

# SOUTH MILTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting;

<b>Date: 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021</b>		<b>Venue &amp; Time: Virtual Meeting, 19.30hrs</b>
<b>Present:</b> Cllr Anne Berryman Cllr Paul Booker (in the Chair) Cllr Marion Brice Cllr Graham Collyer Cllr Graham Jinks Cllr Tim Lewis Cllr Nick Townsend	<b>In Attendance:</b> Katharine Harrod – Clerk & Minute taker Dist. Cllr Mark Long Dist. Cllr Judy Pearce Nat Trust Ranger Emma Reece  Parishioners/Guests Present: 1	<b>Apologies:</b>  County Cllr Rufus Gilbert

REF 2021/22 MINUTES

### 90 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

91 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Brice declared an interest in respect of the Wakeham Update and withdrew from this discussion.

### 92 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

The minutes of the Parish Council meetings of 28<sup>th</sup> June were agreed with an alteration to 88b re the Trutes Court/Wakeham update which now reads: Without sight of a planning application the Parish Council are currently unable to provide an opinion regarding the proposed development, we are grateful to all concerned for ensuring we remain updated at all times.

Following the alteration, the Chairman signed the minutes.

Proposed: Cllr Berryman Seconded: Cllr Brice and agreed unanimously

### 93 CLERKS REPORT:

- a. Lane End Flooding: Highways are trying to get the CCTV to Milton Lane End ASAP. It needs three- way traffic lights so it's slightly more complicated than some jobs but we've have been advised that they are hoping to undertake the works week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> August. This will be completed over the course of the morning.
- b. Verges & Footpaths: Around the parishes there are posts that have numbers/letters on and/or two red lines. This indicates that the area has been designated as being one where special or protected species of plants grow and because of this the areas must not be cut between March and mid-July but later cuts can proceed as planned. If it is felt that there is an overriding safety need to get the areas cut we can request Highways visit with a view to logging problem areas as a defect.

A request will be made for it to be given priority from mid-July for future cuts, this being the earliest date it can be cut unless there is a safety issue with visibility prior to this date.

If any parishioners become aware of overgrown footpaths Parishioners are being asked by DCC to log the problems via the websites where possible - this means that the exact location of the issue gets logged along with any other relevant comments from the individual concerned. It also ensures that there is a paper trail which cannot be "lost" and it's very easy to see the hotspots in an area which enables a faster response from the unit concerned.

When issues are logged the parishioner will be given a reference code, if nothing gets done in a reasonable timescale that information can be passed to the Clerk to follow up. It takes two minutes to make a report <https://new.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>

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- c. Pillbox at Leas Foot Beach: The demolition of the pillbox was in itself an act of dealing with a health & safety hazard as people were climbing on top of it and lying on the beach below, even though the ground beneath it had clearly been eroded away. It is an absolute fact that it would have eventually collapsed onto the beach, causing potentially catastrophic injury. The pillbox now rests on the beach and although that section is privately owned, members of the public are able to access it easily. The owners will be asked to ensure that they have full Public Liability Cover in place.
- d. Scam Emails: There has been a recent increase in the number of scam emails in the area, if you are unsure about an email you receive, please contact the sender directly – particularly if they contain requests for money or to click on a link. Report all scam emails to the National Cyber Security Centre: <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/>

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### 94 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):

#### a. Report from Emma Reece, National Trust:

- The Trust has undergone a substantial restructure over the last 6 months due to the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic, this has affected staffing across the organisation. We have all been working hard to minimise the effects of this on our operations. South Milton along with all the sites in South Devon has been extremely busy, and the staff we've got have been doing a fantastic job managing the volume of visitors.
- Signage – we are currently having a sign made which will be installed in the verge as cars leave the car park encouraging them to turn left to ease congestion. The A board sign is used daily but taken in when staff leave to prevent it being driven into in the dark. Staff also talk to visitors encouraging them to leave by the left-hand exit, but sadly some refuse to do this.
- The overflow car park has been set at a slightly larger size to last year, and will not be increased in capacity any further, it is sufficient for the majority of days. We do not want to keep increasing the size of the overflow as it just further encourages more visitors to the site. We are reviewing parking provision at South Milton as part of the management plan for the site.
- We are interested to hear of the option of a solar panel sign, we will explore this in more detail as it's not something that has been previously considered. Cllr Booker will provide additional information to ER. We do have messaging in the Trust handbook and online to raise awareness to visitors that there is limited parking capacity onsite and that it is best to arrive early. We will also post on our Facebook page if there are any more immediate messages around access to the beach. Councillors have offered to manage a sign that could be displayed in the parish when the car park is full. ER to discuss and provide a response.
- The car park team works to a set budget, the team are limited to seven-hour shifts, a request was made for more staff on site. Can the nearby café be asked for a donation as they benefit with the NT parking facilities? ER will make these requests and provide a response.

#### b. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT:

1. The A379 from Plymouth to Totnes has no traffic lights and no repairs/re-surfacing being undertaken.
2. Lane End flooding. Have continued to press for CCTV news and visited the problem twice recently.
3. Elston Cross road sign to Thurlestone is down. It's been reported and we are hoping will be sorted soon.
4. Kitterford Cross improvements to start soon.
5. Please continue to report pot holes on line. The quality of repair is always better in the summer.

**PLEASE report all highways issues ONLINE at:**

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>

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If you do not have internet access, please contact the Clerk on 07704 941150

### c. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT: SEE APPENDIX B

1. See APPENDIX B – Report from SHDC Cllr Judy Pearce.

#### **South Hams District Councillor Mark Long gave the following report:**

2. SHDC are looking at the green spaces and how they can increase biodiversity on them.
3. The public toilets have been improved and are better managed. Localities Officers are undertaking regular checks.
4. Recycling and Waste: FCC have been affected by track & trace and there are a number of drivers self-isolating which is affecting the collections in some areas, priority is being given to the black bins and recycling. Localities Officers are being drafted in to aid identification of the problem areas, they will also be hands on and will litter pick etc where required. By doing this there is no excuse for FCC to be failing as they are being supported by the Localities Officers.

If anyone who has arranged for an assisted collection has not had their rubbish collected, please report this straight away via the above link, or contact Cllrs Pearce or Long directly.

Cllr Berryman noted that the service provided by SHDC in respect of other services is much improved from last year. Cllrs Pearce & Long will feed this back.

**It takes two minutes to report a problem, please help keep our community beautiful**

<https://apps.southhams.gov.uk/webreportit>

Abandoned Vehicle, Damaged or 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...

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### 95 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.

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

- 2664/21/FUL, Tolcarne, Demolition & construction of new building. Councillors considered the Tolcarne planning application and concluded that the design/facades and proposed materials met the requirements of SMNP policy H4. They were however concerned about the increase in the height of the new roof above the existing roofline as this would adversely affect the roofscape when viewed from the coast path. Councillors noted that approval of the planning application for Leyfield (a nearby property on Links Road) was conditional on the roofline being lowered. Councillors concluded that for this reason they would object to the planning application. **SMPC Object unanimously.**

#### **Decisions:**

- 1099/21/FUL, New Dwelling adjacent to Manor Cottage – **SHDC No Decision**
- 0839/21/LBC & 0838/21/HHO, Trutes Court, garage conversion to accommodation – **SHDC No Decision**
- 1263/21/FUL, Wakeham Farm, retrospective application and addition of two underground LPG tanks – **SHDC No Decision**
- 1794/21/HHO, Lower Terawhiti, Single storey extensions including roof lights. **SHDC Conditional Approval**
- 1971/21/VAR, Park Cottage, Variation of Condition 2. **SHDC No Decision**

- b. **Enforcement issues:** Continue to be dealt with.

Please will all parishioners provide the Clerk with full details of any violations that do not adhere to the original application for which permission was granted. ALL violations can be reported to Enforcement via [www.southhams.gov.uk/article/3043/Report-a-Planning-Breach](http://www.southhams.gov.uk/article/3043/Report-a-Planning-Breach)

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### 96 BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED:

a) Burial Ground Request.

A request has been received for an exemption to the burial ground rules and regulations to allow the ashes of someone who wasn't a resident at time of death to be interred.

In the minutes of the 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017 meeting it was noted that the cemetery should be closed to non-residents with immediate effect and the practice of 'reserving' plots should be discontinued.

The Councillors were in agreement that the cemetery should remain closed as per the agreement in 2017, however, the ashes could be scattered locally. Cllr Collyer will respond to the family with other options.

b) Wakeham Update. We are grateful to Richard Keen in keeping the Parish Council updated.

- Comments received from residents have been passed on to the Council.
- There were concerns about the time taken to obtain a pre-planning meeting but this has now taken place. There are also concerns about the length of time it is taking to provide a decision on the addition of the underground LPG tanks.
- The caravan has now been removed.

c) Proposal to support "Beach Feet" at the beaches in the parish.



The Council have been approached with a view to erecting Beach Feet in the parish (see photograph). This is an initiative that has already been taken up in Malborough, South Huish and Thurlestone Parishes and has been very well received. There are four signs in total for Thurlestone and South Milton, the proposed locations are one at either end of South Milton Sands and one each for Yarmer and Leas foot.

Councillors approved unanimously to support the project.

d) Proposal to install additional signage at the top of Luggers Hill and Sunnyside: There are increasing problems with lost drivers and deliveries to these properties. Both areas would like to install permanent signage to reduce the issues.

Trutes would propose that the signage includes Rose Cottage and 4 Shute Cottages and would be sited at the top of Luggers Hill, Councillors unanimously agreed to support the parishioners request.

The Sunnyside signage will be photographed, this will be forwarded to SHDC who will investigate the option of new signage "Sunnyside 1-8" fixed on the wall somewhere obvious to motorists.

e) Perceived abandoned vehicle in the parish. A letter will be forwarded to the person we believe to be the owners, if no response is received it will be reported to SHDC.

f) Speed issue Links Road – The current speed limit from Primrose Cottage is 30mph, speeding appears excessive, a speed monitor (SCARF) will be requested, we will also talk to Thurlestone School about the creation of more "20 is plenty" signs.

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### 97 FINANCE & GOVERNANCE:

a. The accounts month 4 - **Appendix A**. A mandate sheet and transaction records were produced and signed in respect of the below payments:

**Accounts to pay** – Clerks Salary including HMRC £245.30, J Bell Cemetery Maintenance £48

**The payments were proposed by Cllr Townsend, seconded by Cllr Berryman, approved unanimously.**

b. **Governance:**

- 1) Proposal to extend the delegated authority agreement. Due to the significant increase in Covid numbers in the South Hams we are unable to confirm dates of future meetings until the week before they are due. The Government continue to prevent us from meeting virtually. A proposal was made to give the Clerk

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delegated authority through to 31st March 2022 to make payments and respond to planning applications in the event that any of our meetings through to this date are unable to safely proceed.

**Proposed: Cllr Townsend, seconded Cllr Collyer, approved unanimously.**

**MEETING ENDS 20.20 Hrs**

**DATES FOR THE DIARY:** 27<sup>th</sup> September, 25<sup>th</sup> October, 29<sup>th</sup> November, 24<sup>th</sup> January, 28<sup>th</sup> February, 28<sup>th</sup> March, South Milton Village Hall (Covid Restrictions Allowing), 19.30 hrs.

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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, Jinks, Lewis, 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.

## APPENDIX A: South Milton Parish Council Finance: Month 4

Category	Descriptor	Date	Month No. of Report to Council	banked/Chq NO	Paid In	Paid Out	Cash Book Balance
<b>Cash Book Balance b/f from last financial year</b>							<b>16,343.40</b>
Payment	Community First Insurance		4	63	-	169.66	17,782.66
Payment	Post Office		4	67	-	7.92	17,774.74
Payment	Clerk June Salary		4	66	-	196.10	17,578.64
Payment	June HMRC	04/06/2021	4		-	49.00	17,529.64
Receipts	Gross Interest to 3/6	04/06/2021	4	Y	0.24	-	17,529.88
							17,529.88
<b>TOTALS YTD Financial year 2021/22</b>					<b>£ 2,598.92</b>	<b>-£ 1,412.44</b>	<b>£ 17,529.88</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION CASH BOOK TO BANK</b>							<b>£</b>
Cash book balance b/d				FY 2021/22 month		4	<b>£ 17,832.08</b>
<b>Balance at bank at end :</b>							
Revenue Accounts					receipts	2,598.92	
Unpresented Items					payments	- 1,412.44	
					<b>£ 1,186.48</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>302.20</b>
							<b>Variance</b>
<b>ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT</b>							
					Clerk Salary (& HMRC) paid on 31st of each month		<b>-245.30</b>
					J Bell		48.00
							-
							-
							-
<b>Meeting Sub Total</b>							<b>- 197.30</b>
<b>Receipts &amp; PAYMENTS REPORT TO COUNCIL</b>							
<b>MEETING DATE</b>					26/07/2021		
Prepared By:					K Harrod for South Milton Parish Council		
Date:					30/06/2021		