

Full Council

MILBORNE PORT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council meeting

held in Milborne Port Village Hall:

Tuesday 5th October 2021 @ 7:00pm

Present:

Parish Councillors: Mr Tim Carty (Chairman), Mr Tom Campbell, Mr Philip Lock, Mr Rob Lockey, Ms Lucy MacArthur, Mrs Anna Wagner, Mrs Lyn Harrison

In attendance:

Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer: Simon Pritchard

Deputy Parish Clerk: Nathalie Hetherington

Cllr. William Wallace (Somerset County Council)

❖ Public comment time:

- No members of the public attended.
- Cllr. MacArthur reported that the Library bus is looking for more volunteer cleaners to join the team. If anyone is interested or knows of someone who might be, please make contact.
- Cllr. Wagner asked about what is known about who is responsible for the clearing of the river Gascoigne between the bridge by the children's playground in Lower Kingsbury and the bridge on West Hill Road. It was suggested that it would be useful to have a map of who owns/is responsible for the riverbanks in that area. There has been communication with these riparian landowners in the past; the Clerk will make contact as the rivers need to be cleared once a year as a method of flood prevention.

❖ Reports from Somerset County Council & South Somerset District Council:

Cllr. William Wallace (SCC):

- Conference on reorganisation of local government this week will provide useful insight into what will be a complex process. Cllr. Lockey considering attending.
- SCC are pushing for government funding to improve bus services; more will be known after 31.10.21.
- School places applications deadline is 31.10.21; 97-98% of applicants in Somerset are given their first choice.
- Delay to start of work at Crackmore crossing is still due to problems finding gas pipes.

(Cllr. Wallace left the meeting at 7.25pm)

- The Clerk reported that the new yellow lines on and around the A30 will be in place by the end of the year as the traffic order has now been made.

❖ Reports from Somerset Constabulary:

- No representative attended.

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Signed:.....Date:.....

- Cllr. Campbell reported that he has had some complaints from residents of anti-social behaviour at the Co-op and surgery carparks. The Clerk reminded members that the PCSO is aware.

Agenda Number:	Agenda Item:
1	<p><u>Apologies for Absence:</u> Cllr. Barsby – work commitments Sarah Dyke (SSDC) – car fuel supply Cllr. Robert Tizzard – family commitments Cllr. Ted Watts</p>
2	<p><u>Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensations to Participate:</u> None.</p>
3	<p><u>Adoption of Full Council Minutes:</u> ▪ Tuesday 7th September 2021</p> <p>The minutes of the Full Council meeting of 7th September 2021 had been circulated to Members ahead of the meeting. Cllr Lockey proposed that the minutes of 7th September were adopted, seconded by Cllr. Campbell and resolved unanimously.</p>
4	<p><u>Parish Council Accounts:</u></p> <p>A. <u>Monthly Payments:</u> The Clerk had not had the time to complete this list ahead of the meeting. It will be circulated as soon as complete, with any payments that cannot be made under delated authority hanging over until next month.</p> <p>B. <u>Full Council Accounts & Bank Reconciliation:</u> The Chairman commented on the lack of spending from the Community Grants fund; the Clerk explained that there has been a lack of applications but will continue to promote. The second tranche of precept funding will be with MPPC imminently. It was confirmed that the Council is still to be invoice by SCC for the annual cost of the library. The Chairman will spend some time with the Clerk in the next month looking at this years budget.</p>
5	<p><u>Co-Option of New Council Members:</u> There were no applications to consider this month.</p>

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	<p>The Chairman proposed that the council assign the new councillors – Anna Wagner and Lyn Harrison – to Committees. The Clerk expressed concern that this might not be lawful procedure as it was not on the agenda, and explained that as Proper Officer, it was part of his role to ensure we followed the correct procedure in all matters, including the correct prior written notice. The Chairman noted the concern but suggested the matter be voted upon nonetheless so as to introduce new councillors into Committee roles as swiftly as possible. This was agreed upon unanimously by councillors..</p> <p>Cllr. Lockey proposed Cllr. Harrison joins the Management Committee; seconded by Cllr. Campbell; resolved unanimously.</p> <p>Cllr. Campbell proposed Cllr. Wagner joins the Planning and Environment Committee; seconded by Cllr. Lockey and resolved unanimously.</p> <p>It was decided not to assign either new councillor to the HR Committee at this stage.</p>
6	<p><u>Election of a Parish Council Vice-Chairman</u> Cllr. Campbell proposed that Cllr. Lockey be elected as the Parish Council Vice-Chairman for the rest of the municipal year; this was seconded by Cllr. MacArthur and resolved unanimously.</p>
7	<p><u>Verbal Reports</u></p> <p>a) Council Chairman’s report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Following migration to One Somerset, neighbouring councils will be working together in ways not currently experienced, e.g. the deployment/employment of a Ranger might be shared with other parish councils. The Council ought to be prepared to take the initiative, to keep a working eye on the situation in order to play a leading role and to be influential in the future.• The meeting held in September with John Hammond, the Interim Head of Service at SSDC Planning, highlighted the need for a Neighbourhood Plan which could provide a buffer between where planning is concerned as national guidelines would be referred to in the absence of a valid local Plan. The Planning and Environment Committee’s members also agreed at its last meeting that members should push forward with the NP. The Chairman advises that the council proceed through its own officers rather than rely on volunteers, meeting the staffing and resourcing costs. Some of the existing material to date could be used but the main focus should be on planning/housing/parking/access/road widths so it might be better to start again; the more detail, the slower the process.

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- The Court Lane housing development application (22 houses) has been made to SSDC and is awaiting validation.
- The Wheathill Way housing development application (50 houses) is likely to be made soon.
- Dog fouling at Springfield recreation ground continues to be a problem, although the installation of the dog waste bins has made a significant difference as most are responsible owners, even though many do let their dogs off their leads; the situation is worse in the Winter due to the dark and leaves. There cannot be a ban on dogs at on the recreation ground because there is a footpath that goes around its western edge. Cllr. Wagner suggested the publication of footpath information but other members believed that those residents who allow their dogs to foul at the recreation ground are not those that will go out of their way to explore other possibilities.

b) Parish Clerk's Report

- The Clerk highlighted the Queen's Platinum Jubilee next year and wondered if any organization in the Village celebrating this? There is SSDC funding available for parish initiatives. Cllr. Harrison informed members that The Spirit of Milborne Port will be organizing something and that the WI are planning to plant at least one tree, probably at the school.
- A grant of £1450 has been secured towards the costs of redecorating the lavatory/kitchen area in the Town Hall as part of an initiative to 'open up safely' following the lockdowns.

c) Members' Reports from outside organisations

- Cllr. Lock will be attending a Milborne Port in Bloom awards event in Weston Super-Mare later this month.
- Cllr. Lockey reported that the football teams are low on footballs due to damage; a ball stop net is needed but would need to be installed in agreement with the Council. 70% of costs would be met by the Football Foundation.

d) Chairmen's Reports from the Parish Council Committees

- HR Committee: Cllr. Carty will be meeting with the Clerk soon to discuss the increased staffing requirements and will report back at the November meeting.

End of formal meeting – 8:00pm