



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SOUTH MILTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT SOUTH MILTON VILLAGE HALL,
AT 7.30 P.M. ON MONDAY 22ND JULY 2024**

Present: Cllr Anne Berryman
Cllr Paul Booker (in the Chair)
Cllr Steve Harding
Cllr Graeme Jinks
Cllr Marion Luscombe
Cllr Nick Townsend

In Attendance: Katharine Harrod – Parish Clerk
Dist. Cllr Samantha Dennis
Dist. Cllr Mark Long
County Cllr Rufus Gilbert (part meeting)
7 Members of Public

380 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Emma Halmshaw, Councillors **RESOLVED** to accept the apologies received.

381 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):

- Concerns were raised about the possibility of footpath users falling into the slurry pit near the Dairy site. Queries were also raised as to how close to a water course they can legally be sited. Cllr Townsend will view the area.
- A parishioner noted excess vegetation surrounding the Post Box at Shute Lane – it was understood that this had been cut back by the time of the meeting.
- The bollards with signage have gone missing and the inevitable parking issues have recurred. Cones will be put out on the corner in lieu of the signs. A request was made for no bollards/cones, it was explained that this was both a visual aid and enabled farm vehicles to turn without issue.
- A cyclist has fallen off his bike and sustained serious injury due to the state of the road at Didwell between Upton/Kerse Cross. Cllr Gilbert advised that he received a communication from Highways confirming they have undertaken works to the road to make it safe.
- Valda Smith, National Trust Ranger: A full team has been recruited for the car park over the summer. The National Trust have reviewed the website as requested. During peak times there is a notice on the website requesting visitors be respectful of the local community and car park at all times. The team on the site have been provided with a handout of other local parking locations. The National Trust will speak with the Rockbox (prior to trading commencing) about parking. The number of available toilets was mentioned, it was noted the toilets bought in by Rockbox need to be operative at all times.
- During the 2023 season, there were problems with a loudspeaker at the Beach House appearing to be in competition with the speakers from Rockbox. This type of noise pollution is not acceptable and the volume from both sites needs to be reduced. Both sites have conditions re timing of the operations but no conditions specific to noise. The Ward Councillors advised measures can be put in place if complaints are received. Complaints need to be evidenced (times/dates etc), if it is a regular problem Environmental Health can install decibel meters.

a) DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL:

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

1. Lane End Ponding was dealt with today, there are currently two bollards in place as the grate is broken. It is concerning there is still water at the location this evening. The pipe is only 100ml, if it fails again a budget will have to be found to dig it up and install larger piping.
2. Noted that some potholes have been dealt with in the village today. Patching works are being undertaken across the county.
3. King's Speech: Devolution is likely to progress in Devon, but no further reform of local authorities has been proposed, Devon County Council still face financial difficulties. Planning reform is to follow, this is understood to include modernising planning committees.
4. Councillors were encouraged to apply for localities funding opportunities, for example £500 for South Milton to purchase new bollards/signage and other community-related projects.

Cllr Gilbert left the meeting.

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/>

b) DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS:

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

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

1. SHDC have teamed up with Fusion Lifestyle to provide free access for children living in care and care leavers up to the age of 25 years. Sign up is via social workers, foster carers or by the individuals themselves.
2. Dog fouling complaints have risen across the area. Bag it & bin it! Specific problem areas can be reported via the link shown below.
3. The localities teams have picked up stray dogs over the last few months, under the Dogs Act 1992 it is a requirement for dogs to be chipped AND to have a collar with contact details displayed.
4. Support and funding for farmers is available from Devon County Council and South Hams District Council. <https://www.southhams.gov.uk/your-council/budgets-and-finance/budgets-and-spending/uk-shared-prosperity-fund/agri-tech-grant>
5. Fraudulent QR code stickers have been placed on some parking signs. Public are advised to download apps directly from the respective app store.
6. It is expected that a lot of planning changes will come through over the next year following the King's speech. A discussion took place regarding the type and cost of affordable property and/or open market property with a principal residence clause
7. South Hams Festival 2025 has been proposed by South Hams District Council, a briefing for Town & Parish Councillors will take place next Thursday.

REPORT IT: <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

382 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 24th June 2024, these were then signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meetings.

383 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY/OTHER INTERESTS & Updates to Register of Interests:

No declarations or updates to the register were received.



384 CLERKS REPORT:

1. Three people have now successfully completed the Road Warden training, they await sight of the documents confirming they can work on the roads. Two further candidates are due to undertake the training by the end of August.
2. The second Highways Working Group meeting recently took place, this was a productive meeting, despite a reduced attendance. There is mounting concern over the poor condition of many of the South Hams roads and how this is having a direct economic impact on local businesses and residents. It is hoped other South Hams Parishes will join the Group to share information more widely, try and establish where the problems lie and what the possible solutions are. A meeting with Devon County Council Highways management will be arranged in due course.
3. Burial Ground Contract Update: The existing contractor has been both emailed and written to with details of the tender process along with a request to apply. The information has also been forwarded to other local contractors. Details of the submitted tenders will be brought to the September meeting for a decision with the successful contractor commencing in October 2024.
4. South Hams Festival Proposal – covered in South Hams District Council report.
5. **Communications:** Devon Home Choice update.

385 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. When providing a response to applications, the South Milton Neighbourhood Plan will be referenced where appropriate.
 1. Wakeham Farm: Cllr Townsend has been advised a non-material minor amendment has been submitted regarding the location of a window. A December completion date is now anticipated, the houses are currently for sale on the open market. The drainage issues have been discussed and will be dealt with prior to completion of the buildings.
The owner is aware of the previously raised parishioner concerns re site levels, however, these have been checked and are correct.
 2. Dairy Site: The site owner has been invited to join us, no response had been received by the time of the meeting. The invitation will be reiterated and we hope they will attend a meeting soon.
 3. 1140/24/FUL, Links Court, Thurlestone, Installation of 1 solar/main-powered parking pay meters with canopy, ANPR Camera, peripherals & post & levelling of site with permeable surfacing materials 8/8.
Councillors voted to OBJECT to this application for many reasons, including (but not limited to) the sub-standard application which contains incorrect information and contradictory details, the size, number, height and location of signage, lack of information re materials/works to be undertaken/soakaway etc and a query re land ownership.
- b. **Decisions:**
No outstanding decisions awaited.
- 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.

386 BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED:



- a. Councillors **RESOLVED** to meet with Peter Sandover, Chairman of the South Devon National Landscape to obtain and share information and projects that may affect the parish.
- b. It was **RESOLVED** to commence the Road warden agreement and the ordering of tarmac and maintenance equipment from Devon County Council was approved once the documentation has been received following successful completion of the road safety courses.
- c. Burial Ground Extension Update: Cllr Jinks has not yet received a response despite following up on this several times. Cllr Jinks will visit the Land Agent offices next time he is in Exeter.
- d. South West Water Update. Cllr Townsend advised that his contact has been replaced with 'Council Enquiries.' We understand the storm water tank has now been commissioned and they are working on the phosphate removal upgrade. The CSO in the cabbage field is out of order and has been since 5th July. Beach signage was raised again, there is no signage on the Thurlestone side, Cllr Dennis will speak with the landowner re signage on their land and will arrange for new signage directed to prevent people bathing in the stagnant lagoon water.

387 FINANCE & GOVERNANCE:
a) Receipts & Purchases Month 4**Accounts to pay:**

Monthly Payments: Clerks Salary including HMRC, Monthly bank charge £8, Hall Hire £20, Hugo Fox £11.99

Councillors **RESOLVED** to approve all payments.

b) Governance:

1. The Councillors **RESOLVED** to adopt updated Standing Orders.

388 MEETING ENDS 20.31 Hrs

389 FUTURE MEETINGS 2024: 23rd Sept, 28th Oct, 25th Nov, 7.30pm, South Milton Village Hall.

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.