

**SOUTH MILTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 20<sup>th</sup> MAY 2019**

**OPS**

- Village Website The Clerk reported on the recent crash of the website. GC had been in touch with Fear of Mice, the company which maintains it, and apparently the web host, Fasthosts, are complaining that the site is running on PHP5.3 which they no longer recommend and for which they will shortly pull support. The proposal is to upgrade the site to make it acceptable to Fasthosts; this can be done by Fear of Mice for £300. As it is a legal requirement for SMPC to have a website, it was agreed that SMPC will contribute £50 towards this expense and it is hoped that other village organisations using the website will also contribute.
- Welcome MB congratulated Cllr Pearce on her appointment as Leader of SHDC; she also welcomed the new Councillors – Cllrs Debbie Clift and Anne Berryman (SMPC) and Cllr Mark Long (SHDC) and hoped they would enjoy their time as councillors.

**1. Present/Apologies:** Cllrs M. Brice, T. Lewis, R. Luscombe, A. Berryman, D. Clift and P. Booker (SMPC) present. Also present Cllrs. J. Pearce and M. Long (SHDC) and Cllr R. Gilbert (DCC). Apologies from Cllr G. Collyer and Emma Reece (NTrust).

**2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising**

The minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019 had previously been circulated and were taken as read. They were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

**3. Matters Arising not raised in agenda items below**

- Lane End We had been advised that Skanska would carry out the work by week ended 17<sup>th</sup> May; however this has not yet been carried out. TL had topped the vegetation to improve the visibility; he was thanked by MB.
- Speeding Controls An email from Adam Key had been circulated; in it he advised that before any controls can be put in place, we must first establish what problems exist. This is usually done by a SCARF (Speed Complaint action Review Forum) which involves discussions with local highways team, road safety team, traffic team and the police. The first step would be to carry out a hand-held speed assessment: SMPC would recommend the timing and place. Further consideration will also be given to road signs.
- Parking at Milton Cross – Councillors agreed that the situation was not too bad at the moment but the situation will continue to be monitored. Mr Gregory expressed his anxiety about the corner of his thatch as the road is very narrow at that point and, when cars park opposite, the roof is very vulnerable. It was suggested that keeping the bank below Backshay Park trimmed back might encourage drivers to tuck their cars in more tidily.

**4. Election of Officers**

PB proposed that Marion Brice continue as Chairman, seconded by DC and carried unanimously  
TL proposed that Paul Booker be Vice Chairman, seconded by MB and carried unanimously  
TL is willing to continue as Emergency Planning Officer and this was agreed unanimously  
TL will continue as Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, agreed unanimously  
MB will continue as Feoffees representative, agreed unanimously  
Mrs Pat Rogers is willing to continue as Lay Officer for the Council  
GC is willing to continue as representative of South Milton Village Hall Committee  
The Clerk was agreed unanimously as Proper Officer and Responsible Financial Officer  
Signatories for cheques confirmed as MB, GC, TL with the addition of PB

**5. Declarations of Pecuniary or Other Interests on agenda items** None

**6. Changes to Council Documents**

A review of the Standing Orders was being carried out by the Clerk because the NALC model, upon which SMPC Standing Orders are based, was updated in September 2018. No other document required updating.

## 7. Insurance Cover

Last year, the premium paid to Community First Trading was £181.65. This year, they had quoted £186.57 to include the new laptop. Councillors agreed to accept the quotation.

## 8. Neighbourhood Plan Update

TL was pleased to report that he had discussed a possible date for the referendum with SHDC's officer and hopefully this will be during the first half of July. Additionally, we have made a bid for the funds to cover printing of the Plan so that every household can have their own copy and the cost of organising a public meeting. The cost of the referendum itself will be covered by SHDC. MB congratulated the team for getting us successfully to this point.

## 9. Planning matters – none.

## 10. South Milton Sands/National Trust Emma Reece sent in a report as follows:

- Track has been re-surfaced and sand piled onto the boardwalks ready for the new season
- Regular checks are made of the site to remove dog mess bags: thankfully the situation has been improving
- Several quotes have been received for painting the logo on the café roof
- Several groups have been litter picking, including Duke of Edinburgh students and a local holiday company, Compass Quay; the NTrust is very grateful to them all.
- PB had noticed that there were now padlocks and chains around the rubbish bins by the café.

## 11. District Councillors' Reports

- ML had no formal report; most of his first two weeks as Councillor included training and induction so he is very much in listening mode. He will be sitting on the Development Management Committee.
- JP said it had been a busy couple of weeks with a huge number of new Councillors following the election. SHDC will continue to make economies and had managed to close the budget very slightly in the black. Looking forward, the focus will definitely be on the customer. Planning applications will be speeded up and Enforcement is gradually improving. Pre-planning not up to full strength currently, hopefully will be better by July.
- SHDC will be continuing to lobby Westminster via the LGA to alter the rules around business rates for second home owners which are currently loaded against the local economy.

## 12. County Councillor's Report

- RG warned that the road beyond Modbury around Edmeston will be closed week commencing 24<sup>th</sup> June
- Budget balanced for 2018-19
- £250,000 set aside for initial work on climate change for DCC and various local authorities
- Gigaclear has further issues but work is continuing in our area

## 13. Finance

- Payments to approve

Clerk's salary/expenses	£210.00
Insurance	£186.57
- Bank Account Status After approval of the above cheques, balances at bank were £16,698.99 which includes the first half of the Precept and the funds for the laptop from SHDC and DCC.

## 14. Date of next meeting – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at 7.30 pm.

OPS

Approved..... Date.....  
(Chairman)