

# **Merriott Parish Council**

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10th September 2018  
at 7.00 pm, Blake Room, Merriott Village Hall**

**Present.**

<b>Cllr I Hall (Chair).</b>	<b>Cllr Steve Ashton</b>
<b>Cllr Jim Shorting.</b>	<b>Cllr Dave Aslett</b>
<b>Cllr Caro Paine.</b>	<b>Cllr Grant Wright</b>

**In Attendance:**

**Mr Hobbs, Merriott Heritage Trust, Cllr. Adam Dance, Cllr. P. Maxwell.**

**18/093. Public Open Session**

**Cllr Hall welcomed all present and advised those present wishing to raise items other than those on the agenda, to raise those matters now.**

**18/094. Apologies for absence**

**No absentees**

**18/094. Code of Conduct and Declarations of Interest**

**None declared**

**18/095. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

**The said minutes were discussed and agreed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.**

**Proposed; Cllr Paine      Seconded; Cllr Shorting**

**18/096. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

**No issues were raised**

**18/097. Reports**

**a. Report from County Councillor**

**Cllr Dance reported that the county council is in financial crisis and were planning budget cuts across a wide range of public services. He commented that he found it surprising that a budget agreed in April was showing such deficits so early in the financial year. He further speculated that the county council may be declared bankrupt if the crisis could not be resolved.**

**b. Report from District Councillor**

**District Councillor stated he had little of significance to report other than various changes to personnel, and their roles, in the District Council.**

**18/098. Planning (including applications currently in circulation/determinations)**

- a. **18/01778/FUL Erection of Observatory, Court Mill, Merriott. Cllr Paine, lead on the PWP submission, reported that there were no objections. And therefore the application was supported.**
- a. **18/01917/FUL. Land off Shiremoor Hill, erection of 39 dwellings and associated works. Following meetings with the developer and a PWP site meeting yesterday, the Chairman read out the revised submission (attached at Appendix A) of the planning sub committee recommendations. After a brief discussion and some minor amendments the PC then voted to accept the submission.**

**Proposed Cllr Paine  
All agreed**

**Seconded Cllr Ashton**

**Action. The Chairman to forward the the MPC submission.**

**In addition to the above the Chairman invited Tony Hobbs to give an update on the issue of ownership of the land adjacent to the stream. Mr Hobbs then explained that this area, part of Holwell lane, may not be owned by the applicant. Ownership of the land was being examined by the Land Registry Office, Weymouth with respect to evidence supplied by the Merriott Heritage Trust.**

**18/099. Finance & Procedure**

- a. **Invoices for Payment.  
The invoices, attached at Appendix B, were considered and accepted as accurate by those present.  
Proposed Cllr Shorting      Seconded Cllr Ashton      Resolved for Payment**
- b. **Payments Received  
The payments received, also at Appendix B, were considered and noted.**
- c. **Risk Register  
No updates required**
- d. **The Chairman reported that there was interest expressed by 5 people in the vacancy for the Parish Clerk but only 3 submitted their CV. These proved particularly suitable. The interviews were conducted by the the appointed Counsellors. The applicant with previous Parish council experience was chosen. The Chairman asked the council to approve the selected applicant. He also requested that the applicant be given a start date of 1st October. He further requested that the new Clerk be paid an extra 10 Hours for the first 2 months and an extra 10 hours during the month of the annual Financial audit.**

**Proposed Cllr Paine      Seconded Cllr Shorting      Accepted**

## **18/100. Highways and Footpaths**

**Cllr Wright (HWP lead) reported on the following:-**

- a. SIS scheme - status unknown**
- b. SID scheme - no information forthcoming on next installation and no bills received.**
- c. Finger post refurbishment - a number of quotes had been received, they required further refinement in light of actual work to be undertaken particularly the number of finger posts to be refurbished. It was thought that the Church Street / Broadway sign may not be necessary. The Chairman placed an action on Cllr Wright to further investigate the quotes obtained and to approach Merriott Heritage Trust with a request to assist in funding the refurbishment. Action Cllr Wright**
- d. The Chairman reported on the status of the Verges, hedges and gullies. He said as County Council funding appeared to have been withdrawn it now seemed incumbent on the parish council to fund the maintenance. County Cllr Dance suggested that it might prove prudent to utilise the Ranger Scheme. In his experience it works very well in other parishes. The Chairman placed an action on Cllr Wright to obtain information on the use and scope of the Ranger scheme. Action Cllr Wright to report findings to the next meeting.**
- e. The County Council has announced withdrawal of road salting on roads in the parish known to be a serious road safety hazard. County Cllr Dance volunteered to check on road salting status and locations and report his findings to the next meeting.**

## **18/102. Recreation Ground/Pavillion**

**a, Cllr Aslett reported that he was unable to submit his reports for July and August as the necessary form was not available. He would attempt to locate copies of the form by the next meeting.**

**b. Cllr Shorting provided a printout of the 3 quotes for the installation of the 32 mm pipeline from the water main to the pavilion. Additionally the printout included the cost of accessing the water main by the Water Board. He intended to submit the application to the Water Board along with a cheque for the associated cost ie, £592.80. He reminded Council that it was necessary to submit this application even though the work of connection would not commence until the 32mm pipeline was in place. He recommended the adoption of Pipeline Bennet Construction to lay the connecting 32 mm pipeline. He advised that the timescale for completion of the installation was likely to be in the region of 4 to 5 months. The council accepted the recommendations as stated above. Actions as detailed.**

**c. The Chairman reported on the determinations minuted at the August PC. The contract for the car park refurbishment has been placed and work should commence next month. He had not progressed the application to the FA for funding of the new water main and the new tractor tyres and would do so before the next meeting. The proposal to plant additional trees needed further discussion.**

**18/103 Amenities**

**The Chairman advised that he had received a letter from Mr Hallet, a resident of Church Street and a committee member of the squash club. The letter requested PC assistance to fund an externally mounted defibrillator. After brief discussion of the content of the letter; the PC decided that the prices quoted were unrealistic for an externally mounted cabinet. The cost of the unit installed on the village hall, was £1500 which was totally funded by donations from Merriott FC and the Rotary Club. An Action was placed on Cllr Aslett to contact Mr Hallett and make clear to him the actual costs and upkeep required.**

**18/104. Items for Next Meeting**

**No items submitted, items should be submitted in time to be added to next months agenda**

**18/105 Date of Next Meeting**

**Monday 8th October at 19.00, venue Merriott Village Hall.**

**The meeting closed at 20.50.**

**Appendices:**

**Appendix A; Planning Application 18/01917/FUL MPC submission**

**September 2018 Finance Report.**

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