

SOUTH MILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting.

Date: 23rd January 2023		Venue & Time: South Milton Village Hall, 19.30hrs
Present: Cllr Anne Berryman Cllr Paul Booker (Chairman) Cllr Graham Collyer Cllr Marion Brice Cllr Graham Jinks Cllr Nick Townsend	In Attendance: Katharine Harrod – Clerk & Minute taker Dist. Cllr Mark Long Dist. Cllr Judy Pearce County Cllr Rufus Gilbert Parishioners/Guests Present: 3	Apologies: Cllr Emma Halmshaw

REF 2022/23 MINUTES

210 WELCOME & APOLOGIES:

211 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** No declarations of interest were received.

212 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meetings of 28th November 2022 without alteration, they were then signed by the Chairman.

213 CLERKS REPORT:

- Locality funding applications: Payment has been received for the thermal imaging camera. Thank you to our Ward Councillors for supporting this project.
- Internal Audit Confirmation has been received for the 2022/23 period.
- Defib Training is being arranged for 11th July (South Milton Village Hall) & 6th June (TBC), thanks to Kate Ladd for arranging the South Milton session. Both sessions will be open to anyone from the parish of South Milton, further information will be shared in due course.

214 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):

- Tally Ho are not going to be providing the bus service effective March 2023, the route is going out to tender, it is hoped that it will be picked up by another operator.
- The following report was submitted by Valda Smith, Area Ranger, National Trust:
The work to repair the outfall pipe at the beach was completed just before Christmas. The pipe provides an overflow for the wetland reserve behind the car park and allows Devon Birds to manage the water levels on the site. Unfortunately, the stormy weather since the work was completed has undermined a section of the new pipe. The contractor is carrying out temporary measures to protect the pipe and will carry out further work when the sea conditions allow. The pipe continues to flow well, and we will continue to monitor the situation.
Cllr Townsend advised that the outfall has broken and remedial work is urgently required.

DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL:

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

- The scheduled road closure of Main Street in Modbury for three months beginning January 9th has now been deferred until January 2024.
- Subject to Council, DCC looks to be setting a balanced budget for 2023/24 and therefore the immediate threat to its survival is receding. The Council Tax is due to increase by 4.99%.
- Due to the weather, DCC are not currently in position to repair the potholes as they are full of water and the repairs would not last. Priority for repair will be by date and the maintenance category of the roads in question. PLEASE KEEP REPORTING POTHOLES. If it has already been reported please add your report to the original report.

SOUTH MILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting.

The pothole at the end of Kerse Lane appeared following work by South West Water. It has been viewed by Devon County Council, we await developments.

There are traffic lights around Devon where severe road damage has taken place. This includes Halwell.

4. Roundabout at Kitterford Cross – this has been installed by Highways England (NOT Devon County Council) as it was listed as one of the 150 most dangerous roads in England.

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. South Hams District Council passed a resolution in council to implement an extra 100% council tax on second homes, and empty properties after one year (currently two), but not until the legislation permits, which is unlikely to be until 2024-5 earliest, and more likely to be 2025-6.
2. The Kingsbridge, Churchstow and West Alvington Neighbourhood Plan was officially 'made' effective 15th December 2022.
3. At the December Executive meeting a report was received on the Waste Service. This confirms that the service has been stabilised, but the timetable for the new rounds and extending improved recycling is not yet firmed up. The great majority of people are getting a much-improved service and the crews on the vehicles are in a much better frame of mind, but there is much still to sort out.
4. If parishioners are intending to start using the new garden waste service in March they must apply as soon as possible to ensure inclusion on the collection rounds.
5. The South Hams District Council portion of the Council Tax bill will amount to a total of £5.
6. There was also a report received on the new Devon Carbon Plan. South Hams District Council will be revising its Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan to align with the Devon Carbon Plan.
7. **Photo ID will be required for the May 4th Elections for anyone intending on voting at a polling station. No ID is required for postal votes. If a parishioner does not have the required ID they can either apply for a postal vote or to SHDC for a Voter Authority Certificate. More details can be found at <https://www.southhams.gov.uk/voter-ID>**
8. A query was raised re Lock's Hill and the works being undertaken. The situation is subject to a court case which has recently been moved up to the Crown Court in Bristol with a divisional judge who has the ability to impose an unlimited fine. South Hams District Council are also looking to survey the exact levels of the site as there are concerns about the amount of soil that has been removed. South Hams District Council have not been given access to the site and are currently taking the company to court to obtain a warrant for site access.

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...

215 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.

SOUTH MILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting.

NOTE: When providing a response to applications, the South Milton Neighbourhood Plan will be referenced.

1. RATIFICATION SUPPORT: 4184/22/LBC, The Quillett, installation of EV charging point.
2. 4049/22/VAR, Tolcarne, removal of condition 10, privacy screen.
A decision on this application was due to be ratified, however, at the meeting it was established that there had been a misunderstanding of what had been requested in the application. There is a need to retain the privacy screen to ensure that the amenity of the neighbours is not impacted. Councillors voted unanimously to object to this application.
3. RATIFICATION SUPPORT: 3856/22/FUL, Terawhiti, new grain store, remove building & yard resurface.
4. 4250/22/HHO, Thorntons, South Milton, application for new garden room (9/2) SUPPORT.
5. 3769/22/LBC, Hingstons Barn, South Milton, consent for alterations (26/1) SUPPORT.
6. Neighbourhood Plan Update: SEA Consultants have confirmed a new SEA is not required. Nick Bailey has provided an updated basic conditions statement. Our Neighbourhood Plan has a tracked changes copy which has been provided to SHDC. One of the documents needs to be updated to ensure it is in line with GDPR requirements.
7. Dairy Site Update. Andy Bond attended the meeting and provided the following information: Plans are currently being prepared for the site. A pre-application process will commence in due course. A request was made for notice to be given so that we can ensure the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group all get the opportunity to review the plans.

b. South Hams District Council Decisions:

1. 4194/21/VAR, The Old Chapel, Variation of Condition 4. **Conditional Approval.**
2. 3676/22/HHO, Hopeside, (8/12). **No Decision Yet.**
3. 3840/22/FUL, Higher Southdown Farm, (29/12) **No Decision Yet.**
4. 3947/22/TCA, Land at SX 697 429, Webbers, South Milton (11/12) **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.

216 BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED:

- a. Police & Crime Commissioners Councillor Advocate Scheme: Cllr Jinks has had a meeting with our police liaison officer. Sgt Shotton will be liaising with parishes to ensure regular communications.
 - They have highlighted more catalytic convertor thefts in the area.
 - A new software system is being installed codename NICHE which is in relation with Neighbourhood Watch.
 - There has been an arrest of a local person involved with bringing in undocumented immigrants.
 - Theft of marine equipment has dropped in the last month.
 - South Milton Parish Council are now registered with Devon & Cornwall community watch. – now registered with so that we stay aware of issues across the counties.
- b. Memorial Bench Request. A request has been received for a memorial bench. We have advised the cost for a bench plus installation fee and have asked for potential sites but no further communications have been received.
Councillors suggested a bench looking down to waterworks or for a donation to be given towards the bench at Links Court which could have a plaque added.
- c. To determine the future of the cemetery shed. Cllrs Booker and Collyer will view the shed and provide their thoughts.
The mosaic has been completed and we have an offer from a parishioner to render the wall. Cllr Brice will obtain a quote. Once the wall has been rendered the mosaic could be erected.
- d. Donation Request South Hams CVS: Councillors did not approve a donation at this time.
- e. South West Water Treatment Plant Update

SOUTH MILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting.

On 29 November, a response was received from SWW advising that they would not provide information on overflows as these incidents were subject to a judicial enquiry. They did however confirm that the planned expansion of the overflow tank was being sized for implementation in 2024.

Also on 29 November Cllr Townsend contacted SWW again who confirmed that the Thurlestone pumping station at the seaward end of South Milton Ley had flooded. Cllr Townsend gave them the contact details of a local contractor who breached the sandbar within an hour - the flood dissipated within a few hours.

No further updates have been received since November.

- f. **Parking & Highways Taskforce Update:** Cllr Townsend showed suggestions for a sign on a bollard that can be utilised during peak season and as/when farmers are coming through with larger vehicles. The purchase of the signage was approved.

A notice will also be created for those holiday homes/second homes on the corner.

217 FINANCE & GOVERNANCE:

- a. **Accounts to pay Month 10** – Clerks Salary including HMRC, Monthly bank charge £10, Hall Hire January £20, Parish Magazine Printing £51.05, Scribe Subscription £436.80.

b. **Governance:**

- a) To review the budget and approve an annual precept.
1. The monthly accounts always show the Council's spend to date in the financial year. In December/January the Parish Council uses this information to estimate and assess the projected outturn spend for the year. This then gives the Council a likely carry forward figure for the next financial year and informs the precept discussions.
 2. The meeting therefore reviewed the year-to-date financial position and worked through the modelling supplied by the Clerk to assure itself of the validity of the projected outturn.
 3. The meeting then considered the commitments, inflationary pressures and the likely increase in services needing to be both provided and funded locally.
 4. The base band D on which precept calculations are based has increased from 248.87 to 249.35.
 5. The meeting noted that the Government has decided to defer the setting of council tax referendum principles to town and parish councils for 2023/24. However, it has again issued a challenge to those councils to demonstrate restraint when increasing precepts that are not a direct result of taking on additional responsibilities.
 6. The Council concluded that they needed to increase the precept to £7,178 so the average household will pay £28.79 per year (i.e.: £0.55p per week). This will mean our budget increases by £342 allowing us to fund the costs of more benefits to the community and any services devolved from County or District etc.
 7. A proposal was made to request a precept level of £7,178 as per the above information.
Proposed by Cllr Townsend, seconded by Cllr Jinks, approved unanimously.

- b) To agree bank signatories. We need to provide minuted documentation as to who is approved to act as bank signatory online/cheques. Deferred until February.

218 MEETING ENDS 20.32 Hrs

219 DATES FOR THE DIARY: 27th Feb, 27th Mar, 24th Apr, 22nd May, 26th Jun, 17th Jul, 25th Sept, 16th Oct, 27th Nov 2023, South Milton Village Hall, 19.30 hrs.

Signed as a true record: _____

Print Name & Date: _____

SOUTH MILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting.

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, Halmshaw, 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.

20 January 2023 (2022 - 2023)

South Milton Parish Council PAYMENTS & RECEIPTS LIST

Number	Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
3	Bank Interest (Gross)	02/12/2022	M9	Deposit Account		Receipt - Interest (Gross)	HSBC Bank	X	15.27		15.27
11	Localities Grants	02/12/2022		Current Account	Localities for 2 Bench I	Receipt - Localities Grant	South Hams District Council	X	472.00		472.00
42	Bank Fee - Monthly	21/12/2022		Current Account	Monthly Bank Payment	Payment - Monthly Bank Charge	HSBC Bank	X	-8.00		-8.00
43	Salary Payment	23/12/2022		Current Account	Monthly	Payment - Salary Payment	Parish Clerk K Harrod SMPC	X	-499.84		-499.84
13	Burial Ground	17/01/2023	M10	Current Account		Receipt - Burial Ground Payment	Kingsbridge Funeral Directors	E	200.00		200.00
14	Burial Ground	17/01/2023	M10	Current Account		Receipt - Burial Ground Payment	Kingsbridge Funeral Directors	E	200.00		200.00
15	Localities Grants	20/01/2023	M10	Current Account	Localities for Thermal	Receipt - Localities Grant	South Hams District Council	X	500.00		500.00
Total									879.43		879.43