

***These minutes are in draft and subject to consideration at the meeting of the Parish Council on 26 January 2016. After 19 February, they may be regarded as approved if no amendments have been indicated.***

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## **OLD MILVERTON AND BLACKDOWN JOINT PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 30TH. NOVEMBER 2015 AT OLD MILVERTON VILLAGE HALL**

**PRESENT:** Councillors J.M.Lander (in the Chair), J.Emmerson, Mrs.A.Kelsey and W.M.O.Tansey; County Councillor W.Redford (for items 1697 to 1701); and District Councillors W.L.Gifford, Miss H.Grainger and Mrs. A.M.Stevens.

**APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE:** Councillor Mrs. L.Keeling.

#### **1690. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup>. October 2015 were approved, and were signed by the Chairman.

#### **1691. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

(a). Mrs. Sandra Robinson had reported that the upgrade of the Parish Website was complete, and had had to obtain assistance from Shadow Support, the company which hosts the site. The operation had encountered some unexpected technical problem outside her expertise. The invoice for their work (expected to be between £30 and £40) would be forwarded in due course, but an invoice for Mrs. Robinson's time had already been submitted.

(b). It was anticipated that the replacement Parish Notice Boards would be erected on 3rd. December 2015.

(c). The drains in Old Milverton Lane, opposite the Nuffield Hospital, had been cleared.

#### **1692. PARISH COUNCIL'S USE OF OLD MILVERTON VILLAGE HALL**

The Parish Council had been paying £50 per annum for the use of Old Milverton Village Hall, which, since it normally holds 8 meetings a year, worked out at £6.25 per meeting. During recent negotiations with the Village Hall Committee it was generally agreed that the hire charge should more accurately reflect a realistic figure and accordingly, it was agreed that, with effect from 1st. October 2015 a contribution of £15 per meeting be paid.

#### **1693. WARWICK DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN**

There was little to be reported on the Warwick District Local Plan except that the next stage in the amended version was expected to be reported to Warwick District Council in January 2016. Meanwhile an independent report from Hunter Page Planning Limited of Cheltenham had been received by the Parish Council which concluded that land required for housing development to serve the needs of Coventry should be sited adjacent to the Coventry boundary, and this had been referred to the District Council for its consideration together with its other investigations.

#### **1694. OLD MILVERTON AND BLACKDOWN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Members had submitted to the Chairman their views on special characteristics of Old Milverton and Blackdown for possible inclusion in the Plan.

#### **1695. 2015-16 ACCOUNTS, 2016-17 ESTIMATES AND 2016-17 PRECEPT**

The accounts as at 22<sup>nd</sup>. October 2015 were received and found satisfactory, and bank statements were made available for inspection. Consideration was then given to the estimates for 2016-17: taking into account the need to reserve funds which might still be required for professional assistance in opposing the Warwick District Local Plan and other threats to the area, and other estimated expenditure, it was agreed that the precept for 2016-17 be £14,000. The accounts and estimates were approved in accordance with the summary at Appendix A.

#### **1696. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

*W15/1653 Chesford Bridge House, Bericote Road, Black down*

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Installation of 200 frame mounted solar panels as associated infrastructure

OBSERVATIONS: OBJECTION since the proposal constituted inappropriate development in the Green Belt. The proposed solar panel development here would generate only a small amount of electricity which did not represent an exceptional circumstance. Any excess energy could not be regarded as sufficiently substantial, regular in production and available to justify Special Circumstances in the Green Belt. There was also concern about its situation near Bericote Road, which is a narrow, fairly meandering country road with no paths and minimum verge. The plans indicated that the proposed solar panel area extended to the perimeter of the site next to the road. This was inappropriate for the circumstances and so the 5 metre rule should apply. Ideally the application should have included some new tree planting along the southern border of the land alongside the Kenilworth Road A452, partially for aesthetic / ecological reasons and partially to shield the road and traffic from any potential glare.

**1697. CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(a). Details of a Revised Statement of Community Involvement were received from Warwick District Council as a consultation, which entailed various technical adjustments, with which the Parish Council did not wish to take issue.

(b). The Clerk reported that shrubs planted at the 30 mph signs at the entrances to Old Milverton village were not in a good condition. Some had obviously been removed and those remaining were insignificant. The cost of renewing them and installing protective stakes by Baginton Nurseries would be nearly £200, and in the circumstances, it was agreed to take no further action for the time being.

(c). Details of the primary gritting routes by Warwickshire County Council had been received and it was noted that Old Milverton Lane and Old Milverton Road had been included as previously.

**1698. 2016-17 MEETING DATES**

It was agreed that the 2016-17 Parish Council meeting dates be held on:

Monday 25 April 2016  
Monday 16 May  
Monday 11 July  
Monday 5 September  
Monday 3 October  
Monday 28 November  
Tuesday 24 January 2016  
Monday 20 March

**1699. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS**The accounts listed on the schedule provided to members were approved for payment, which included £148.32 administrative expenses, £4,200.00 professional charges and £3,390.00 for the new Parish Notice Boards.

**1700. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

(a). The Clerk was asked to enquire of Warwickshire County Council whether consideration could be given to the erection of a sign on Bericote Road indicating the likelihood of long traffic queues at busy periods when approaching the Chesford Roundabout.

(b). The Clerk had arranged for Warwick District Council to remove advertising material on loose pallets left in Old Milverton and it was agreed to continue to resist similar future fly-posing incidents.

(c). It was noted that kissing gates had been erected at the two entrances to St. James's Churchyard, which, it was hoped, would help to deter the use of bicycles on the connecting footpaths.

**1701. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

CHAIRMAN