

Milton Lilbourne - Annual Parish Meeting (APM) Minutes:

Venue: Village Hall

Date: Tuesday 27th June 2017

Time: 7.45pm – 9.25pm

Present:

Cllr Paul Oatway QPM (Chairman), Robert Jones (Clerk), Cllr David Fall, Cllr Liz Minnear, Cllr Anthony Wells, Cllr Ray Edwards & Cllr Jamie Cayzer-Colvin.

Guest Speakers:

Wiltshire Police PCSO Lucy Stonestreet

Apologies:

Cllr Ann Maconie, Cllr Jerry Kunkler – WC councillor, WPC Teresa Herbert.

Parishioners in attendance:

Various

Meeting Start:

Cllr P Oatway started proceeding with a few seconds silence to remember those from within the parish that are no longer with us including:

- Philip Vale
- John Bradby
- Christine Patrick
- Derek Ward
- & Others

Approval of minutes from last meeting:

Cllr P Oatway stated minutes had been posted for review and were readily available via the parish website 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

- Signage within Little Salisbury & Littleworth – This is currently with Wiltshire Council for action
- Road Signage – Concern was expressed about some of the road signage in and around the village and the overgrowth of certain trees and hedge lines
- Williams Recycle Centre – Concerns were initially raised about the site and action to be taken
- Playpark Section 106 monies – Availability of the

Declarations of Interest:

None Declared

Chairman's Report:

It is with immense pleasure that as the Chairman of this Parish council, I can present to you, the parishioners of this Parish my annual report on behalf of the Milton Lilbourne Parish Council for 2016-2017

We warmly welcome those of you who are present tonight and indeed on behalf of the whole parish I warmly welcome people that have joined our community within the last twelve months and do hope that they feel that they can contribute in any way to our village life.

I will be updating you during the evening on this council's decision regarding the siting of a flagpole within the village, that decision was taken by the whole council after debate and we are unanimous regarding our decision. We welcome Ray Edwards to the parish council this year and I am confident with Rays experience he will make a valuable contribution to our business.

I would like to explain why this year's annual parish council meeting has been delayed, it comes due to a variety of factors, both the Wiltshire Council and parliamentary elections place timescales as to when this meeting could take place, hence it being in June and in addition we have not been able to gain entry to this village hall due to its ongoing bookings, I would like to thank the girl guides association for giving up one of their evenings to enable us to meet, we shall be making a donation to them. The fact that we could not book this hall for this statutory meeting for the people of this parish is not an acceptable position and we will be discussing this with the village hall and recreation ground committee going forward.

I am pleased that during the May local elections this council was re-elected again un-opposed. During this process, this council elected me as their Chairman and David Fall as vice-chairman. Your council has three sub committees, Finance headed up by Anthony wells and supported by Liz MINNEAR. Planning headed up by Ann Maconie and supported by Ray Edwards and finally Community Affairs chaired by David Fall supported by Jamie Cayzer- Colvin, Rob Jones and myself.

It has been another very busy year for all 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 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 and fortnightly perimeter strims, this year's contract has cost us £3,180 and we have continued with Wiltshire Council as a direct result of the excellent level of service that they provided last year. In addition, Wiltshire Council continues on our behalf to maintain grassed areas around the village including the Severalls, the Crossroads and Littleworth and most notably the grass strip adjacent to St Peters.

With regards to our relationship with Wiltshire Council Highways we have regular meetings with our engineer Richard Dobson and recently we have had all the ditches and grips cleared along the B3087 from the parish boundary at Easton Royal to the crossroads to prevent flooding in the village. A programme of work has also been agreed over the summer months to empty and clear all the drains within the village by the gully suckers. With regards to the flooding that took place in the middle of the village again last year, I would like to place on record our appreciation of the rapid response by Wiltshire Councils severe weather team headed up by Bill Parkes, who quickly set about pumping water out of the village and making the village street accessible within a couple of hours. This was further backed up in the weeks to follow with the complete flushing and clearing of the drain system within the centre of the village. But that alone is not enough and my thanks to Gerald for arranging the clearing of a considerable area of the drain and stream west of the village where all this water goes. We shall be writing to a few selected landowners in the centre of the village, where there is a need for them to clear their ditches to enable us to do further pipe clearing ahead of the winter.

Moving to financial matters the civil emergency contingency fund is still in place with an allocation of £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 fiscal year.

Whilst dealing with budgets I am confident that Anthony will enlarge later our financial picture and plans going forward.

The potential central capping of parish council's precepts by 2% did not materialise, but there is always the need for us to be prudent with our expenditure and remain within budget, so going forward as there was this year there may have to be minor adjustments to the precept in line with the cost of living increase.

A maintenance programme of work is being put in place for our notice boards and benches within the recreation ground as some of them have now been in place since 2000.

Likewise, we are embarking on a replacement programme of work for our Wiltshire heritage wooden signposts which need much repair and replacement.

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 and a need for everyone to be vigilant and report matters regardless of how small or insignificant. Community messaging is very much in place and I would encourage you all to sign up to this initiative as it provides you, with live as it happens communication from the police. The Police report is available tonight and we are sorry that members of Wiltshire Police could not be present tonight. As many of you would have read in recent weeks there are 20,000 less police officers and Wiltshire has had to take its share, so I think we would all agree with their reduced numbers and availability we would rather they are on patrol, rather than sat in here.

One area that does continue to cause us concern is the speed of some vehicles that travel in excess speeds on the B3087, we have engaged with Wiltshire Council and we are in the process of having speed of vehicles monitored, which with the right outcome would enable us to put in place speed watch and make a bid for a reduction in the 40-mph speed limit.

Many of you would have seen the speed indicating device that we have which we regularly from time to time deploy and move around the parish. This device is the property of MLPC.

A year ago, I asked for feedback on the proposed 20 mph speed limit for the village, since we have received nothing we have discussed this matter as a council and at this moment in time shelved the initiative.

An area that is attracting immense concern is the activity of the scrapyard on the B3087, we are receiving daily concerns regarding the abandoning of vehicles on the road causing considerable congestion and irresponsible and arrogant parking in that area. By the very nature of the design of the road and the slight blind bend it is only a matter of time before a collision occurs, as a council please be reassured we fully understand your concerns and support you, as a result we have sent the following letter to, Wiltshire Police, The Health and Safety Executive, The Environment Agency and Wiltshire Council Enforcement. This will be followed up by us in the coming days, the activity at the site cannot be allowed to continue.

To the village hall and recreation ground committee, Brian Deadman has stood down this year after many years as chairman, our appreciation for all that you have achieved during your period of tenure Brian Thank you. Pete Miles takes the reins and likewise we wish you every success going forward. Although not this council's business we are regularly spoken to regarding the acoustics from villagers, my plea to you is, please get this issue addressed.

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 and we are fully committed to our ongoing annual donation.

We continue to receive favourable remarks regarding the war memorial, our only involvement going forward will be to lay wreaths out in advance of remembrance Sunday to remember those fallen. Remembrance Sunday is very much a day run by the parochial church council and they do it so well, we will of course do anything that they would wish of us to support them on this very special day.

A further training day is now planned for 26th August starting at 10.30am with south west ambulance trust and we will advise you accordingly.

To some sad news, it is with deep regret that I must announce the resignation of Robert the parish clerk who will be moving away from the parish. Robert has for many years done an outstanding job for this parish, we have both worked well over that time invariably meeting twice a week to deal with parish matters. Robert as a friend you will be very much missed I cannot thank you enough for all that you have done over the years and in supporting me.

Last year work was programmed for the resurfacing of Forge Close, Old Severalls Lane and Havering Lane, it was disappointing that work was delayed but I am pleased to report that contractors have been in the village in recent weeks preparing for that work to be done

Since we last met we have had the official unveiling of the war memorial which was attended by approximately 100 parishioners it was a most fitting and dignified moment of the year for the village in my opinion.

I did say in 2014 that for the next four years we should reflect on those who have paid the ultimate price for this country.

Already killed in action over 100 years ago.

- · 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
- · Charles Stagg Can AMC 9/4/1917

Still fighting for King and their country.

- · William Underwood R/Berks 21/8/1917
- · George Waite 1 st Wilts 15/8/1918
- · Percy Styles RFA 22/8/1918

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

Our celebrations to mark the 90th anniversary of the Queen's birthday, was truly an outstanding event, my thanks to all that supported the function that made it the enormous success that it was, we received nothing but positive and congratulatory feedback.

As I draw to an end, our village 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 and lastly to members of The Dorset and Wiltshire Fire Brigade who this year alone have attended two barn fires in the village.

I hope that you see a council who knows its people and its Parish, a council who has cares for all its parishioners and will continue to do so, whatever their age or wherever live, in what is a special part of Wiltshire, that we are all fortunate enough 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 2017

Presented by PCSO Lucy Stonestreet – 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.

Reminders were made re the Police Community Watch website and the functionality of the site and access to information as & when it happens

Speed watch is also something that the local PCSO can be charged with responsibility for, alongside parishioner's speed watch being introduced.

County Councillors Reports

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

- The Pewsey Leisure Centre is now closed with a £8.5m replacement being built with a timeline of 18 months before re-opening when it is to be handed over to the Pewsey Area Board and renamed 'The Vale'.

Finance Committee Reports:

Presented by Cllr A Wells:

Breakdown of parish expenditure for 2016/17.

Annual Reports were presented at the meeting and these were adopted by Cllr R Edwards & Cllr J Cayzer-Colvin

Planning Committee Report:

Presented by Cllr P Oatway:

- Advised that a small number of applications had been received during the last 12 months. With no specific issues but mention was made regarding the position on Littleworth application which had been declined, appealed and subsequently upheld. There were no issues outside of the Wiltshire Council planning guidelines.

Community Committee Report:

Presented by Cllr D Falls:

Website update – This is now fully operational again after some technicality and mis-understanding between the developer/host and council

Wiltshire Council – Way markers have been introduced to the parish with initial support and subsequent purchase through the council

New Stiles – These had been replaced between the village and Fyfield

Bridleways – These were now being concentrated on and re-introduced where necessary

Parish Steward – We continue to work with the scheme and apart from liaison issues, this is now running efficiently

Best Kept Village – After securing the Best newcomers award last year (long absence) we have entered this year's event again and await the outcome

Bus Services – Bus 103 concerns around the reduction in service although all further issues should be directed towards Wiltshire Council for follow up.

Memorial bench – This is to be replaced at the telephone box shortly

Wiltshire Ambulance Trust – A further training day has been scheduled for 23rd September 2017 starting at 10.30am at the Village Hall – Reminder flyers will follow shortly

Other areas under consideration include:

1. Christmas lighting in the village
2. Playground equipment
3. Map Guide for properties – deliveries in village
4. Emergency Planning Document

Parishioners Questions:

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

1. Flagpole update: After careful consideration of the villagers who this would affect a questionnaire was raised and from this there was a clear majority that the flagpole should remain sited where it currently is. On this basis, it has been agreed to replace the existing pole with a new taller, silent running permanent version with a facility provided for a temporary arrangement behind the memorial stone for the odd occasions when an additional flag would be flown in the village
2. Stiles vs Gates – It was raised that the new stiles provided were in fact difficult in certain instances to access and use, plus the dog facility had proved in instances too small for some dogs. This was concluded by stating that landowners determine provision made and they had not wanted gates because of livestock. The stiles will be re-visited where necessary and reviewed
3. Website – This is now back up and running after a period of poor functionality
4. Footpath – Church walk through needs some review over overgrowth and the blocking of the lights
5. Scrapyard Hours – Concern was expressed over the hours work was being conducted with reference to 9.30pm workings – This was followed up with details of the letters actioned to follow through on different health, legality and safety issues
6. 20mph Speed limits – This was to be re-reviewed although it was stated this was not a speedily process due to requirements in presenting our case and agreeing changes alongside some considerable cost implications. This was backed up with examples of speeding 'currently' through the village via deliveries and buses to name two.
- 7.
8. 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
9. 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

At this point Cllr P Oatway presented to the Clerk and outlined the support and contributions that the clerk had made to the parish and community over the past 9 years and wished him well in his new venture presenting a commemorative plaque and bottle of champagne – The clerk thanked all for their support.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance.
The meeting ended at 9.25pm

Minutes submitted by: Clerk Robert Jones

Minutes approved by: Paul Oatway Chairman

