

SOUTH MILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting.

Date: 28th February 2022		Venue & Time: South Milton Village Hall, 19.30hrs
Present: Cllr Anne Berryman Cllr Marion Brice Cllr Paul Booker (in the Chair) Cllr Graham Jinks Cllr Tim Lewis Cllr Nick Townsend	In Attendance: Katharine Harrod – Clerk & Minute taker Dist. Cllr Mark Long County Cllr Rufus Gilbert Parishioners/Guests Present: 3	Apologies: Cllr Graham Collyer Dist. Cllr Judy Pearce

REF 2021/22 MINUTES

126 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

127 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** No Declarations of Interest were received.

128 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meetings of 24th January without alteration, they were then signed by the Chairman.

129 CLERKS REPORT:

- a. Precept Submission: The precept demand for £6,836 was submitted to SHDC.
- b. Localities application for bench: A localities application was submitted for a replacement bench, the monies have now been received and an order is due to be placed.
- c. Loose dogs in the parish: We have received reports of loose dogs in the parish, South Hams District Council have localities officers who would deal with the dog issues in the first instance, various dog related reports can be made via this link <https://www.southhams.gov.uk/report> - this covers lost dogs, stray dogs, fouling and you can also submit an "anything else" report which would cover all other dog related issues.
Please note, it is against the law to allow a dog to be dangerously out of control, Government advice is to report to the police and/or the District Council. It should also be noted, if dog mess is not picked up and disposed of correctly the owner can be fined between £100 - £1,000.
- d. Airband works update: Airband have confirmed that works are due to be completed by the end of the second quarter and they will do their best to ensure that works affecting traffic will not be undertaken during school holidays. Cllr Booker is collaborating with the team to obtain the routes and information regarding the works.
- e. 20mph signage: Thurlestone Primary School are still working on creating new signs for the existing 20mph stretch in the parish.
- f. Beach steps update: The SHDC Engineer recently met with Landmarc to view the steps. It was thought that they could be repaired via a new concrete base and the addition of more steps at the bottom of the run, the gully and side erosion would also be repaired at the same time. An estimate for repairs has been sent to the owner. No dates for repair have been agreed – refer to the DCC report for further information.

130 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. The hedge opposite Lane End requires attention, the higher blackthorn hedge needs cutting back, a request will be made of the tenant.
- b. Half the village suffered a lack of power for three days following storm Eunice causing trees to fall (Cllr Gilbert advised over 900 had fallen across the county). The trees that fell and damaged the powerlines were all in private gardens. Western Power had not inspected these for some years to determine whether any preventative action was required. Furthermore, Western Power knew that a sub-station was out of action

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because the powerlines were damaged; they should therefore have known that all properties served by this sub-station were without power, a total of 57 properties, whereas their system was showing only around 34 properties without power. This is inexcusable as they allocate resources by numbers of properties affected which lowered the priority of restoring power in South Milton. Western Power provided a generator to restore power, but this ran out of fuel leading to a further outage for 57 properties. Western Power had to cope with many power outages storm Eunice and worked diligently but there are a number of lessons to be learned from this experience:

- Power lines should be inspected more diligently, and necessary preventative action taken.
 - When a sub-station or other critical infrastructure is damaged, all properties served by that sub-station should be classified without power and priorities assigned accordingly.
- c. A parishioner has responsibility for 57 trees, all of which have a Tree Protection Order with 2 of them noted as being a danger to powerlines. Cllr Long will consult with the parishioner to provide advice and assistance. National Trust Ranger, Emma Reece also offered to provide suitable contacts if required.
- d. Fallen trees are making walking difficult in Sandheap and The Grove (leading to Barns Park from Horswell Lane). These will be reported.
- e. Footpath signs in need of repair at Horswell Lane/The Grove, and at Whitlocksworthy Lane/Middle Park. This will be reported.

National Trust Ranger Emma Reece:

- An A board has been ordered for the road to the car park to show when the car park is full.
- Chestnut paling fencing will be put around the dunes to protect them and prevent them from being walked over, this has been proven as the most effective method of protection.
- Contractors are being sought to undertake works to boardwalk to the side of the public toilets.
- An extra member of staff has been hired to work on various projects in the area.
- Works to fill some of the potholes are due to take place.
- A date will be arranged to meet with SMPC to discuss issues such as the car park problems.
- The overflow parking will only be opened for peak times.

DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT:

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

HIGHWAYS.

Pot hole reports and repairs are continuing to fall since the Beast from the East winter. The quality of repairs are being affected by a wet November/December.

There is no update re the scheduled works for Lane End.

THURLESTONE STEPS

1. The issues have been known about for many years and nothing much has changed.
2. The owners have the liability, not DCC or anyone else.
3. DCC are not keen to accept any further liabilities.
4. It is the responsibility of the owners to put this right, not the authorities.
5. DCC will not accept a transfer of ownership plus donations to help correct the issues.
6. DCC will not be undertaking the works, they remain the responsibility of the owners.
7. No change of liability will be considered before the issues have been corrected to a standard required by DCC.
8. Even if DCC were to contemplate taking on the liability once the repairs have taken place, it would still take some time to process, it would have to be approved by the lawyers and the Public Rights of Way department.
9. Copies of correspondence have been forwarded to the PROW team, it was noted that this team are heavily understaffed with a major backlog and nothing relating to this will be processed at the present time.

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THE COUNTY OF DEVON (TEMPORARY RESTRICTION) (WHITLOCKSWORTHY TO MIDDLE PARK TERRACE, SOUTH MILTON) NOTICE 2022

TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC & PARKING

DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL hereby give NOTICE that:

On **SUNDAY 1 MAY 2022**
for a maximum of 5 days

Anticipated Finish **SUNDAY 1 MAY 2022**

No person shall cause or permit any vehicle to proceed or wait on the sections of Affected Roads.

Roads affected -
WHITLOCKSWORTHY TO MIDDLE PARK TERRACE, SOUTH MILTON

The alternative, signed, route for vehicles will be via - VIA UNNAMED ROAD, A381 HEDDESWELL CROSS, A381 OLDWAY TONGUE, SUTTON CROSS AND VICE VERSA.

This temporary restriction is considered necessary to enable -
TM REQUIRED TO PROVIDE SAFE WORKING ZONE FOR POLETEST.

For additional information contact:
SUNBELT RENTALS UK
Telephone: **03700 500792**

THE COUNTY OF DEVON (TEMPORARY RESTRICTION) (A381, HALWELL) NOTICE 2022

TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC & PARKING

DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL hereby give NOTICE that:

From **MONDAY 4 APRIL 2022**
for a maximum of 5 days

Until **FRIDAY 8 APRIL 2022** (both dates inclusive)

Between the hours of **19:00** and **07:00**

No person shall cause or permit any vehicle to proceed or wait on the sections of Affected Roads.

Roads affected -
A381, HALWELL , TOTNES CROSS TO LEIGH CROSS

The alternative, signed, route for vehicles will be via -
A381, A379, A3121, A38, A385, A381, AND VICE VERSA

This temporary restriction is considered necessary to enable -
ESSENTIAL CARRIAGEWAY REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE

For additional information contact:
WSP
Telephone: **01392 267500**

THE ABOVE WORKS ON THE A381 WILL TAKE PLACE EVERY MONDAY TO FRIDAY BETWEEN 19.00HRS AND 07.00HRS, COMMENCING ON 4TH APRIL AND FINISHING ON 20TH MAY

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COUNTY/DEVON DEAL.

We are awaiting the 'Levelling Up White Paper' due out from government in February.

Devon does not support a local government reorganisation or Mayoral system. Thinking is to establish a (non) Mayoral Combined Authority for Devon, which will be tailored to the needs of places, bringing decisions closer to the people.

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/>

Cllr Gilbert left the meeting.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS:

Email Cllr Judy Pearce: cllr.judy.pearce@southhams.gov.uk

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

1. Devon County council, Plymouth City Council, Torbay Council and the District Councils have been officially accepted for one of the nine county deals in respect of devolution. Full details are awaited.
2. In connection with the above, a Housing task force is being set up following the declaration of a housing crisis in the South Hams and across Devon. The various authorities aim to work together and, with one voice, go to central government in Westminster and get something done about it.
3. Re the waste service, information has been received from FCC re the recommencement of the brown bin service. It is hoped they will be in position to start it again in April 2022.
4. A new scheme, the step-on grant, will be created to help people in rented social housing step up from rented to shared ownership housing. Making best use of the existing housing stock is one of the most efficient ways to get as many people/families as possible in the right type of house.
5. The Government have announced a Council Tax cut of £150 for those properties in bands A-D. Further details will be forthcoming from SHDC within the documents that are issued in March. There is also a discretionary fund for vulnerable and low-income residents. SHDC have put through a 2.9% increase which equates to £5 per band D property.
6. Balanced budget proposals have now been published with £200k set aside to initiate community composting schemes, six new schemes will be organised each year. There is a level of support available from the Grounds Maintenance Team. Several parishes already have these (South Brent is a good example) and they work very well. Any scheme of this nature would be run and managed by the parish.
7. The AONB role could be expanded, proposals were announced in January to strengthen the powers and resources currently available. This again highlights the importance of the AONB and could see the AONBs as a statutory consultee in respect of planning. There is a 12 Week consultation currently being undertaken, please see the Government website for full information.
8. Archaeological discoveries of megafauna have been made at Sherford. A number of rare and significant discoveries have been made including well preserved remains of woolly mammoth, woolly rhinoceros, wolf, hyena, horse, reindeer, mountain hare and red fox.

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

<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...

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131 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.

- 3748/21/FUL, South Milton Nursery & Flower Farm, temporary agricultural worker dwelling. **The councillors resolved to ratify their Objection to the application.**
- 0069/22/VAR, Tolcarne, South Milton, Variation of condition 10 2664/21/FUL. **SMPC Support.**

Decisions:

- 0017/22/LBC & 0016/22/HHO, Greenaway, new garden room. **SHDC No Decision.**
- 4178/21/FUL, Wakeham Farm, Demolition & Replacement with 4 dwellings. **SHDC No Decision.**
- 4194/21/VAR, The Old Chapel, Variation of Condition 4. **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

132 BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED:

- a) Village Sign in Milton Lane: The sign has been damaged and requires attention. Cllrs Booker and Collyer viewed other potential sites but propose that the existing site is the most appropriate. A new sign will be approved at the April meeting.
 - b) Consideration of potential 20mph zones: The Councillors resolved to submit the area from Sutton to the far side of the S bend for consideration as a 20mph zone. To allow for assessment and prioritisation for schemes to be delivered in 22/23 all submissions must be complete by 31st March.
 - c) Backshay Verge Maintenance: It has recently been advised that the verge on the south side of the road entrance to Backshay Close falls within DCC Highway responsibility, however, the verge is not considered a visibility splay meaning that the County Council are unlikely to ever cut the grass here. The surrounding residents will be required to maintain the area.
 - d) Platinum Jubilee: The village hall facilities could be used and a nearby resident will be approached with a request for assistance. There is also the potential to open nearby gardens. Cllr Berryman has this on her agenda for Friday. Cllr Long offered to assist with monetary support if appropriate. Some funding has been built into the 2022/23 budget for this purpose.
 - e) British Telecom: Cllr Booker recently spoke with a BT engineer who advised that fibre broadband is being brought to the area within six months. The clerk will obtain more information.
 - f) Neighbourhood Plan update including Principal Residence Policy: Cllr Townsend prepared papers and circulated to all, this includes the consultation proposal, a poster and list of consultees. The consultation dates will commence 6th March to 18th April. Duncan Smith at SHDC will upload to their website, it will be uploaded to the SMPC website and will be circulated via email, newsletter, newspaper and copies will be available in the village hall. The consultation lists will be amalgamated and everyone will be contacted by the clerk.
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133 FINANCE & GOVERNANCE:

- a. The accounts month 11 - **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, Jeremy Bell Cemetery Maintenance £72, South Milton Village Hall Hire £20, British Legion Wreath £18.50

It was unanimously resolved to accept the payment schedule.

- b. **Governance: Notice of Policy Review**

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All policies are due to be reviewed by the May meeting, due to the number of policies requiring review the details will be issued to the Councillors in March. The majority of the policies are provided by organisations such as the National and/or Devon Association of Local Councils.

134 MEETING ENDS 20.53 Hrs

135 DATES FOR THE DIARY: 28th Mar, 25th Apr, 30th May, 27th Jun, 18th Jul, 26th Sept, 17th Oct, 28th Nov, South Milton Village Hall, 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 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

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 11

Descriptor	Date	Month No. of Report to Council	banke d/Chq NO	Paid In	Paid Out
Bank Charges to 30/12	21/01/2022	11	Y		- 8.00
J Bell Invoices	25/01/2022	11	Y		- 60.00
South Milton Village Hall Hire	25/01/2022	11	Y		- 60.00
Parish Magazine Printing	25/01/2022	11	Y	-	- 45.50
Clerk January Salary	31/01/2022	11	Y		- 196.10
January HMRC	31/01/2022	11	Y		- 49.20
SHDC Localities Payment - Bench	18/02/2022	11	Y	250.00	
South Milton Village Hall Hire	18/02/2022	11	Y		- 20.00
Bank Charges to 30/1	21/02/2022	11	Y		- 8.00
February Clerk Salary	28/02/2022	11	Y		- 196.30
February HMRC	28/02/2022	11	Y		- 49.00