

Merriott Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14th August 2017 At 7pm, Tithe Barn, Merriott

Present:

Cllr Iain Hall (Chair)

Cllr David Aslett

Cllr Jim Shorting

Cllr Caro Paine

Cllr David Collins

In attendance

Mrs K Sheehan (Clerk), Cllr A Dance (SCC), Cllr P Maxwell (SSDC), Cllr R Pallister (SSDC).

17/101. Public Open Session

No comments were made.

17/102. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Grant Wright. Members noted that Natalie Stahl had resigned since the last meeting.

17/103. Code of Conduct and Declarations of Interests

None.

17/104. Minutes of the meeting held on 10th July 2017

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

Proposed: Cllr C Paine

Seconded: Cllr J Shorting

RESOLVED

17/105. Matters Arising from Minutes

None.

17/106. Report from County Councillor

Cllr Dance reported that:

- He had now met with the SIS Officer, details had been circulated by email. He would continue to keep working on this issue;
- He was scheduled to meet with the Signage Officer for the division shortly, so would be chasing up any outstanding matters from Cllr Wright's report; and
- He had been copied into correspondence from Marcus Fysh MP, who was also lobbying for changes to the traffic calming scheme outside Moorlands Farm.

17/107. Report from District Councillor

Cllr Maxwell reported that:

- The planning application relating to Bow Barn farm has now been approved;
- Mr Wallis' planning application would be considered at Wednesday's Area West Committee;
- He would be attending Area West to support the Parish Council's grant application;
- He was keen to organise a meeting of various groups in Merriott to draw up a plan for the future of the village. Some discussion took place about the possible need for a Neighbourhood Plan, Community Land Trusts. Cllr Hall stated that he was happy to put this on a future Parish Council agenda to initially bring together all the village's democratically elected members (PC, Cllrs Dance and Maxwell). Cllr Maxwell stated that he would contact Cllr Hall to set up an initial meeting.

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With the agreement of all Councillors, the planning item was moved ahead of finance to accommodate those members of the public present.

17/108. Planning – applications in circulation and determinations

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

The Clerk reported that the draft Housing Needs Survey was with the officers at SSDC, who had offered some dates to meet with Councillors to progress this. Monday 21st August was agreed as suitable.

Action: Clerk to confirm meeting date and time with Zoe Harris. To resend Housing Needs Survey (latest edition) to all attending.

b. To consider making a request to MHT for funding for planting at Clapperhay and Holwell

Cllr Hall reported that Merriott Heritage Trust had asked the Parish Council to place on record its intention to apply to any funding they might have available for the planting on Clapperhay and Holwell.

Action: Clerk to write to MHT to make a formal record of MPC's intention to apply for funding for this area.

c. 17/03014/FUL – Mr J Lock, Tinkers Lodge Farm, Haselbury Road

Cllr Paine reported that the PWP had found this to be a thoughtful application with good improvements to access – RECOMMEND APPROVAL.

d. 17/02698/FUL – Mr N Taverner, Knapps Farm, Boozer Pit

No formal objections.

The above responses were proposed en bloc.

Proposed: Cllr C Paine

Seconded: Cllr D Aslett

RESOLVED

Some discussion took place about the role of Community Land Trusts and Cllr Pallister agreed to send the Clerk an introductory presentation for circulation to all.

Cllrs Pallister and Maxwell left the meeting.

Action: Clerk to advise above decisions to District Council.

17/109. Finance and 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>	
178	Swaffields	Fuel	£	1.03	£ 21.66	Machinery fuel	
179	Crewkerne Horticultural	Mower repair	£	30.86	£ 185.14	Machinery repairs	
180	T Wallis	Landscaping at Rec	£	194.40	£ 1,166.40	Rec maintenance	
181	ARB	Rec contract	£	-	£ 250.00	Rec contract	
182	E Hilton (My Kitchen)	Grant for playday	£	-	£ 50.00	S137	
183	EON	Pavilion electricity	£	-	£ 44.80	Pavilion utilities	
184	Merriott Messenger	Stenner refund	£	-	£ 19.00	Merriott Messenger	
185	M Paull	Churchyard grass	£	-	£ 480.00	Churchyard/BG Pavilion	
186	J Searle	Pavilion cleaning contract	£	-	£ 96.88	contract	
187	I Hall	Fuel, wood trtmt	£	9.58	£ 57.42	Rec maintenance	
		Fixings	£	3.27	£ 19.68	Equipment maint	
		Mileage	£	-	£ 11.70	Cllrs expenses	Total chq £88.80
188	Staff	Clerk's salary/overtime	£	-	£ 382.50	Clerks Salary	

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Mileage	£	-	£	2.28	Mileage
Office costs	£	-	£	11.25	Office costs
Total VAT to reclaim	£	239.14			Total chq £395.58
TOTAL					£ 2,848.71

Proposed: Cllr J Shorting Seconded: Cllr C Paine RESOLVED for payment

The following internal transfers were approved:

1	FROM Natwest C/A	TO Barclays C/A	£20,000.00	TRANSFER	3507	
	FROM Natwest		£			
2	Saver/Acc	TO Natwest C/A	6,410.91	TRANSFER	BACS	And close Savings acc

b. To note payments received

RECEIPTS 1st to 31st July 2017

Receipt no	Date	Name	Payment for	Amount	Budget line	Paying in ref
103	03.07.17	G Preston	Pavil hire	£ 40.00	Pavilion hire	Bacs
104	10.07.17	Merriott Bowls Club	Rent	£ 132.50	MBC	100846
105	10.07.17	Stooks Memorials	Inscription (White)	£ 20.00	Burial Ground	100847
106	18.07.17	E Hilton	Pavilion hire	£ 20.00	Pavilion hire	100848
107	18.07.17	A Raybould	Pavilion hire	£ 20.00	Pavilion hire	100849
108	24.07.17	L Greentree	Pavilion hire	£ 30.00	Pavilion hire	bacs
TOTAL				£ 262.50		

Noted.

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

The following changes were noted for the Risk Register:

- Burial Ground extension to be reconsidered in 5 years from now

d. To consider the future maintenance of the village website

The Clerk reported that the current ‘contact’ for the village website had left Merriott and it had been suggested that the website be reconfigured to the Clerk’s contact details.

Action: Clerk to make arrangements for new website contact details

e. To note Q1 financial report (delayed from last month)

Noted – no queries raised.

17/110. Highways

a. To receive an update from the Highways working party

No further updates other than Cllr Wright’s written report, circulated prior to the meeting.

b. To consider making a request to MHT for grant funding for maintenance and repairs to Shiner’s Lane.

Members were advised that Merriott Heritage Trust had now advised that they were in a position to proceed with some works to Shiner’s Lane, including overgrown vegetation over the dry stone wall, overhanging vegetation and encroachment of verge onto path.

Members also considered recent correspondence regarding the condition of various footpaths around the Parish. It was noted that this is actually the responsibility of the County Council and that the Footpaths Group do a significant amount of work on a voluntary basis.

Action: Clerk to respond to correspondence regarding footpaths, providing information about the Merriott Footpaths Group and clarifying that footpaths are the responsibility of SCC.

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17/111. Recreation Ground/Pavilion

a. To receive the July inspection report

The July inspection report was received. No major issues noted. A bend to the Youth Shelter roof was noted and ARB had been asked to price for the removal of the low hanging branch in that corner. Cllr Aslett agreed to undertake the August inspection.

Action: Clerk to forward inspection report to ARB. ONGOING: Cllr Hall to look at base of monkey bars.

b. To consider placing order Phase 1 Play Project subject to Area West grant approval

The Clerk was thanked for her efforts with the recent Awards for All bid which had been successful, resulting in £10,000 for the Phase 1 Play Project. The Area West application for a further £5,000 would be heard at committee on Wednesday.

Subject to Area West approving this grant, it was agreed that that Parish Council should proceed by placing works orders for the equipment previously agreed.

Proposed: Cllr C Paine

Seconded: Cllr D Collins

RESOLVED

c. To consider website contact re 'village maintenance'

Members considered recent contact offering 'village maintenance services' via the website. Members resolved that additional work was not currently required.

Councillor Hall reported that the mower has yet again been driven over metal net pegs, this time used for junior goals. This took some considerable time to remove and was in addition to expensive repairs already undertaken also caused by these pegs. Consequently members resolved to ban metal pegs from the Rec going forward.

Action: Clerk to write to MRFC and MYFC to inform them that no metal work of any kind would now be permitted anywhere on the Recreation Field.

17/112. Amenities

a. To receive an update on the defibrillator

The Clerk reported that the initial 50% of the defibrillator funding was now confirmed and would be released after the Parish Council purchased it. Contact had been made with Merriott Youth Football Club to establish if their previous offer to fund 50% was still available.

Action: Clerk to place order for defibrillator once funding confirmed.

b. Further discussion took place regarding the proposed meeting between ward members/ PC members/ members of the public, it was decided that all members would participate in all meetings.

17/113. Items for the next meeting

17/114. Date and location of next meeting

The next meeting was confirmed for Monday 11th September, 7pm, Tithe Barn.

The meeting finished at 9.25pm.