

## **Milton Lilbourne - Annual Parish Meeting (APM) Minutes:**

**Venue: Village Hall**

**Date: Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

**Time: 7.35pm – 9.25pm**

**Present:**

Cllr Paul Oatway QPM (Chairman), Robert Jones (Clerk), Cllr David Fall, Cllr Liz Minnear, Cllr Serena Sparks, Cllr Ann Maconie, Cllr Anthony Wells & Cllr Jamie Cayzer-Colvin.

**Guest Speakers:**

None

**Apologies:**

Cllr Jerry Kunkler – WC councillor, WPC Teresa Herbert, Mr A Barne.

**Parishioners in attendance:**

Various

**Approval of minutes from last meeting:**

Cllr P Oatway stated minutes had been posted for review and proposed same as being an accurate record of events and were duly approved. Proposed by Cllr A Wells & seconded by Cllr D Fall.

Matters arising

A parishioner challenged that statement stating 'that they were not on the notice boards or on the website' – Clerk stated they were on the website and it appeared that the member of public had viewed an old parish website, after debate the minutes were approved

**Action: Cllr A Wells to remove old website**

**Declarations of Interest:**

None Declared

**Meeting Start:**

Following the murder today of the MP Jo Cox a minutes silence was held in her honour and to reflect on her public service and her young family who survive her.

**Chairman's Report:**

It is with great pleasure that as the Chairman of this Parish council, I am in a position to present to you, the parishioners of this Parish my annual report on behalf of the Milton Lilbourne Parish Council for 2015-2016

On behalf of the whole parish I warmly welcome people that have joined our communities within the last twelve months and do hope that they feel that they can make a contribution in any way to our village.

During the year Cllr Janine Gosling has resigned and I have formally accepted that resignation. Also this evening sees the retirement of our vice chairman Serena Spark's, who has made a sustained and outstanding contribution to this parish over countless years, I will come back to this matter later.

It is important that you are aware of our operating procedures and the manner in which we conduct our business on your behalf especially, those that have recently joined the parish

This council which was elected un-opposed in 2013, it is formulated under a structure of three sub committees that report back to the full council, those committees being planning under the chairmanship of Mrs Sparks, finance under the chairmanship of Mrs Minnear and Mr David Fall as the chairman of the community committee. It has

been an exceptionally busy year for all of those committees on your behalf and the respective chairs will be giving you an update on their activity shortly. I would at this point like to take the opportunity to personally thank all of our councillors for their time and dedication to their role and this parish once again.

As a council we are often asked to help and support organisation both locally and nationally and this may be enlarged on further with the Finance committee report, but during these tightening times there is a need to be ever mindful as to who we are allocating money and grants to, none the less we are committed to the ongoing support of the Village Hall and Recreation Ground Committee with on-going ground maintenance together with regular cutting from March and fortnightly perimeter strims, this year's contract has cost us over £3600 and we have returned to Wiltshire Council.

In addition Wiltshire Council continues on our behalf to maintain grassed areas around the village including the Severalls, the Crossroads and Littleworth. These areas are reviewed annually in partnership with us and highway engineers. As a result of our concerns of the general quality of the cuts within the village including the strip of grass adjacent to the village street by the church and the strip of land once again adjacent to the village street by Lawn Farm Close, pressure was placed on Wiltshire council to improve on the level of service delivered and I am pleased so far, to see an improvement. Likewise we have increased our overall budget for grounds maintenance within the recreation ground with an increase in cuts during most of the year.

With regards to our relationship with Wiltshire Council Highways we have regular meetings with our engineer Malcolm Beven. Recently we have had all of the ditches and gullies cleared from priory cottage to the village to prevent flooding and general issues of water at the bottom end of the village. Likewise we have agreed for drains within the village to be regularly cleared by the gulley suckers.

I can confirm as was proposed last year that we have increased the civil emergency contingency fund to £1000, this being from budgeted finances allocated for whatever reason this council requires in the event of a civil emergency within the Parish and I am pleased to report that there has been no need to touch this allocation within the last financial year.

Whilst dealing with budgets I am confident that Liz will enlarge later, but this year sees the final rise in our precept over our four year financial plan, to cater for potential central capping of parish councils precepts by 2%, we have no intention for the forcible future to raise the precept apart from the annual cost of living increase.

Wiltshire council is proposing support to parish councils during the winter of 2016, with the allocation of a one ton, sand grit bags, this matter will be discussed as we receive notification from Wiltshire council as to our options, in particular storage. The parish steward scheme is due to recommence again during the autumn of this year and this will bring us great benefits to the ongoing maintenance of the parish, which we will now have control over.

Our Parish Communication strategy continues to be developed, and although mentioned last year I would like to seek the views of the residents of Little Salisbury tonight, that are present as it is our rolling programme of work to consider noticeboard installation within that hamlet during this financial year and I am keen to progress this matter. These notice boards are important to us as they provide a sense of belonging to those that live within these hamlets and enable us and others to communicate our messages with ease to our people. But life does move on with new ways of working and our new website gives us, parishioners and the wider world easier ways in which to communicate and I would encourage you to visit and use the site, [www.miltonlilbourne.org.uk](http://www.miltonlilbourne.org.uk), it is a site that is maintained by us but allows and embraces our partners within it.

I reported on our involvement in securing high speed broadband at an early stage for the parish last year and during the year it has been installed and I hope that you are finding the quicker speeds of benefit and my congratulations to the village hall and recreation ground committee for its installation here in the village hall. On a slightly sorry note, we were one of the early unsuccessful bidders for the burrowing of the overhead power cables by the National Grid, through the parish and wider vale. This project is now to be delivered into the peak district.

Policing – This year has seen little to no crime within the Parish again. That does not mean that we should be complacent and there is in my view every reason to support our Police service and a need for everyone to be vigilant and report matters regardless of how small or insignificant. Community messaging via [www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk](http://www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk) is very much in place and I would encourage you all to sign up to this initiative as it provides you, with live data updates as it happens, communicated from the police.

One area that does continue to cause us concern is the speed of some vehicles that travel in excess speeds on the B3087, I thank our police for the speed checks that they regularly perform on our behalf and I am aware that they have addressed this with motorists whilst conducting said speed checks.

Likewise as a parish council at no cost to us we have transferred from Wiltshire Council a speed indicating device (SID), with a purchase price of £3k for deployment within the parish. This device is the property of MLPC.

The reassessment of B3087 in the crossroads area is underway by Wiltshire Council for consideration of a 30 mph speed limit by us as a result of the new housing development and we await results.

Whilst dealing with speed limits, I am a member of the CATG as part of the area board and I represent you and other parishes in the vale at this meeting. Last year there were two successful bids for speed reductions to 20 mph, one being Woodborough and the other being Easton Royal. As a council we have yet to discuss or debate this matter, but I am confident taking Easton Royal as an example that if we wanted to implement a 20mph speed limit to cover the whole of the village from the crossroads south that we would be successful and later this evening I would welcome some feedback on this initiative.

I am sure that Teresa would have expanded if she could have been with us tonight, but I must say, year on year we are fortunate that in real terms we have little crime in the Parish and I am exceptionally pleased with the level of service that we are given.

At the Area Boards I have publicly spoken of the professionalism and dedication of WPC Teresa and their small team, it is such a pleasure to have a policing team that is passionate about what they do and wanting to provide an excellent service to all, I wish to publically thank again Teresa and her team and the wider Constabulary for their on-going support, they have our utmost continued confidence.

Whilst mentioning the area boards there is some exciting news that I wish you to be aware of, there has been some hard canvassing of Wiltshire Council over the last twelve months to make improvements to the sports centre at Pewsey, as a result of this intervention Pewsey is to have a new Health and Wellbeing sports Centre on the existing site costing in excess of £8 million pounds, planning is about to be submitted and it will open for business in the spring of 2018, on completion it will be the most modern sports centre in the county and with a brand new pool. During its closure there will be temporary facilities within the fords brook industrial centre, within Pewsey.

My usual appreciation and thanks to the Chairman of the Village Hall and recreation ground committee and his small committee for all that they do, this hall, exterior and grounds are looking better than I can ever remember. Likewise my thanks to all members of the parochial church council for all that they do for the community, I only walked through the grounds of the church the other day and you should truly be proud of what you are achieving, it is looking wonderful, I do remember a time when the grass was waist high.

During the year considerable research was undertaken by us to secure the best possible options with regards to the defibrillator, I am conscious that it did take us time but we wanted the most efficient, modern and ease of use equipment available and that is why we contracted ourselves with south west ambulance trust, I am confident that we made the correct decision and it was so nice to see so many at our training event in January, this training is an annual programme available to us as a community.

My thanks to Jerry Kunckler our County Councillor and for all that he has done and continues to do in supporting this parish, in Jerry we have a true friend at County Hall. To you Robert our parish clerk, who continues to do an absolutely outstanding job for this parish, we both work well and I can assure you all, the pressures continue as county continues to transfer responsibilities down to parish councils with tightening centralised budget reductions. Thank you for all that you do and in supporting me

On referring to the County I am only to aware of the unease of the conditions of our roads and lanes within the Parish and I have recently been disappointed at the quality of the repair in particular on the B3087 in the area of Little Salisbury, I shall be addressing this matter with Jerry and engineers in the coming weeks.

On a positive note as a result of our direct intervention I am pleased to report that during this financial year, forge close, old Severalls lane and havering lane are all to be resurfaced.

Two years ago we created a temporary war memorial to commemorate and reflect on the 100 th year anniversary since the commencement of World War One, your overall response to what we did and the service that was held provided very favourable feedback, as result we asked the people of this parish, their views and what they wanted, if anything at all. The overall results of that consultation process are what you see today.

For me we have provided what the majority wanted, although I do fully understand that you cannot please all of the people all of the time. Personally I think it is absolutely brilliant and most fitting and I have had brief discussions with Anthony regarding its official unveiling and I am confident that we will put in place something for remembrance Sunday this year, working in partnership together with the PCC. I would like to thank all of those that have been involved in the project and its installation and in particular Will Sharpe who has done all of the metal work a truly fantastic job and finish.

So to this war memorial we should not forget and I ask you to reflect on those who have paid the ultimate price for this country.

- ☐ James Head : Mons Star 1 st Wilts 27/10/1914
- ☐ Archibald Ware : 2 nd Wilts 1/3/1915 ☐ Maurice Deadman : 5 th Wilts 10/8/1915
- ☐ Horace Head : 5 th Wilts 10/8/1915
- ☐ Sidney Ware VC : Seaforth H,s 16/4/1916
- ☐ John Drewitt : 2 nd Wilts 8/5/1916

*Already killed in action over 100 years ago.*

- ☐ Charles Stagg Can AMC 9/4/1917
- ☐ William Underwood R/Berks 21/8/1917
- ☐ George Waite 1 st Wilts 15/8/1918
- ☐ Percy Styles RFA 22/8/1918

*Still fighting for their country.*

And of course Private Matthews from the Dorset shire Regiment, from this Parish who was to be killed during the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War, he lies within our church yard.

This year marks the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the queen's birthday, as you can see the flags are flying and it is our intention to celebrate this on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> August during the august bank holiday of which all of you have received information, I urge you to contact Robert as requested to assist us in the planning of this large event, to include a live band, hog roast and a large fireworks display by the internationally renowned fireworks company Pains Wessex from Amesbury

As I draw to an end Our village life in this quiet and peaceful part of Wiltshire continues and I am of a view that we should never forget that stable balanced society, in which we all enjoy at home is a reflection on the rule of law and our appreciation to the men and woman of the Wiltshire Constabulary, that keep it that way, day in and day out , likewise to members of our armed services', of whom many live in our communities and live here within our parish, for their part in defending the realm, and our interests abroad, we all are indebted to their service during these incredibly dangerous times at home and abroad.

I hope that you continue to see a council who knows its people and it's Parish, a council who has cared for all of its parishioners and will continue to do so, whatever their age or wherever live, in what is a special part of Wiltshire, which we are all fortunate to reside in. On behalf of all of us, it has been a pleasure to represent and serve you once again and we look forward to meeting you later for refreshments and a drink

### **Wiltshire Police Report:**

Milton Lilbourne Parish Police Report for Parish Council APM – June 2016

Presented by Clerk Robert Jones – This was presented and a copy of the April – June report is attached and available alongside the minutes. A reminder was also made regarding contact numbers and the emergency number remains as 999 whilst all other matters can and should be reported via the number 101.

### **County Councillors Reports**

This was presented by Cllr P Oatway, on behalf of Cllr J Kunckler:

- Wiltshire Council Parish Stewards Scheme – This is to be re-introduced effective from October 2016.
- The Pewsey Leisure Centre is to be re-vamped - Work is anticipated to begin in September 2016 to include new pool and facilities, then re-opening late 2017/2018.

### **Finance Committee Reports:**

Presented by Cllr A Wells:

Breakdown of parish expenditure for 2015/16.

Annual Reports were presented at the meeting and these were adopted by D K Ward & seconded by C Spanswick

### **Planning Committee Report:**

Presented by Cllr S Sparks:

- Advised that a small number of applications had been received during the last year, however once again we had a general lack of activity in this area with no particular issues outside of the Wiltshire Council planning guidelines.
- Website developments – This was highlighted with the ability to now access all current planning activity through the planning portal on the parish website, which people might find easier than the Wiltshire Council website to investigate. *See website address above.*

### **Parishioners Questions:**

This was opened via the Chairman Cllr P Oatway who raised the following for consideration:

1. Signage Questions - This was raised regarding Little Salisbury signage changes and requested that Littleworth also be duly signed for visitors  
**Action Community Committee**
2. Rights of Way – This was to be reviewed in line with changes to stiles and work with WC to identify improvements.
3. Road Signage – Suggested that no through road signage be reviewed and updated alongside the introduction of a 20mph zone through the village  
**Action Community Committee**
4. B3087 – Speeding this was discussed re recent SID obtained and the expected future monitoring of the speed limits with WC. A current request had been submitted with a suggested 30mph zone introduced.
5. Williams Re-cycling Centre – Concern was expressed by parishioners with vehicles being parked opposite the site as well as the height of the site materials and the effect this was creating both adjoining and further afield. In addition the in-appropriate parking of vehicles on the highway during the day & night-time.  
**Action Community Committee**
6. Playpark – Request was made regarding the budget available from the new properties on the old Gge site and suggested that also the playpark be further enhanced.  
**Action Community Committee**
7. Flagpole – This was raised and suggested it be moved from the current position to alongside the memorial site. Further investigation will be conducted although a vote was taken and the majority voted for its re-siting, apart from one member of the public.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance.

At this point Cllr P Oatway asked the vice-chairman of the Parish Council asked Cllr Serena Sparks to join him on the floor, where Cllr Oatway outlined the massive contributions that Cllr Sparks had added to the community and the planning committee over the years and presented a commemorative plaque and bouquet of flowers.

The meeting ended at 9.25pm

Minutes submitted by: Clerk Robert Jones

Minutes approved by: Paul Oatway Chairman