Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th October 2017 At 7pm, Tithe Barn, Merriott

Present:

Cllr Iain Hall (Chair) Cllr Stephen Ashton Cllr Grant Wright In attendance Mrs K Sheehan (Clerk), Cllr A Dance (SCC) 11 members of the public Cllr David Aslett Cllr Caro Paine Cllr Jim Shorting

17/133. Public Open Session

No issues were raised.

17/134. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Paul Maxwell of SSDC.

17/135. Code of Conduct and Declarations of Interests

All Parish Councillors declared an interest in the planning application for the rope tower at the Recreation Field as the Parish Council was the applicant. In order to enable business to be transacted, a dispensation was made for all Parish Councillors to speak and vote on the item. Cllr Iain Hall declared a personal interest in the planning application submitted by Mr Miles at Tail Mill Lane.

17/136. Minutes of the meeting held on 11th September 2017

The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.Proposed: Cllr C PaineSeconded: Cllr G WrightRESOLVED

17/137. Matters Arising from Minutes

Cllr Shorting queried whether a response had been received regarding the water supply at the Bowls Club. The Clerk stated that it had only just been sent.

17/138. Report from County Councillor

Cllr Dance reported that:

 The SIS application for Merriott was ongoing and preparation with Cllr Wright was taking place. Some discussion about the types and viability of SIS suggestions took place with members of the public. In particular concerns were raised about cars parking too close to the junction of Moorlands Road with Broadway. Cllrs Wright and Dance agreed this was a problem but that this was an issue relating to enforcement of the Highway Code rather than an infrastructural proposal for the SIS application.

17/139. Report from District Councillor

None.

17/140. Planning

a. 17/03625/REM – Holcombe House, Beadon Lane

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Cllr Paine reported that the Planning Working Party had undertaken a site visit and had residual concerns over a lack of clarity regarding access. At this point Mrs Maria Payne commented that she had now received legal advice and understood that a right of access to the new property would be permitted as long as it remained part of Holcombe House title. If sold separately, she had been advised that a new owner would need to seek her permission for access. After some further discussion the Parish Council resolved that it had no further comments to make on the application as the access question appeared to have been answered and the remaining matters were of a civil nature.

b. 17/03487/OUT – Land at OS0001 Moorlands Road

The Chairman invited members of the public to speak. Mr Foot, owner of the land in question, stated:

- The application had come about as a result of an approach by a group seeking to improve fish populations and decrease downstream flooding;
- There is not currently any right of way across the field but people use it anyway. The application would seek to put in a permissive path to link existing rights of way;

Members of the Planning Working Party stated that they had not been given details of the wider scheme by the District Council.

Mr Hayman of Moorlands Road commented that the application directly contradicted the Village Plan and queried the future of the adjacent field, should permission be granted to build outside the boundary. Mr McGosh, also of Moorlands Road, spoke and echoed these comments, adding that he did not believe fish would be able to access this stretch of water and that Moorlands Road would not support increased traffic levels. Comments by Mrs Weeks and Mrs Pattemore suggested that current levels of road flooding were just about manageable but could become much worse if development took place.

The Parish Councillors then discussed the application and a proposal to object to the application on the grounds of development outside the settlement boundary, proximity to a flood zone, visibility and visual landscape was made and supported unanimously.

Proposed: Cllr C PaineSeconded: Cllr D AslettRESOLVEDc.17/03726/OUT – Land at Tail Mill, Tail Mill LaneRESOLVED

Mrs Miles introduced the application for outline permission to build 3 houses at Tail Mill Lane. The members of the PWP commented that they were supporting this application as a natural extension of an existing settlement.

Proposed: Cllr C Paine	Seconded: Cllr D Aslett	RESOLVED		
d. 17/03760/FUL – Recreation Ground, Broadway				
Proposed: Cllr C Paine	Seconded: Cllr G Wright	RESOLVED		

e. To receive an update on the progress of the Housing Needs Survey

Cllr Shorting reported that the revised HNS document was ready for printing, subject to the addition of a return date and also a contact.

Action: Clerk to contact MM about price of distribution and availability of front page slot in February's edition. Cllr Shorting to finalise HNS and return to SSDC for printing.

f. To consider MPC priorities on future 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy funding

Members resolved that the Parish Council's priority was affordable housing and that s106 or CIL funding received would not be used to support ventures that could and should be funded on a normal commercial basis.

g. To note determinations made since the last meeting

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Members noted that amended application17/03014/FUL relating to Tinkers Lodge Farm had been withdrawn.

17/141. Finance and Procedure

a. To agree invoices for payment

						o <u>tal</u> /ment		Cheque
Voucher	Payee	Details	VAT		_	VAT	Budget Line	Number/BACS
199	Spot On Supplies	Pavilion consumables	£	21.08	£	126.46	Pavilion consumables	BACS
200	Avoncrop Amenity	Pitch Liner	£	41.34	£	248.04	Rec maintenance	BACS
201	M Paull	Churchyard grass	£	-	£	240.00	Churchyard	BACS
202	J Searle	Pavilion cleaning	£	-	£	60.00	Pavilion contract	BACS
203	EON	Pavilion electricity	£	-	£	43.98	Pavilion utilities	BACS
204	J Swaffield	Fuel	£	1.08	£	22.68	Fuel/Plant Repair	BACS
205	Bradfords	Bolts and Washers	£	0.66	£	3.92	Rec maintenance	BACS
206	ARB Tree & Garden	Rec contract	£	-	£	210.00	Rec contract	BACS
207	Grant Thornton	External audit fee	£	60.00	£	360.00	Audit fees	BACS
208	Staff	Salary	£	-	£	314.01	Clerk	BACS
		Mileage			£	2.28	Mileage	BACS
		Office costs	£	0.45	£	11.86	Office costs	BACS
		Total VAT to reclaim	£	124.61				
			TOTAL		£	1,643.23		

Proposed: Cllr G Wright Seconded: Cllr C Paine

RESOLVED for payment

Cllr Hall asked that the Bradfords payment not be made until clarification of the purchase could be made.

The following internal transfers were approved:

NONE.

Action: Cllr Shorting to look at cheaper alternative toilet paper suppliers.

b. To note payments received

RECEIPTS 1st to 30th September 2017									
Receipt no	Date	Name	Payment for	Amount		Budget line	Ref		
117	12.09.17	L Seaby	Pavilion Hire	£	20.00	Pavilion hire	B1000003		
118	19.09.17	Coin meter pavilion	Electricity	£	14.00	Pavilion hire	B1000004		
119	29.09.17	SSDC	Pavilion hire - yoga	£	50.00	Pavilion hire	BACS		
120		G Preston	Pavilion hire	£	10.00	Pavilion hire	BACS		
			TOTAL	£	94.00				

Noted.

c. To note end of Q2 report

Members noted the quarterly report. One formatting query was noted. The Clerk advised that an extra 60p should be shown on the bank balance. Cllr Hall stated that he was looking at conducting a mid-year budget review.

d. To note any updates to the Risk Register (standing item)

The defibrillator was noted for addition to both the Risk and Asset registers. The defibrillator would also be added to visual inspection checklist.

e. To note the conclusion of the 16/17 external audit

Members noted that the external audit for 16/17 had been returned with no issues. Thanks were extended to the Clerk for her efforts.

f. To consider a proposal for a staff pay review

Deferred.

g. To consider purchasing a replacement laptop for the Clerk

Members agreed the purchase of a laptop for the Clerk up to £350 plus the cost of Microsoft Office (approx. £100 depending on package).

Action: Cllr Ashton to provide laptop recommendations to Clerk.

17/142. Highways

a. To receive an update from the Highways working party No further updates.

b. To consider writing to Crewkerne Town Council about town centre traffic management

Action: Clerk to write to Crewkerne Town Council regarding impact of Crewkerne town centre traffic build up on Merriott residents.

c. To consider a request for a dropped kerb outside the Pharmacy

Members considered a request for an additional dropped kerb to improve wheelchair access to the pharmacy. It was also noted that nearby residents had raised concerns about flooding and water runoff past their property, which might be exacerbated by this change. Members agreed not to change the existing kerb layout, which had been designed to prevent flooding as far as possible.

Action: Clerk to contact Pharmacy

d. To consider the provision of additional dog waste bins

Action: Clerk to contact Streetscene to request three additional dog waste bins at Lower Street, Higher Street and junction of Monkhouse Lane and Boozer Pit. Also to request lid fitted to bin outside school.

17/143. Recreation Ground/Pavilion

a. To receive the September inspection report

The September inspection report was received. No major issues noted. Cllr Aslett agreed to undertake the October inspection.

Action ONGOING: Cllr Hall to look at base of monkey bars.

b. To consider the renewal of the alarm contract

The Clerk reported that there would be a small increase to the premium if the contract was not renewed. This was accepted by members.

c. To consider an increase in match fees to support additional pitch maintenance

Some discussion about pitch usage took place. A proposal was made to verti-drain the pitch again and the Clerk was asked to consult pitch users over how we might improve and preserve the surface. It was agreed that all teams should be asked not to train on the large pitch. A firm cut off date for playing matches in early May would need to be agreed to allow for complete reseeding of pitch.

Action: Clerk to write to pitch users as above, and arrange for one verti-drain treatment.d. To consider pavilion fees and running costs

After comparisons with other local facilities, it was agreed to leave pavilion fees at current rates.

e. To consider MPC involvement in P2i youth initiative

Cllr Hall reported that he had enquired about involvement in this new SCC/SSDC initiative but not yet received a response.

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Action: Clerk to query insurance cover for volunteer young people on Rec works.

f. To consider placing order for safety mats for Early Years Play Project

Members agreed to place order for matting, with this cost being deducted from the contractor's invoice for installation.

Proposed: Cllr D Aslett Seconded: Cllr C Paine RESOLVED Action: Clerk to place order for safety matting

17/144. Amenities

a. To consider approaching English Heritage to have Lower Street telephone kiosk and post box listed

After a brief discussion members agreed that these items were unlikely to merit listed status but that anyone wanting to apply for this status could do so.

17/145. Items for the next meeting

• Budget

17/146. Date and location of next meeting

The next meeting was confirmed for Monday 13th November, 7pm, Tithe Barn.

The meeting finished at 9.35pm.