

MERRIOTT PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the monthly PARISH COUNCIL meeting held
FEBRUARY 4TH 2013

Commenced 7.00pm

OPEN SESSION: 6 members of the public were present.

- Request from resident youths for a Basket Ball hoop with back board for practice purposes at the recreation ground. Letter with seven signatures handed to Clerk. Chairman asked for information on the product and its cost to be sent to the Clerk before the next meeting. ACTION: next agenda.
- Mr Hall commented that the agenda for the extra meeting in January was informative.
- Mr Hall commented that the notes of the open session at the January 7th meeting do not state that at the Area West meeting it was commented that there was no representative from Merriott Parish council present. Could this be added?
- Mr Hall commented that at the extra January meeting it is minuted that Section 106 monies will be available once the first property of the Moorlands development is sold. Does this have issues for the Pavilion build programme?
- Resident of Sherlands interested in Planning item 1. Comment will be invited at the time during the meeting.

Meeting commenced at 19.20 hours.

PRESENT: Mr A Wallis (Chairman), Mr S Bending, Mrs A Lawrence, Mr G Merrick, Mr B Norton, Mr I Noble, Mr M Steer, Mrs S Sumpter, Mr P Maxwell (arrived from South Petherton at 8.00 p.m. during the meeting)

IN ATTENDANCE: Marion Andrews (Clerk)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: all members present.

CODE OF CONDUCT AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

The Chairman asked members for declarations of interest.

2013/037 Cllr M Steer declared a personal interest in item 9, Recreation Ground due to his children's involvement with sports there.

2013/038 Cllr Merrick declared a personal interest in item 9, Recreation Ground due to members of his family being involved with sports there.

Dispensation has already been granted to Councillors to permit discussion on the Parish's budget 2013/14.

3.MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

2013/039 The minutes of the MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL meeting held on January 7th 2013 were reviewed. The Chairman requested an *Addendum to line eight of open session notes: 'Comment was made that there was no representative from Merriott Parish Council present'*. With this addition to the minutes they were unanimously accepted and were RESOLVED to be a correct record.

2013/040 The minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on JANUARY 28th 2013 were unanimously accepted and RESOLVED to be a correct record.

4.MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising

2013/041 The following ACTION points from previous meetings were reviewed.

2009/314 point 10 Lowering of kerbs at Manor House & Careford Lodge – matter resting with County Councillor. ONGOING

2011/173, 2011/283 Cllr Maxwell to pursue the conservation of the bollards at Evergreen path. The Clerk awaits a copy of a form from Cllr Maxwell (re English Heritage).

2011/274 Churchyard Headstones requiring upkeep. FEB 2013 The Chairman reported a verbal thank you from the PCC for the grant monies towards the headstones refurbishment.

2011/321 point 2 – Letter to Co-op HQ re: lorries and parking. SENT 11/10. ACTION; Acting Clerk to write again to the Co-op to remind the delivery lorries of their one-way route around the village. **RESPONSE RECEIVED VIA e-mail.**

2012/221 Tree at burial Ground to be moved. **AGREED** for it to be moved to Sandy Hole site.

2012/313 Clerk to check on £335 planning fee; **CONFIRMED CORRECT AMOUNT**

2012/317 Draft budget for 2013-4- on agenda for this meeting

2012/292 & 2013/019 Recreation Ground security. Cllr Noble reported that a meeting with Village Hall committee confirmed agreement to housing the video recording equipment within the Village Hall and the mounting of 2 cameras on the wall. A new NOTICEBOARD site was **AGREED** to being near to the village hall sign. ACTION: Clerk to get Noticeboard costs for next meeting.

2013/006 ACTION Cllr A Wallis to arrange for servicing of Husqvarna machinery and setting of gang mower blades. **ONGOING**

2012/356 Offer of tree from Waitrose. **To be delivered this week. To be sited in the Recreation Ground.**

REPORT FROM CLERK

2013/042 The Clerk informed Council that she had been successful in obtaining the updated CiLCA qualification after submission of Section 7- General Power of Competence. She paid a fee of £20 which she wishes to reclaim. The Chairman gave congratulations and it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to make payment.

2013/043 The Clerk asked that dates for future meetings are **AGREED**. The Annual Parish meeting in March – March 11th and the April meeting due to Bank Holiday to be Tuesday 2Nd April.

FINANCE

The Clerk presented the following Invoices for payment.

Name of Payee	Invoice details	Amount	Budget Line	Approval	Cheque Number
Jessica Vale	Clerk Hours 27.5 hrs x £10.198 Travel miles 42 Office Allowance Postage stamps	£280.45 less PAYE £56.00 = £224.45 £18.90 £17.00 £2.00 Total: £262.35	Clerk	Yes	002838
Marion Andrews	Clerk hours 10.00 Travel 20 Office Allowance Postage Stamps Pay Oct 12 Underpayment due to miscalculation	£108.41 less PAYE £21.60 = £86.81 £10.10 £3.00 £12.00 Total= £111.81 £21.68 less PAYE = £17.28 TOTAL= £129.09	Clerk	Yes	002839
Tithe Barn	January x 2	£32.00	Hall Rent	Yes	002840
South Petherton Lengthsman Scheme	Money owing for 11/12				
Parish Magazine Printing	February 2013 issue	£195.00	Messenger	Yes	002841
K Nolan	Messenger Edit- Feb	£80.00	Messenger	Yes	002842
Martin Rowswell	Jan 25 hrs @ £6.50 Petrol	£162.50 less PAYE £32.50 = £130.00 £7.00 Total: £137.00	Groundsman	Yes	002843

2013/044 The Invoices were unanimously **RESOLVED** for payment. ACTION: Clerk to proceed with payments.

2013/045 The Following Deposits were made in JANUARY

Merriott YFC-Dec	£120.00
Merriott Bowling Club	£120.00
Lynash –Messenger	£62.80
Miles – Messenger	£100.00
Stenning Messenger	£100.00

2013/046 The Draft budget for 2013/14 was presented by the Clerk. (see attached) Included is Income:

- the Council Tax reduction scheme grant.

Expenditure:

- £3,500 for the security system
- Pavilion loan of £130,000 estimated repayment for 6 months £4,500
- Egwood £1,500 to cover estimated shared payment with Hinton and Lopen plus maintenance.
- Emergency equipment £500.

PLANNING AND PLANNING MATTERS

2013/047 The following planning items were presented by Cllr Bending.

1)APPLICANT : OYSTER PROPERTIES Ltd. PROPOSAL: Erection of 2 three storey semi detached dwelling houses, garages and parking. LOCATION: Broadway Farm Barn, Broadway, Merriott. *This is a change from one large property to 2 three storey properties. The site will then have a total of 9 family homes. The gable end of one property which has a window overlooks homes in Sherlands. Members recommended Permission subject to the gable end window being of obscured glass and fixed. Due to the number of properties within the site members request a contribution to village amenities via the Section 106 monies.*

(2) APPLICANT: Mrs M Matthews. PROPOSAL: Formation of new vehicular access and parking. LOCATION: Hillcrest, 37, Broadway, Merriott. *This property is on the corner of Broadway leading into Lower Beadon and opposite the turning of Hitchin. Members recommend Refusal because accessing and exiting onto the busy main road and being nearby to two junctions is not safe. It also changes the aesthetics of the village.*

(3) APPLICANT: Mr P Hulbert PROPOSAL: The siting of a mobile home for yard manager. LOCATION: Oak Lea Farm, Lower Severalls Farm Road, Crewkerne. *Members recommend Temporary permission or Refusal as there is insufficient evidence of need to warrant full permission.*

DETERMINATION OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION.

(4) Location – Bow Mill West Chinnock – GRANTED with conditions

(5) Location - Old Farm, Pye Corner – GRANTED with conditions

(6)Location - 30 Manor Drive, Merriott- GRANTED with conditions

REPORT FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR

2013/048 Cllr Maxwell reported that

- SSDC Local Plan has been submitted for approval
- Section 106 monies payable for Moorlands development once the first property is sold. In future this will change to Community Infrastructure levy per house based on square meterage.
- SSDC has agreed to the upgrade of A303 which will include the dualling of the A358.
- There is going to be Flooding workshop in Taunton in March. Recommend attendance so that a good local overview is presented.
- The County Council budget for 13/14 is going to be reduced therefore there will be reduction over all services.
- Government is providing a grant for highway repairs. Cllr Maxwell requests a list of local requirements. Moorlands to Hinton Road is particularly bad. ACTION: Cllr Steer and Cllr Bending to survey the area and compile a comprehensive list.

Cllr Maxwell asked for questions. The Chairman asked that Cllr Maxwell check the minutes of the Area West meeting regarding the Moorlands development as there seems to be a difference of opinion regarding payment of the 106 monies from what has been reported.

RECREATION GROUND

Community Pavilion Project Grant Applications

2013/049 The Chairman asked whether members consider the time and effort needed for the Lottery Funding Application is to continue as it is probable that if the build has started it will not be considered. Cllr Bending said that the mandate from the village meeting was that a loan is used to ensure that the build is progressed as soon as possible and the Lottery Application could delay progress. Proposal that the Lottery Application is NOT pursued. A show of hands 4 yes, 3 abstentions, 1 no. **RESOLVED** not to continue.

2013/050 It was confirmed that an Application to SSDC is to be completed and submitted in April for a sum of £12,500 and that Section 106 monies of £45,000 will both be used to offset against the build loan. Cllr Sumpter commented that letters of support from user to support the application will be required. **ACTION:** Clerk to request from the various groups letters of Support for the Community Pavilion;

2013/051 Members asked Cllr Maxwell to make an application for a grant towards the Pavilion to Somerset County Council. He agreed to do so and said he would approach the Health and Wellbeing portfolio holder on behalf of Merriott Parish Council.

2013/052 Members were circulated via e-mail with information from the Architect on the Specification and the response from expression of interest advertisement. Copies were tabled. The Chairman read through the specification choices item by item and the Clerk noted responses in order to inform the Architect.

2013/053 Members viewed the Names of seven contractors. They ranged from small local firms to larger contractors. After much discussion it was **AGREED** that the Chairman consult with the Architect to select the contractors to be asked to quote and to ask for the required references. **ACTION:** Chairman to consult with Architect.

HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATH

2013/054 The Chairman reported that a e-mail request has been received stating that the footpath at Shiremoor to Scotts is overgrown and needs attention. **ACTION:** Lengthsman.

2013/055 Cllr Lawrence reported that the pavement from Merriott to Crewkerne, at the Crewkerne end is in need of cutting back and the pavement itself needs repair. **ACTION:** Clerk to send request to Crewkerne Town Council.

TRANSFER OF EGWOOD TO PARISHES

2013/056 A response has been made supporting the drawing up of an agreement for a 999 year lease to Merriott, Lopen and Hinton.

SPEEDWATCH

2013/057 A request for volunteers was placed in the Merriott Messenger and one e-mail response has been received. This will be an item for the Parish meeting as a leader is required. **ACTION:** Clerk for agenda

2013/058 The Speed Identification Device has been set in Merriott at Pye Corner, Broadway and Boozer Pit. The feedback is that at these three locations the speeds did not exceed 36mph. However as this was over just a one hour period a further session for a longer period is to be advised.

LENGTHSMAN SCHEME

2013/059 The new job-share Clerk at South Petherton will continue to manage the scheme for the consortium. A response is awaited on the breakdown of costs.

Lengthsman jobs: He has been unblocking drains around the village. Revamping the Church Noticeboard is in hand. Spraying weeds will continue when the weather improves.

VILLAGE FLOODING PLAN

2013/060 Cllr Merrick and Cllr Lawrence are updating the emergency plan to include the Flood Plan.

VILLAGE PLAN

2013/061 Cllr Lawrence reported that an update on the recent survey will be ready for the April meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

2013/062 Response letter from the Logistics manager of the Co-Op was read to members. Drivers will be instructed of the preferred route. The Loading Bay area needs to be relined. ACTION: Clerk to inform SSDC Highways.

A list of Correspondence received in January was circulated for information.

ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Groundsman Contract
- Servicing of Equipment

ITEMS OF NOTE

- The Chairman informed members that the Church Council is in favour of extending the footpath to the civil burial ground. A further meeting to walk the area is to be arranged.

MEETING CONCLUDED AT 21.50hrs.

NEXT MEETING: Monthly PARISH COUNCIL MARCH 4th 19.00hrs

Annual PARISH MEETING MARCH 11th 19.00hrs