

Great Milton Parish Council

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Minutes of the Meeting of Great Milton Parish Council

held on Monday 17th December 2018 at 7.30pm in the Pavilion.

Present: Cllrs. S Harrod (Chairman), W Fox (Vice Chairman), P Allen, P Fewell, C Deacon and G Harris.

In Attendance: Tim Darch (Clerk) and no members of the public.

152/18 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received in advance from Cllr George Bennet.

153/18 Variation of order of business

Business was conducted in the order defined by the agenda.

154/18 Declarations of member's Interest (if any)

No declarations of interest in matters on the Agenda were received.

155/18 Matters to Report

The County Councillor's report was received by the meeting.

156/18 Correspondence and Public Discussion

No items of correspondence or questions from the public were received aside from those relating to matters dealt with elsewhere on this agenda.

157/18 Planning Applications

A To consider the following planning applications received from SODC.

P18/S3757/LDE: Certificate of lawful development for storage and ancillary use in connection with existing vehicle repairs business (Bentley House London Road Milton Common OX9 2NU). For reference only: comments on planning merits of site not required.

P18/S2996/FUL (Lobb Farm, Tetsworth, Oxon OX9 7BE). The proposed development is for a Gas Fired Electricity Generating Facility with the ability to generate up to 49.99 MW of electricity. A low carbon flexible generating facility using gas reciprocating engines. The facility will generate electricity principally for the regional distribution network in times of generation shortfall and/or high demand.

The Parish Council has formally objected to this planning application, and SODC has expressed its concerns about its potential impact on the landscape to the applicant, who is considering next steps. Should a revised application be submitted the Parish Council will be formally consulted on it, and will have an opportunity to comment again, as will residents.

B To review any planning decisions received and any outstanding planning matters.

Work has been undertaken on an area of grass verge opposite the row of cottages on Ives Gate Lane adjacent to Pitts Green with a view to create a parking area. The Parish Council understands that under application P14/S2675/FUL planning permission was granted to renovate the semi-derelict Coach House, the initial application for which included access from Ives Gate Lane along with a hard-standing for parking. However following representations from residents and others a revised submission was required and made. Permission for this revision was granted subject to various conditions, the most relevant being condition 6 which stated:

Prior to the first occupation of the development hereby approved a turning area and car parking spaces shall be provided within the curtilage of the site so that motor vehicles may enter, turn round and leave in a forward direction and vehicles may park off the highway.

After representations to the applicant work has now ceased: no remedial work is currently required, and a new planning application will be submitted in due course.

158/18 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 19th November 2018 were reviewed and signed as an accurate record.

159/18 Financial Resolutions

A

To authorise cheques for payment:

Tim Darch. Salary, Tax and Expenses. £432.17

Jonathan Dudley. Bulletin production December. £283.60

Green and Growing: November mowing. £96

Castle Water: Allotments 1 Oct- 31 March. £40.27

Village Christmas Tree purchase: reimbursement to Clerk: £35

Milton Common bus shelter tidy: £60

B

A full bank reconciliation and quarterly accounts were received, and the latest bank statement signed. The reconciled current account balance as at 6 December was £28,935.64.

C

Draft Budget 2019/20

To review the 2nd draft of the budget and agree the precept request for 2019/20.

Budget for 2019-20

The final draft budget was discussed in detail. Expenses totalled £21,520, an increase of 10% compared with the previous year. Income from sources other than the precept was £3,510 compared with £2,540 in the previous year while the precept was forecast to rise 6% from £16,990 to £18,010. It was noted that the General Reserve stood at approximately £19,700. It was agreed that this level of reserves was reasonable and should be maintained. After discussion it was RESOLVED that the draft budget for 2019-20 be accepted and approved.

Precept for 2019-20

In the light of the agreed budget for 2019-20 and after discussion it was RESOLVED that the precept for 2019-20 be set at £18,010.

160/18 Parish Clerk and Councillors' update of matters in hand

- The bus shelter at Milton Common has been given its annual 'refresh'.
- A survey of the village's trees on common land/village greens revealed no major concerns with their condition, just some minor trimming and other maintenance required.
- Drainage grips on Thame Road, Lower End, Sworford Lane and The Forties will be cleared and dug out shortly.

161/18 Great Milton School: tennis court lease

There was no significant progress to report with regard to the leasing arrangements for the tennis court.

162/18 Carols around the Christmas tree

Carols will be sung around the Christmas tree this Wednesday (19th December).

163/18 Stiles: footpath from Pitts Green (Swarebrook) to Waterstock

Several different options for stile replacement have been received from OCC's Countryside Access team. Replacement of three stiles has been suggested to ensure significantly enhanced accessibility. Funding sources will be explored, and discussions will be necessary with landowners to confirm arrangements for maintenance once the new stiles have been installed.

164/18 Grass cutting tenders

Estimates have been requested and received from three contractors. After evaluation and moderation Green and Growing will continue to mow the village greens and common land for a further two years. All contractors will be informed of the outcome following the meeting.

165/18 Expressway update

Two corridors are now favoured, one to the west of Oxford and one to the south. If chosen, the corridor to the south is highly likely to bring the Expressway (essentially a motorway) very close to the village, crossing Sworford Lane at some point. Village representatives recently attended a consultation meeting hosted by the Highways Agency to seek information and relay their concerns. There is still little detailed information to report at present: a selection of possible alignments is expected to be announced in Spring 2019.

166/18 Local Plan update

The latest iteration of South Oxfordshire District Council's Local Plan features the addition of three new sites on the outskirts of Oxford (Grenoble Road, Northfield and Bayswater Brook), all of which are in the Green Belt as it currently stands. Chalgrove Airfield remains, as does Wheatley Campus. Harrington (near M40 J7) has not been added, though it could still come forward as a speculative application.

167/18 Pitts Green surfacing update

The potholes in the road around Pitts Green (the triangle adjacent to Milton Lodge) have been filled: the Parish Council is grateful to the local resident who arranged this. Residents around Pitts Green are to discuss the possibility of a fully metalled surface in due course.

168/18 Dates for Great Milton Parish Council meetings 2019

The proposed dates for GMPC meetings in 2019 were agreed as follows:

- **21st January**
- **18th February**
- **18th March**
- **15th April**
- **20th May**
- **17th June**
- **15th July (Revision/cover possible dependent on Clerk's holiday arrangements)**
- **No meeting in August**
- **16^h September**
- **21st October**
- **18th November**
- **16th December**

The meeting concluded at 7.50pm.

The next meeting of Great Milton Parish Council will be held on Monday 21st January starting at 7.30pm in The Pavilion.

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