

Merriott Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th August 2016 At 7pm, Tithe Barn, Church Street, Merriott

Present:

Cllr Iain Hall (Chair)

Cllr David Aslett

Cllr Jim Shorting

Cllr Grant Wright

Cllr Caro Paine

In attendance

Mrs K Sheehan (Clerk)

3 members of the public

16/114. Public Open Session

Mr G Rowswell stated that a large charity fundraising event was seeking a venue for a relay to be held mid-July 2017 and asked whether the Parish Council would agree to the Recreation Field being used for this purpose. The event would be a 24 hour relay, walking through the night, with stalls and music. Councillors raised concerns about parking as there is limited current parking capacity at the Rec. After some discussion the members stated that they would welcome further details and would be minded to view it favourably, with further information about insurance, risk assessments and parking needs required.

16/115. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Stahl, Cllr Collins, Cllr Barnes and Cllr Maxwell (SSDC).

16/116. Code of Conduct and Declarations of Interests

None.

16/117. Minutes of the meeting held on 11th July 2016

The Minutes of the meeting held on 11th July 2016 were duly agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

16/118. Matters Arising

Mrs Ann Lawrence spoke on the decision of the previous meeting to separate the banking arrangements of the Merriott Messenger from the Parish Council. She noted that her understanding that the new arrangements following the resignation of the previous Clerk would stand for one year prior to review. Mrs Lawrence reported that the decision was likely to have ramifications for the Messenger team and stated that she estimated approximately £900 of MM money was in the MPC accounts. Mrs Lawrence requested that the issue be revisited at the October Parish Council meeting.

The Clerk reported that three quotes for the mole removal at the Churchyard had been received and after consideration Mr Cook of Hamdon Pest Control was appointed.

Actions: Clerk to revisit meeting notes from July and write to Mrs Lawrence with further details of the discussion to separate finances. Cllr Hall to contact Members of MPC to ask if they would be willing to revisit the decision in October. Clerk to instruct molecatcher.

16/119. Report from County Councillor

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None.

16/120. Report from District Councillor

None.

16/121. Planning Applications currently in circulation

- a. 16/03144/FUL Mr E Vose, 32 Church Street – change of use of barn from ancillary accommodation to holiday let – NO OBJECTION
- b. 16/03075/OUT Mr and Mrs A Miles – Land at Tail Mill, Tail Mill Lane. The erection of a dwelling house with detached triple garage/car port (outline) – NO OBJECTION
- c. 16/00865/OUT – Outline application for residential development approx. 30 houses – amended access and landscape proposals.
- d. DETERMINATION – 16/02191/FUL – Old Twine Walk, Tail Mill – erection of 2 single storey extensions – REFUSED.

Cllr Paine also noted that the application at Allenscroft had been determined and refused and that the agricultural shed notification at 34 Church Street had been approved. Cllr Paine added that the Planning Working Party would meet prior to 2nd September to consider a response to the proposed development at Longstrings Lane, Broadshard as a neighbouring council.

16/122. Recreation Ground and Pavilion

a. To receive the July Inspection report

The July inspection report was noted. Cllr Paine agreed to undertake the August inspection. *Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it was proposed that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, that the public and press leave the meeting during consideration of the following item.*

b. To consider Phase 1 bids for the Rec Field upgrade and agree contractors

Cllr Hall introduced his report and latest spreadsheet and reported back from a meeting held with the SSDC officers regarding S106 funding earlier that day. Certain funds were more rigidly allocated than originally thought but some flexibility would be permitted. For example, proving that the pathways at the Rec were in poor condition would permit funds to be used for 'access to play'. Cllr Shorting queried the reference to 'Revenue' from the S106 documents if maintenance was not permitted.

Contractors were agreed for the gymn equipment, gymn surfacing, perimeter pathway, youth shelter renovation.

A quote remained outstanding relating to the groundworks for the gymn installation and for the car park a contractor was agreed subject to inspection of previous works and VAT status.

A contractor was agreed for the resurfacing of the tennis courts including new sockets.

All of the above decisions were **AGREED** unanimously.

The Clerk advised members that an application to the Big Lottery Celebrate fund for money towards the Wake Up and Work Out healthy breakfast events publicising the opening of the gymn had been submitted.

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Actions: Clerk to locate minutes reflecting the previous Council's decision to use reserves earmarked for the car park to cover the shortfall on the pavilion.

c. To review the Bowls Club lease

Due to time constraints this item was deferred to the next meeting of Council. Cllr Shorting noted that the water meter had been moving very fast recently and agreed to monitor the situation.

16/123. Finance & Procedure

a. To agree invoices for payment

<u>Voucher</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total Payment incl VAT</u>	<u>Budget Line</u>	<u>Cheque Number</u>
47	M Paull	Churchyard grass cutting		£ 480.00	Churchyard/Burial Ground	3374
48	EON	Pavilion electricity		£ 30.09	Pavilion utilities	3375
49	PMP	Messenger printing		£ 342.00	MM	3376
50	J Jackson	Editing Messenger		£ 90.00	MM	3377
51	K Sheehan	Salary		£ 310.89	Clerk's salary	3378
		Office costs	£ 5.83	£ 62.02	Office costs	3378
		Mileage		£ 2.13	Mileage	3378 Cheque total £375.04
52	Sedgemoor Fire	Machinery shed extinguisher		£ 102.05	Pavilion maintenance	3379
53	ARB Tree & Garden	Rec contract - July		£ 328.00	Rec Field	3380
54	M Rowswell	Pavilion contract - July		£ 50.00	Pavilion cleaning	3381
55	I Hall	Grass seed		£ 20.00	Rec field	3382
		Locks	£ 5.64	£ 33.85	Pavilion maintenance	3382
		Hosepipe	£ 1.67	£ 9.99	Rec Field	3382
		Table & Chair sets	£ 87.00	£ 521.98	Pavilion maintenance	3382 Cheque total £585.82
				£ 2,383.00		

All invoices for payment were agreed with the exception of #52 as the contractor had not submitted a complete invoice.

b. Payments received

Payments received in July would follow due to the bank statement not yet being available.

c. To consider grant requests from:

- Merriott Majorettes for winter coats - £50 AGREED
- Life Education Wessex for sessions at MFS - £50 AGREED
- Merriott Footpath Group for waymarking posts - £20.65 AGREED

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- Merriott Gardening Club for sponsorship of Annual Flower Show - £30
AGREED
- All Saints Church for restoration of war memorial - £100

Members noted that the grants budget for the financial year was now almost exhausted.

d. Risk register – noted, no changes

16/124. Highways

a. To receive an update from the Highways Working Party

Cllr Wright stated that he had written a Highways report for the Messenger. It was noted that no responses had been received from Cllr Le Hardy with regards to the speed data relating to Pye Corner. Members also stated that it would be useful to see County Council reports more specific to the Merriott area – at present they are quite generic. Cllr Wright also reported that there had been a number of complaints regarding the temporary speed calming at the Moorlands development due to the change of priority.

Action: Clerk to write to Helen Vittery at SCC Highways to advise of issues relating to the calming scheme and state that the Parish Council does not support the new layout.

b. Village signage

Members agreed to look at cost effective alternatives to the hamstone signs at a future meeting.

16/125. Amenities

a. To receive an update from the Amenities Working Party

Cllr Shorting reported that the AWP had not met, but that Cllr Collins was continuing to liaise with hearing loop providers to assess the Council's requirements for the Pavilion.

b. To receive an update on potential First Aid trainers available for community training sessions

Cllr Aslett reported that he had identified a course provider who had quoted £15 per head for first aid training. Members asked that the First Responders also be approached to see if they could provide some basic training for free.

c. To consider a proposal from Crewkerne Rotary Club regarding the provision of a defibrillator

The Clerk relayed the content of a letter from Crewkerne Rotary offering to part fund a defibrillator. Council agreed to respond to say that they are interested in principle and will explore options by writing to local sports clubs in September to assess interest in training and potential donations for part funding the rest of the defibrillator.

Action: Clerk to write to Crewkerne Rotary to state interest and in September write to all sports clubs regarding interest in training, and possibility of contributing to the defibrillator.

16/126. Items for the next meeting

None received.

16/127. Date and location of next meeting

Monday 12th September, Tithe Barn, 7pm.