

OLD MILVERTON AND BLACKDOWN JOINT PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY, 5TH. SEPTEMBER 2016 AT OLD MILVERTON VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors J.M.Lander (Chairman), J.Emmerson, Mrs. L.Keeling and Mrs.A.Kelsey; District Councillors Miss H.Grainger and Mrs. A.M.Stevens.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillor W.M.O.Tansey (*retrospective*); County Councillor W.Redford; District Councillor W.L.Gifford.

1751. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th. July 2016 were approved, and were signed by the Chairman.

1752. MATTER ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

(a). A detailed response was still awaited from Warwick District Council in respect of the 2015 Election Expenses dispute, though an assurance had been given that it was being given active attention.

(b). The Clerk had drawn to the attention of Warwick District Council the Parish Council's contention that polling for both Blackdown and Old Milverton should be carried out at Old Milverton Village Hall, since so few had used the facility at the Helen Ley Home, to save expense.

(c). It was agreed in principle that the half-barrel plant container near Old Milverton old notice board be replaced and that, if appropriate, a container be obtained before the next meeting, subject to its cost being reasonable.

1753. WARWICK DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN

Examination of the Warwick District Local Plan was due to resume on 27th. September 2016, and it was understood that sessions of particular interest to the Parish Council would take place on 29th. September and 13th/14th. October.

1754. OLD MILVERTON AND BLACKDOWN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

There had been no progress on the Neighbourhood Plan in view of the uncertainty of the Local Plan.

1755. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following were noted in accordance with details previously circulated:

W15/2108 and 2109 Helen Ley House, Bericote Road, Blackdown

Removal of conditions restricting it to a care home

APPEAL GRANTED The appeal against conditions imposed by the approved planning permission had been upheld.

W16/0873 Chesford Bridge House, Bericote Road, Blackdown

Installation of 200 frame-mounted solar panels (Resubmission of application W15/1653: ref. Minute 1706 of Parish Council Meeting on 26th. January 2016)

REFUSED

W16/188 Manor Farm, Old Milverton Road, Old Milverton

Roof insulation, reinstatement of blocked windows, internal alterations and new conservatory.

OBSERVATIONS: No objection with strong support of proposals.

W16/1224 Llandrecies, Church Lane, Old Milverton

Replacement of two-story side extension and fenestration alterations

OBSERVATIONS: No objections, with observations that the design was approved and request that measures be taken to blend the finish with the surrounding area.

1756. AUDIT OF 2015-16 ACCOUNTS

Notification had been received from Grant Thornton UK that the audit of the 2015-16 Accounts had been satisfactorily completed. Observations were made that the period advertised for public consultation had been exceeded (by one day), that the approval of the Accounting Statements and the Annual Governance Statement had been given in the incorrect order (though it had been done in this way for many years) and noted the Parish Council's high reserves, which it should consider reducing "in future years if necessary". Notices advertising the completion had been posted on the Parishes' notice boards. The service of Mr. Norman Pratt as Internal Auditor as part of the audit was recognised and much appreciated, and a letter of thanks would be sent to him.

1757. CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a). A letter dated 5th. August 2016 was received from Warwick District Council, giving notice of a proposal to fade out grants to local councils to avoid double taxation where services, such as grass-cutting, are taken on by local councils. This Parish Council had no such arrangement.

(b). A letter was received in respect of an apparent disagreement with a member of the Old Milverton Flower Show Committee: this was felt not to be a matter for the Parish Council, but for its Committee, to which it was agreed it should be referred.

1758. RENEWAL OF BANK MANDATE

The Parish Council had been surprised to be requested by HSBC Bank to complete another Bank mandate designed for local authorities, having previously approved a mandate at its meeting on 14th. May 2016 (minute 1736(c)) at the Bank's request: accordingly, it was agreed:

(i) **That** a bank account or accounts be continued with HSBC Bank plc (the 'Bank') and the Bank is authorised to

a) pay all cheques and act on other instructions for payment signed on behalf of the Council by any two of those listed overleaf (the 'signatory'), whether any account of the Council is in debit or credit;

b) deliver any item held on behalf of the Council by the Bank in safe keeping against the written receipt or instructions of the Proper Officer; and

c) accept the Proper Officer as fully empowered to act on behalf of the Council in any transaction with the Bank

(ii) **That** the Council agrees that any debt incurred to the Bank under this authority shall in the absence of written agreement with the Bank to the contrary be repayable on demand.

(iii) **That** the Clerk (the 'Proper Officer') is authorised to supply the Bank as and when necessary with lists of persons authorised to sign, give receipts and act on behalf of the Council, and that the Bank may rely upon such lists.

(iv) That these resolutions be communicated to the Bank and remain in force until changed by a resolution of the Council and a copy, certified by the Chief Executive and the Proper Officer, is received by the Bank.

1759. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS

The accounts specified in the schedule provided to Members were approved for payment, including £121.00 for the 2016-17 subscription to the Warwickshire Association of Local Councils, £211.00 for administrative expenses, £780.00 for specialist analysis of Local Plan

These minutes are in draft and subject to confirmation at the next Parish Council Meeting.

responses and advice to chairman, £115.08 for website maintenance and hosting, £120.00 for 20 15-16 external audit fee and £272.92 for printer and mileage expenses relating to Local Plan and preparation of Walks for notice boards and website. It was understood that a further invoice was imminent in respect of planning consultancy work in connection with the Local Plan and agreement was given to its payment with confirmation following at the October 2016 Parish Council Meeting.

1760. ITEMS FOR FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

None.

1761. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

CHAIRMAN