

**MILBORNE PORT PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2014 AT 7.30PM IN THE TOWN HALL**

**Present:** Mr J Farley (Chair), Mr M Ritchie, Mr C Laughton, Mr E Davis, Mrs P Alexander, Mr R Biss, Mr J Edmonds, Mrs S Shingleton, Mrs M Lock, Mr R Lockey and Mrs R Douglas

**Also Present:** Emma Curtis – Clerk

**Public Question Time**

There were fourteen members of the public in attendance.

A lady queried why the recent appeal approval for Wheathill Garden Centre was not on the agenda. The Clerk confirmed this was due to the appeal receipt coming in after the agenda was published and would be on the agenda for the next meeting. The same lady went on to say she was disappointed with the Parish Council's comments for the Wheathill Way planning application which had been granted as she felt the comments made were not strong enough. Parish Council members disputed this comment when the Clerk read out the comments made. The lady explained that she was upset the plans had been approved and felt that the local Planning Department and system was a joke and all comments were ignored. These sentiments were felt by the majority of people present at the meeting.

Mr Philip Davis raised his objections to the planning application for Court Lane commenting that although he had many areas for objection the main one was the congestion and traffic issues which would be caused on inadequate roads. He also mentioned that the outline plans was for 20 houses but could in fact end up with a larger amount. He finished his comments by saying the planning applications had been turned down before due to traffic issues and it should be turned down again for the same reasons.

The owners of Sycamore House in Wick Road also voiced their objections to the Court Lane planning application as did Mr Brian Warren who comments that Milborne Port had received its fair share of developments and was becoming overdeveloped.

Simon Fox and Steve Davis from Milborne Port Football Club spoke on behalf of the club on their desire to purchase more land at the playing fields for more pitches. They gave their reasons and explanations for the need to expand and informed the Council that their idea was a preliminary enquiry and they were seeking Parish Council approval to peruse the idea further.

Mr Laughton concluded Public Question Time by expressing his dismay that the gulleys in the village were still blocked after SSDC had promised to clear them by the end of February. The Clerk confirmed she had chased this up and had no response so would try again.

## **Receive reports from County Councillor William Wallace, District Councillor Lucy Wallace and PCSO Callum Davis**

**County Councillor William Wallace** confirmed he would chase up SSDC straight away to request the gulleys be cleared as soon as possible. Councillor Wallace apologised on behalf of SSDC and said they should have acted faster to clear the gulleys. Councillor Wallace went on to give a brief update on the flooding crisis in Somerset and also explained a little more on the planning process and how Councillors turnover 30% of planning officers decisions and how they are currently objecting to the planning system. Mrs Douglas took the opportunity to express her dismay at the planning officer who attended a Parish Council meeting previously to explain the system reiterating the Parish Council and its comments are ignored and how there was a feeling the Planning Committee was a waste of time. Mr Farley and Mrs Lock commented that these comments reflect how the whole Council feels.

**District Councillor Lucy Wallace** – No report received

**PCSO Callum Davis** The Clerk read out a report on behalf of PCSO Davis and confirmed he would be present at the Annual Parish Meeting in a weeks time.

- 1. Apologies for Absence were received from:** Mr R Duckworth, Mrs W House and PCSO Callum Davis
- 2. Declarations of Interest were received from:** Mr E Davis, agenda item 13.1, *payments to Steve Davis (Son) and Playing Fields Committee*, Mr R Lockey, agenda item 13.1, *payments to Milborne Port Primary School (Governor) and Playing Fields Committee* and Mr J Farley, agenda item 13.1, *payment to Milborne Port Primary School (Governor)*.
- 3. Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March** were agreed and signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.
- 4. Consider letter from Mr Falbo offering to purchase the freehold for the strip of land adjacent to his building plot**  
Mr Farley gave background information on the business with Mr Falbo and a strip of land adjacent to his land on Springfield Road. Mr Farley then went on to read a recent letter from Mr Falbo requesting for negotiations to be reopened on Mr Falbo purchasing the strip of land from the Parish Council now he had planning permission for his site. It was agreed by all that negotiations could be reopened and the Parish Council would seek valuation of the land from the District Valuer if Mr Falbo was happy to cover the cost.  
**Action – Clerk to write to Mr Falbo to inform him the Parish Council are happy to open negotiations but would seek valuation of the land from the District Valuer and the expense of this would fall with Mr Falbo.**

## **5. Community Woodland**

Mr Lockey informed the Council that following comments made at the recent Open Spaces Committee Meeting himself and the Tree Warden Mr Copper had visited the site and felt the woodland was not as untidy as was made out to be at the recent meeting. Mr Lockey felt that some minor cutting and weed removal may be needed but no major work was needed. It was felt that as Mr Spencer looks after the pathway there voluntarily the Council did not want to step on his toes by undertaking the work without talking to him. Therefore, it was agreed that Mr Farley would contact Mr Spencer and ask him if he would like to complete the work and if not, the Council would then seek quotations from local contractors. It was also reported that a tree had fallen and broken the fence from a neighbouring field and the landowner needed to be informed.

**Action – Mr Farley to contact Mr Spencer and the Clerk to inform the landowner about the fallen tree and broken fence.**

## **6. Grove Garden**

Again following comments made at the recent Opens Spaces Committee Meeting about the condition of the Grove Garden, Mrs Alexander gave an update on a meeting held that day with Lifestyle Landscapes. It was felt that in the run up to South West In Bloom the garden was not in as good a condition as it should be. Prior to the meeting with Mrs Alexander the owner of Lifestyle Landscapes had viewed the garden and was appalled with what he saw resulting in a letter of apology to the Parish Council, read to the Council by the Clerk, and immediate action being taken by his staff to tidy up the garden. Mrs Alexander felt the meeting went well and covered what they felt the gardening contract covered. It was agreed that the Parish Council would keep in closer contact with Lifestyle Landscapes and that future improvements would be made with Lifestyle Landscapes providing ideas and quotations for any work which the Council would need to approve prior to any work commencing.

## **7. Consider quotation from Remous for reprinting of the Welcome Pack**

The Clerk read out a quotation from Remous for the reprinting of the Welcome Pack. Due to the Welcome Packs going out of date quite quickly it was agreed by all to get another 100 printed for the price of £275.

**Action – Clerk to inform John Oldham the Council will cover the cost of another 100 Welcome Packs**

## **8. Memorial Playing Fields – Consider letter from Milborne Port Football Club**

Following information from Steve Fox during Public Question Time the Council discussed the possibility of purchasing more land for the use of the Football Club. The Council agreed unanimously that this would be a great idea and gave approval for the Club to start preliminary investigations in to purchasing new land and to keep the council informed of progress, any decisions on the extension to be made by the council. It was agreed that if progress was made the Parish Council would own the land, which would be leased to the trustees of the Memorial Playing Fields for use of the Football Club. Funding for the land was briefly discussed with County Councillor Wallace stating that next year there may be

some funding available from the Health and Wellbeing Grant and Mr Farley stating Section 106 money may be available from SSDC.

**Action – Football Club to commence investigations in to purchasing new land and the Clerk to contact SSDC regarding the possibility of Section 106 Funding.**

#### **9. Community Website Improvements**

Mr Farley informed the Council that a quotation of £100 had been approved by Mr Oldham for improvements to the Community Website. He read an email from Mr Oldham giving an update on the situation.

#### **10. Town Hall Cleaning**

As the recent advert for a replacement cleaner proved unsuccessful with no applicants, the Council voted in favour of raising the rate of pay for a new Cleaner to £10 per hour for two hours per week. It was also agreed to re-advertise the position in the Parish Magazine, Council website and notice boards.

**Action – Clerk to re-advertise post with new rate of pay and in Parish Magazine.**

#### **11. Hedge at Gainsborough Play Area**

Mr Farley read a letter from Mr De-Piano of Gainsborough requesting new hedges be planted along the fence in the play area to replace the ones lost during the refurbishment. The Council voted in favour of progressing with this.

**Action – Clerk to request quotations for planting of new hedges and proceed with planting**

#### **12. Planning**

**12.1** The following **Planning Applications** were considered:

**14/01055/OUT** Residential development of land. Alterations to Court Lane and its junction with Wick Road, formation of access on to Court Lane with visibility splays. Provision of footpaths on Wick Road

*Land At Court Land*

**The Parish Council strongly opposes this planning application and supports letters and comments from the public against these plans. The roads surrounding the planned site are inadequate and can take no more congestion and extra cars which this development would cause. The Council feel there is much overdevelopment in the village and would regret the loss of the green space amenity. For these reasons, the Parish Council is against this planning application.**

**14/00821/FUL** Two storey extension to rear of property and addition of porch to existing single storey lean-to at rear of property

*The Dairy House, Lower Kingsbury*

**No Objection**

**14/01514/OUT** Outline application for the erection of a 4 bedroomed house and double garage

*The Old Mill House, Lower Kingsbury*

**No Objection**

**12.2** The following **Planning Approvals** were noted:

**13/05199/REM** Residential development of 20 dwellings and the formation of vehicular and pedestrian access

*Land and Buildings, Wheathill Lane*

**14/00422/FUL** Erection of a first floor extension to dwellinghouse to form additional bedroom

*Everlea, Station Road*

**12.3** The following **Tree Preservation Order** was noted:

**14/01208/TPO** Application to carry out tree surgery works to a Silver Birch tree

*The Cottage, West Hill*

### **13. Finance**

**13.1** The following **Payments** were approved:

Mr Steve Davis	£293.00
SSDC – Playground Inspections	£127.20
SALC Membership	£722.40
Milborne Port Primary School Swimming Grant	£225.00
Playing Fields Committee Grant	£1366.00
HMRC PAYE & NI	£165.56
Emma Curtis – Burial Fees	£13.00
Lifestyle Landscapes	£143.93
KM Dike	£944.12
Mrs P Alexander	£27.50
Mr Steve Davis	£161.80
KBW Building Contractor	£14,250
KBW Building Contractor	£34,200

**13.2** The following **Income** was noted:

Wayleaves Registry	£85.40
--------------------	--------

14. The following **Correspondence** was considered:

- Letter from Mr and Mrs Fanning requestion pavement improvements for the High Street – It was agreed to add this item to next months agenda

15. The date of the next Full Council meeting was confirmed as **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2014.**