



MILBORNE ST ANDREW PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Full Council held at the Village Hall, Milborne St Andrew
on Wednesday 04th October 2023 commencing at 1900 hours

Present:

Cllr's Richard Macnair, Ash Batchelor, Rob Greening, and Jayne Williams

5 members of the public

Full Council

1. Apologies for absence

Councillor's Stephens and MacLeod sent apologies, along with Cllr Parker (Dorset Council).

2. Declarations of pecuniary or other interest

No declarations were made.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 06th September 2023

These were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4. Clerk's report

The Clerk provided an update on items from the last meeting, correspondence, and other matters.
There were no questions.

5. Chair's update

The Chair had no matters other than that on the agenda.

6. Public participation (items on the agenda)

There were no matters at this point.

7. Parish Councillors and representatives' reports that effect Parish Council matters

Cllr Batchelor confirmed she was looking into the cost of a new village sign.

8. Dorset Councillors report

Cllr Parker wished to pass on that the next tranche of the Household Support Fund was due to go live.

It was asked if Dorset Council had no budget, why was up to £1K being spent on the Litter Lotto.
It was suggested that the Ward Councillor was contacted directly.

It was also suggested by a member of the public that it was hypocritical of Dorset Council to advertise a scheme via stickers on bins when it had previously objected to 30mph stickers on wheelie bins.

9. Planning

There were no new planning applications to discuss.

10. Financial matters

a. Payments for authorisation

There were **8** payments (**PV's 40-47**), totalling **£ 2512.97**, that were approved and authorised for payment.

b. Half year budget report

The Clerk confirmed that the overall budget spend was **50.11%**.

There were no issues or concerns on any cost centres.

It was asked why the surplus funds in the reserve were not invested.

The Clerk confirmed that Councils should hold no more than 200% of Precept in reserve.

At this point, MSAPC sat well below this.

If the reserves went above this then the matter of investment could be considered.

11. Sandbag storage, usage, and disposal

Cllr Stephens had received an estimate for a sandbag store, including shed, hard base, and installation. The cost being £2K.

It was agreed that this was too expensive, and alternatives were being investigated.

12. Request for landlords' permission to install an artificial cricket strip at the Sports Club

This request was unanimously supported.

The Parish Council stated that a condition of this permission, in line with the applicant's letter requesting permission and verbal assurances to council, was that the artificial wicket and wider lower level be freely available to the public when not in formal use .

It was also noted that it could not be guaranteed that the Parish Council would, in the event of the sports club being unable to continue in its current form, take over the management and costs of the strip or playing area.

The Parish Council would formally write to the Milborne St Andrew Sports Club confirming the permission and conditions, with the application and reply forming part of the side letter to the lease agreement.

13. s106 application from sports club for installation of cricket pitch

The Parish Council had received v3 of this application.

Concerns were raised as to regards to increase in costs and as to why a cricket pitch was prioritised over other recreational projects.

Both these matters were addressed by the applicant.

Members agreed to support the application.

However, it was stipulated that this project should not be funded until the traffic calming project which had already been submitted to the s106 team at Dorset Council had been completed.

Then, if any residual funding was left, the cricket pitch installation should be considered along side any other projects coming forward, as part of a community consultation.

It was confirmed by a trustee of the Sports Club that it no longer felt it was at high risk of failure, as currently recorded in the Council's Risk Register.

14. Disposal of assets (planters on A354/Milton Road junction)

It was agreed that the two old planters were to be removed from the asset list. The Clerk confirmed that the two new ones had already been added.

15. Parish Council website - costings

Historically, the website provider (Hugo Fox), had provided a free service. However, they now have requested a monthly fee of £9.99.

Members agreed to these costs for a 1-year period, allowing time for a review of the website and associated IT.

Concerns were raised on the searchability of the website in some search engines and its accessibility from mobile phones.

The Clerk would contact the website provider and ascertain if what could be done to alleviate these issues.

16. Public participation (items not on the agenda) – for discussion only

It was queried that the Clerk made the decision to buy the Unknown Tommy's as per the article in the Parish Magazine. It was confirmed it was Full Council who authorised the purchase.

It was asked what the Parish Council had done to facilitate the removal of the temporary plastic barriers on the Causeway.

The Clerk confirmed that Dorset Council Highways were contacted monthly. The issue being one of budgets.

17. Items for the next meeting

Sandbag store

New village sign

Initial budget setting for 2024/25

18. Date of next meeting

01st November 2023

Milborne St Andrew Village Hall at 7pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1954 hours.

Richard Macnair _____ Chair to the Milborne St Andrew Parish Council