

These minutes are in draft and subject to consideration at the meeting of the Parish Council on 7 September 2015. After 21 September, they may be regarded as approved if no amendments have been indicated.

OLD MILVERTON AND BLACKDOWN JOINT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 13TH. JULY 2015 AT OLD MILVERTON VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Councillors J.M.Lander (in the Chair), J.Emmerson, Mrs.A.Kelsey and W.M.O.Tansey; Chairman of Warwick District Council Councillor M.Doody; County Councillor W.Redford; and District Councillors W.L.Gifford, Miss H.Grainger and Mrs. A.M.Stevens.

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Mrs. L.Keeling,

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Doody to the meeting.

1655. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 23rd. May 2015 were approved, and were signed by the Chairman.

1656. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

(a). Speed Gun Training had taken place and Cllrs. Mrs. Keeling and Emmerson, Mr. M.Keeling, Mr. and Mrs. M.J.Rayner of Old Milverton and Blackdown, and Cllr P.Eldridge and Cllr. D.W.Eason of Leek Wootton had all qualified to operate the device.

(b). Old Milverton Village Hall Committee had expressed thanks to the Parish Council for supporting its plans for building improvement work. The Village Hall would remain an amenity for at least five years. Members of the Management Committee had experience in overseeing building work; three tenders would be obtained; and it was intended that the premises would remain in use while the work was in progress; and traditionally the Committee had held an emergency reserve of considerably more than £2,000, but recent expenditure to correct drainage problems had exhausted this balance; a £2,000 emergency balance would be the objective in the future. Further updates were awaited.

1657. DISCUSSION WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL

A discussion took place with Councillor Doody, Chairman of Warwick District Council with a view to apprising him with matters of current concern to the Parish Council. Of particular note was the Warwick District Local Plan, which had been halted in its early stages by the inspector, who was not satisfied with the calculations of housing need. Cllr. Doody indicated that the problems were with the lack of details concerning "windfall sites" and the effects of the needs of the City of Coventry. He did not believe that the Green Belt in the Parish Council's area would be under threat, but the review of the Green Belt was causing concern. The problems with Broadband speed were discussed, but this was a matter for the County rather than the District Council. There was concern about noise from the A46 Kenilworth Bypass, which was under the control of the Highways Agency.

1658. WARWICK DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN

As alluded to in minute 1657 above the initial hearing preceding the inquiry into the draft Local Plan had taken place when the Inspector had adjourned proceedings owing to problems he perceived in calculating the initial housing need. The District Council had lodged an appeal and its results were awaited.

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1659. OLD MILVERTON AND BLACKDOWN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Old Milverton and Blackdown Neighbourhood Plan had been advertised by Warwick District Council inviting comments by 19th. June 2015. It appeared no observations had been received, but the Clerk was asked to make appropriate enquiries. A meeting between Parish Councillors and Consultants Hunter Page to decide on future progress was being planned by Cllr. Lander.

1660. BROADBAND CONSULTATION

A meeting had taken place between Parish Councillors and Leigh Hunt, Communications Manager of CSW Broadband, which had proved extremely useful in apprising her of the Parish Council's concerns. In general the area of Blackdown was satisfactorily served; however, the service in Old Milverton was unacceptably slow and unfortunately it fell within an area where early action was unlikely. Councillors were satisfied that Leigh Hunt appreciated the problem, though an early resolution seemed unlikely.

1661. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a). The following Planning Application was noted as follows:

W15/0495 Walcote House, Sandy Lane, Blackdown

Removal of restriction on the live-work unit being sublet or separately sold off

GRANTED

W15/0559 Cranford House, Kenilworth Road, Old Milverton

Change of use from offices to single dwelling house

PRIOR APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED

W15/0564 Ramada Hotel, Kenilworth Road, Blackdown

Resurfacing of car park, erection of timber post and bar boundary treatment and lighting (retrospective)

REFUSED

W15/0590 Brethren's Meeting Room, Sandy Lane, Blackdown

Single storey extension and additional car parking

WITHDRAWN

W15/0697 Quarry Cottage, Old Milverton Lane, Old Milverton

Alteration of condition for building materials to match the vertically boarded timber cladding

GRANTED

(b). The Planning Enforcement Officer had stated that the cabin/caravan in the woods adjacent to the BPAS Blackdown Clinic has been there "for a number of years" and was immune from enforcement action, and that an arrangement has been reached with Priors House for the removal of storage units at the rear to be removed by mid August.

1662. NEW PARISH NOTICE BOARDS

The two new Parish Council notice boards had been installed, but without making the prior arrangements which had been agreed. There were a number of irregularities between the finished product and the specifications given and a meeting with the company's representative had been arranged.

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1663. CODE OF CONDUCT

It was formally agreed that the arrangement made with Warwick District Council on 23rd. July 2012 (minute number 1370) whereby its Code of Conduct was adopted by the Parish Council be continued with its current Code until further notice.

1664. AUDIT OF 2014-15 ACCOUNTS

Notification had been received from Grant Thornton UK that the audit of the 2014-15 Accounts had been satisfactorily completed and that an unqualified audit opinion had been given. 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.

1665. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS

The accounts listed on the schedule provided to members were approved for payment, which included £120.00 external audit fees.

1666. NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was agreed that the Parish Council meeting scheduled for Monday 24th. August 2015 be changed to Monday, 7th. September 2015.

1667. FUTURE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING: SUGGESTIONS FOR SPEAKERS

Cllr. Mrs. Kelsey had attended meetings of Warwick Rural East and Mid Warwickshire Neighbourhood Watch and had been impressed by presentations on cycle safety and Police Cadets, which might be appropriate for inclusion on a future Annual Parish Meeting agenda.

1668 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

CHAIRMAN