

SOUTH MILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting.

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| Date: 16th October 2023 | | Venue & Time: South Milton Village Hall, 19.30hrs |
| Present: Cllr Anne Berryman Cllr Emma Halmshaw Cllr Steve Harding 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: Cllr Paul Booker Cllr Graham Jinks County Cllr Rufus Gilbert |

REF 2023/24 MINUTES

294 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

295 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):

- Permission has been given for tree work to take place at Brook House. A second application will be forthcoming for three of the trees to be removed as they are diseased and dangerous, the three trees will be replaced with a suitable alternative as suggested by the Tree Officer.
- A communication was received regarding areas of the parish requiring some attention i.e. digging out the sides of the road and general tidying. Councillors were asked to provide a list of areas for works to be completed, this will then be sent to Antony Hammet for action.
- The annual stream inspection is due to take place, Cllrs Halmshaw, Harding & Townsend will form a working party to attend to this and any associated works.
- Apologies were received from the National Trust Rangers who were not able to attend the meeting.

a) DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL:

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

1. Following the meeting with residents at Shute Lane, Cllr Gilbert had arranged for Devon County Council Highways to undertake some jet patching followed by dressing at a later date. Regrettably only a few holes had been filled and other nearby holes, equally as dangerous were not dealt with. A further email will be sent to Cllr Gilbert with supporting photographs.
2. Mobile Libraries: A further delay of decision till November Cabinet, to consider various questions from Scrutiny.

Road Closure Notifications, within 6 months:

3. Temporary traffic notice 6th – 14th November, 09:30 and 15:30, road closure - road from A381 to Sutton Cross" & "Whitlocksworthy to Sutton Cross", South Milton.
4. Temporary traffic notice 20th/21st November, Road Closure Ilbert Rd to Whitlocksworthy Cross for EW duct from box to pole. It has been confirmed that this is a necessary road closure and will proceed as planned.
5. Potential road closure Pond Cottage Kerse Cross to Upton Cross, details of the requirement and dates for closure have been requested. It was noted there are many poles in the area suitable for use, South Milton Parish Council object to a further pole being erected in the AONB.
6. The road at East Charleton is due to be closed between 09.00 – 15.30hrs from 13th November to 4th December for drainage work and patching. Outside these hours, Traffic Management can be used and the road will be reopened with those restrictions in place.

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.

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

b) DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS:

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

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

1. A Public Space Protection Order consultation has commenced re control of dogs across the area. This consultation takes place every three years and is relevant due to the rules regarding dogs on beaches.
2. 1,500 properties registered for business rates have been written to. Their waste/recycling is classed as commercial and these properties are required to have a commercial waste contractor or to sign up to South Hams District Council's own commercial waste collection. If no response is received after 28 days they will be subject to a monthly fixed penalty until it has been proven that a commercial waste collection is in place. There has been poor reporting in respect of this by national newspapers. To clarify, if you are a second homeowner you qualify for a domestic waste collection as you are paying council tax, if you are a holiday let owner and have registered for business rates you do not qualify for a domestic collection and must arrange a commercial waste collection.
3. SHDC have issued their Draft Corporate Strategy, this is currently out for consultation, hard copies are available by contacting the Parish Clerk, alternately read the strategy and comment at <https://ourcorporatestrategy.commonplace.is/>
4. The Joint Local Plan is being reviewed over the next 18 months and will be issued for consultation in due course.
5. Cllr Long is part of a task & finish group regarding Enforcement. If anyone has any frustrations/issues or problems with the Enforcement service please forward the details to Cllr Long.

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

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

297 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meetings of 25th September without alteration, they were then signed by the Chairman.

298 CLERKS REPORT:

1. The Housing Needs Survey closed on 22nd September, we await the analysis of the responses.
2. I attended a briefing on the Cost of Living crisis and how it's affecting people in the South Hams. Details of how to become a Citizens Advice Trustee have been forwarded to Councillors.
3. A Southern Cluster Group with Cllr Julian Brazil took place on 9th October, Councillors and Clerks from across the South Hams were given the first opportunity to discuss the new corporate strategy and ask questions of the South Hams District Council Leader.
4. Footpath Six had been reported by people due to horses in the field behaving aggressively. The horses have now been moved from the field and should cause no further problems.
5. South Milton Parish Council have received thanks from the Women's Institute for the work done to the burial ground wall prior to the erection of the mosaics.
6. Confirmation of Council approval of a memorial bench in the burial ground has been issued to the Dent family subject to all costs of purchase, installation and future maintenance being met by them and the Council

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reserving the right to re-site or remove the bench if it is deemed to be unsafe, unrepairable or for other reasons outside our control if we have not been able to contact the family to agree how to proceed.

299 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.

- 3228/23/ARC, Wakeham Farm, Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 4 (Bat, Bird & Invertebrates Boxes) and 8 (Facing/Roofing Materials) of planning consent 4178/21/FUL. **Support.**
- 2899/23/HHO, Well Park, South Milton, extension, alterations & roof conversion. **Object (Ratification)**
- Local Planning Updates (if required). None.

b. **Decisions:**

- 3840/22/FUL, Higher Southdown Farm, (29/12) **No Decision Yet.**
- 3947/22/TCA, Land at SX 697 429, Webbers, South Milton (11/12) **No Decision Yet.**
- 2268/23/ARC, Tolcarne, South Milton. **No Decision Yet.**
- 2927/23/TPO, Brook House, South Milton. Various tree works. **Approved.**
- 3035/23/COM, Airband Pole, Hamlocks, South Milton, TQ7 3JT. **Objection recommend refusal.**
- 2583/23/FUL, Thurlestone Beach House, South Milton, TQ7 3JJ, window & door replacement 19/10. **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 If you would like to submit a report but do not have access to the website, please contact the Parish Clerk.

300 BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED:

a) Burial Ground:

- Cllr Townsend to obtain a quote for costs re the production of a new schematic.
- Jenny Stewart, Associate Surveyor, Savills will meet with Cllrs Jinks & Townsend on 26th October to discuss land options.
- It was **RESOLVED** to accept the following criteria in respect of all plots with immediate effect:
 - The deceased must have been born and/or have lived in the parish (i.e. resided as their main residence with proof if needed via the electoral role) for a minimum of ten consecutive years.
 - OR: People who die in the parish of South Milton.
 - No plots are available for pre-purchase

Proposed Cllr Luscombe, seconded Cllr Berryman and unanimously approved.

- It was **RESOLVED** to accept the following updated costs with effect from November 1st:

- Interment £150 up from £100
- Cremations £75 up from £45
- Exclusive Rights of Burial £275 up from £250
- Headstones and flatstones no increase
- A review to take place every two years.

Proposed Cllr Berryman, seconded Cllr Luscombe and unanimously approved.

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A working party will be organised to tidy up the ivy and overgrown branches etc.
Payments for the purchase of extra land will be put on hold for the immediate future.

- b) It was RESOLVED to apply for a defibrillator to be sited at the public toilets at South Milton Sands. Cllr Dennis will advise if South Hams District Council are prepared to cover the costs of installation. The Parish Clerk will investigate a recent funding opportunity to help with the costs. A new unit will cost £1,000 plus VAT and would be on the same type of four year contract as the other defibrillator in the parish..

301 FINANCE & GOVERNANCE:

- a) **Accounts to pay Month 7** – Clerks Salary including HMRC, Monthly bank charge £8, Hall Hire £40 (2 months), 63 Interiors £350, Royal British Legion £50, Hugo Fox £11.99

Councillors resolved to approve all payments.

- b) **Governance:**

The 2024/25 draft budget will be discussed at the November meeting.

302 MEETING ENDS 20.12 Hrs

303 DATES FOR THE DIARY: 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.