the live music which also continued after hours on occasion. Future Licensing and Temporary Event Notices (TENS) need to take noise, light pollution, size, parking, toilet facilities and timing of operations into account. The South Milton venture was operated on a 28 day license whereas the Thurlestone site was dealt with by TENS.
It was agreed that a joint letter from South Milton and Thurlestone Councils will be submitted to South Hams District Council.

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- b. Footpath 6 works required to steps on path by Gingers field. This has been reported, we await a response from DCC.
- c. South West Water Treatment Plant Update: No response has been received to our letter which requested a month-by-month interpretation of the overflows and the reason as to why the equipment was out of order for three months.
- d. Resolution re Climate & Nature Emergency: Cllr Townsend had provided all Councillors with a proposed draft resolution of the SMPC Declaration of Climate & Nature Emergency.
A task force of Cllrs Booker, Collier and Townsend will be established and will review the draft and bring forward a proposal for a future meeting. The group would like to purchase a thermal imaging camera to identify where the problems are and how they could be alleviated. The camera viewed is in the region of £500, Cllr Pearce agreed to provide funding of £350 with Cllr Long providing £150 towards the unit. The camera will be made available to adjacent parishes if desired.
Further to the potential findings of the imaging camera, it should be remembered that SHDC have a lot of schemes to assist with energy saving options, some of which are based on disposable income and not simply low income.
A workshop has been arranged for 8th October at South Milton Village Hall to share information on energy, heat pumps and our own experiences of incorporating energy saving options at local properties.
- e. Proposal to extend the annual drainage inspection to include a tree inspection: Cllrs Collier, Jinks and Townsend will undertake the drainage inspection and will also view trees in the area to identify any that require attention. The tree warden will also be asked to be involved.
If anyone is concerned about trees in the parish, please contact the Parish Clerk.
Noted the dead Ash tree at Gingers field will be reported to DCC.
- f. Village sign on Milton Lane & Approval of Signage for Trutes/Rose Cottage/4 Shute Cottages: We are still obtaining quotations for a new village sign.
The parking task force will review the signage, discuss it with the residents and come to a proposal for agreement at a future meeting.
Issues have also been raised regarding damage to a property at Shute. We have requested information regarding options from DCC and will report back when a response is received.
- g. Discussion regarding the addition of double yellow lines at problem areas in the parish:
A resident was subjected to disgusting verbal abuse from a driver who had parked at Hillingsdown Corner, the vehicle had been parked there all day. Due to the serious nature of the incident, the police are now investigating.
A council task force including Cllrs Jinks, Halmshaw and Townsend will review the problem areas in the parish and will bring back to the next meeting for approval prior to reporting to DCC with a request for action.
- h. Airband Update: The works being undertaken are unclear, fast broadband is being provided down to the beach but we do not know how far along it will be taken.

197 FINANCE & GOVERNANCE:

- a. **Appendix A. Accounts to pay Month 5 & 6** – Clerks Salary including HMRC, Burial Ground Maintenance £80, Monthly bank charge £8, Hall Hire September £20, Parish Magazine Printing £51.05, **It was unanimously resolved to accept the payment schedule.** A mandate sheet and transaction records were produced and signed in respect of the above payments:
- b. **Governance:**
1. Civility & Respect across the industry:
The pledge would require, South Milton Parish Council to agree to treat councillors, clerks, employees, members of the public, and representatives of partner organisations and volunteers with civility and respect in their roles, and that it:
- will put in place a training programme for councillors and staff
 - has signed up to the Code of Conduct for councillors
 - has good governance arrangements in place including staff contracts and a Dignity at Work policy
 - will seek professional help at early stages should civility and respect issues arise
 - will commit to calling out bullying and harassment if and when it happens

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- will continue to learn from best practice in the sector and aspire to being a role model / champion council e.g., via Local Council Award Scheme
 - supports the continued lobbying for change in legislation to support the civility and respect, including sanctions for elected members where appropriate
- Councillors unanimously agreed to support the pledge.
2. External Audit: The audit exemption has been received and accepted, all documentation has been issued, no further action is required.

198 MEETING ENDS 20.50 Hrs

199 DATES FOR THE DIARY: 17th Oct, 28th Nov, 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

Cllrs Berryman, Booker, Brice, Collyer, Jinks, 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 5 & 6

Category	Descriptor	Date	Month No. of Report to Council	ban ked	Paid In	Paid Out
Payment	SM Hall Hire July	19/07/2022	6	Y		10.00
Payment	Nick Walker Printing	19/07/2022	6	Y		51.05
Payment	Cllr Berryman Jubilee Expenses	19/07/2022	6	Y		205.19
Payment	HMRC PAYE Q1	19/07/2022	6	Y		149.60
Payment	July Wages	29/07/2022	6	Y		199.62
Receipt	Dignity Funerals	05/08/2022	6	Y	100.00	
Payment	Monthly bank charge	05/08/2022	6	Y		8.00
Payment	August Wages	31/08/2022	6	Y		199.42
Receipt	HMRC VAT Rebate 2021/22	05/09/2022	6	Y	33.42	
Payment	Jerrys Gardening Services	15/09/2022	6	Y		90.00
Receipt	SHDC Precept Second Tranche	16/09/2022	6	Y	3,418.00	
Payment	Monthly bank charge	21/08/2022	6	Y		8.00
Payment	Monthly bank charge	21/09/2022	6	Y		8.00
Receipt	Gross Interest September	02/09/2022	6	Y	2.35	
TOTALS YTD Financial year 2022/23					£ 7,322.95	-£ 3,120.07
RECONCILIATION CASH BOOK TO BANK						
Cash book balance b/d					FY 2022/23 month	586