

MILBORNE PORT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 17th March 2015 at 7.30pm at the Town Hall

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

Also Present: County Councillor William Wallace
District Councillor Lucy Wallace
PCSO Thelma Mead
Emma Curtis – Clerk

Public Question Time

There was one member of the public in attendance with no questions asked or issues raised.

Mr Duckworth took the opportunity to inform those present that the Village Hall Committee were concerned about the amount of littering, drug use and vandalism in the Village Hall car park. He showed images of litter in and said that syringes had been found. He asked if a security light could be fitted in the car park to deter the culprits as police presence in the area appeared very limited. This was briefly discussed along with the possibility of CCTV and Mr Farley asked the Clerk to add this to next month's agenda.

Receive reports from PCSO Thelma Mead, District Councillor Lucy Wallace and County Councillor William Wallace

PCSO Thelma Mead – PCSO Mead reported that there was one crime of Criminal Damage recorded in February 2015. She confirmed that she felt security lights outside the Village Hall would deter littering and drug users. She urged that any crimes be reported as soon as possible to 101.

District Councillor Lucy Wallace – No report received but Councillor Wallace was asked that if the planning application concerning The Gainsborough Arms was passed to Area East if she could request a site visit.

County Councillor William Wallace – No report received

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Received from Mrs W House
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None received
3. **Minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 17th February 2015** were agreed and signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4. **Update on Internal Auditor**

Mr Farley informed the Council that following the resignation of the internal auditor due to ill health, that the advertisements for a new voluntary internal auditor had not been successful. He commented that the Clerk had approached two accountants in the village for quotations to complete the internal audit, one of which had declined the work and the other had quoted £260. The Council felt that the quotation was reasonable and all voted in favour of appointing Mr Martin Freeman to complete the internal audit.

Action – Clerk to instruct Mr Martin Freeman to undertake the internal audit

5. **Footpath and gates at Springfield Memorial Playing Fields**

Mr Davis commented that the Memorial Playing Fields Committee would like to place a gate near to the shelter adjacent to Springfield Road where the proposed new footpath will be placed. It was agreed by all to go ahead and order a gate from SSDC and in due course arrange for a digger to make the space for the new gate to be installed. It was envisaged that this could be completed in conjunction with the installation of the new football kicking wall. The Clerk confirmed she was now in receipt of all the paperwork to commence the re-routing of the footpath, and the Councillors instructed the Clerk to go ahead and submit the paperwork.

Action – Clerk to order new gate from SSDC and submit the paperwork for the re-routing of the footpath.

6. **Quote for a new bus shelter along the High Street**

The Clerk circulated three quotations and designs for the new bus shelter which were all considered by the Council. It was agreed to go ahead with the quotation and design "Figure 1" from Townsend Timber. The Clerk was asked to investigate whether planning consent would be needed along with consent from Highways.

Action – Clerk to inform Townsend Timber the Parish Council would be placing an order with them in due course and then to contact SSDC Planning and Highways to confirm whether permission is needed.

7. **Consider request from Spirit of Milborne Port to cover First Aid costs at this year's fete**

It was agreed that as per the past two years the Parish Council would cover the costs

of First Aid at this year's event up to the sum of £400.

Action – Clerk to inform the Spirit of Milborne Port.

8. Consider quotation for a timer switch on the disabled toilets at the Cricket Pavilion

Mr Farley confirmed that he had been to Spillers the lock specialist in Yeovil who had said that the timer lock would cost several hundred pounds plus fitting. Mr Farley also stated he had conducted some research on the internet on timer locks and could not find anything suitable. After a brief discussion it was agreed that as there had been no issues over the past 10 months with the disabled toilets being left unlocked it would be best not to pursue the timer switch at the present time but to monitor the situation.

9. Somerset Emergency Community Contacts

Mr Farley read out a request for three voluntary emergency community contacts in the village. It was agreed to defer this item until after the Parish Council elections in May and add to the June agenda.

Action – Clerk to add to the June 2015 agenda.

10. Cupboards and storage in the Town Hall

Mr Farley explained to the meeting the background concerning the current mess in the Town Hall with bags of rubbish and cupboards not in appropriate places. Mrs Alexander asked Mr Farley to explain to the meeting the reasons behind the cupboards not being where they should. Mr Farley went on to explain that the Clerk, Mrs Alexander, Mr Laughton and Mr Ritchie had given up a Friday afternoon to commence tidying the Town Hall and move the new cupboards to their new places. This had been completed as per the plan and specification agreed at previous meetings. However, the barber who rents the small room upstairs in the Town Hall had taken it upon himself to remove the new cupboards as he didn't like where they were placed and moved them back in the large council chamber without permission or approval to the anger of those involved. Mrs Lock expressed her frustration about this matter as herself and Mrs Alexander had been tasked with measuring up and purchasing the new cupboards. A discussion took place and various opinions were shared about where the cupboards should be placed. The discussion concluded with Mr Lockey stating "This is getting more like Dibley every day".

Mr Laughton left the meeting as this point.

11. Finance

11.1 The following **Payments** were approved:

Lifestyle Landscapes - £176.40
Emma Curtis – Burial Fees £16.00
Emma Curtis – February pay £18.80
KM Dike – Grounds maintenance £967.73
KM Dike – Hedge at Gainsborough Play Area £360.00
John Farley – Reimbursement for cleaning products £13.80
KBW Building Contractor - £2737.80
Alan Gawler - £195.00
SSDC – Rates £660.00
SSDC – Rates £220.65
John Oldham – Website hosting £41.04

12. The following **Correspondence** was noted:

- Sam Fox, SSDC Planning – Land at East West House African structure

13. The date of the next Full Council Meeting was confirmed as **Tuesday 21st April 2015.**