

Great Milton Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Mr T Darch

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Minutes of the Meeting of Great Milton Parish Council

held virtually via video conference on Monday 15th February 2021 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs Steve Harrod (Chair), W Fox (Vice-Chair), P Allen, G Bennet, C Deacon, P Fewell and M Horsley.

In Attendance: Tim Darch (Clerk)

The meeting was conducted through a video conferencing facility. The new arrangements for the Parish Council are allowed under the following Regulation:

THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND POLICE AND CRIME PANELS (CORONAVIRUS) (FLEXIBILITY OF LOCAL AUTHORITY AND POLICE AND CRIME PANEL MEETINGS) (ENGLAND AND WALES) REGULATIONS 2020

15/21 Apologies for Absence

All councillors were present at the meeting.

16/21 Variation of order of business

Business was conducted in the order prescribed by the agenda.

17/21 Declarations of member's interest (if any)

No declarations of interest were received in matters on the Agenda.

18/21 Matters to Report

Regular updates are being received from OCC and SODC and continue to be communicated to residents via the available channels as appropriate. Cllr Caroline Newton circulated her monthly report which is available on the Parish Council website:

<https://www.great-milton.co.uk/community/great-milton-parish-council-18553/meetings-2021/>

Cllr Harrod reported that OCC last week approved the budget for the next financial year, after accepting minor amendments from the Labour group. No amendments were tabled by other opposition groups. The budget is again a balanced budget with sums being allocated to improve front line services, especially in the area of social care, and with savings achieved at the same time.

19/21 Correspondence and Public Discussion

A resident has written an 'open letter' sent to various interested parties about the increasing incidence of flooding of the River Thame. The concerns expressed within are noted: Cllr Harrod has forwarded the letter to SODC via Caroline Newton for their information and any thoughts.

20/21 Planning Applications

A The following planning applications received from SODC were considered:

P21/S0072/LB. The Priory Church Road Great Milton OX44 7PB. Removal of modern paint finish + internal repairs to stone mullioned windows.

To note retrospectively informal consultation with the resident of Priory Cottage, the only neighbour who would be affected by this proposal, and their support for the scheme. The Parish Council has informed SODC of its full support for the proposal given that it seeks to restore the original appearance of The Priory.

P21/S0086/HH. Clovelly The Green Great Milton OX44 7NP. Ground floor extension to the existing property located to the side of the property and new rear lean-to extension to the rear of the property.

No responses were received from neighbours when consulted by letter, and there were no objections from the Recreation Ground Committee. Other properties nearby have extended with no issues, and as a result it was AGREED to support this application.

P21/S0174/HH (Brook Bank, Church Road, Great Milton). Extension of existing out-building to provide studio, summer kitchen and store.

Two neighbours expressed no concerns about this relatively small proposal when consulted, and it was AGREED to support this application.

B The following planning decisions received and any outstanding planning matters were considered.

P20/S3498/FUL (Lantern Service Station London Road Milton Common OX9 2JL).

Change of use of existing workshop building and erection of new building to support MOT testing, vehicle repairs and car sales use. External area to be used for car sales and car parking associated with the use of the buildings. Planning permission is GRANTED for the proposed development.

To note the receipt of application P21/S0343/FUL (Belmond Le Manoir Aux Quat'Saisons Church Road Great Milton). Full planning permission for the erection of a new Wellness Spa, Bistro, Raymond Blanc Academy, Garden Villas, Garden Rooms, Pavilions and Storage Barns, minor extensions and alterations to the existing Grade II* Manor House, former Stables building and Staff Facilities building, new highway access, internal road and car parking areas, limited demolition and associated works. **This application was received too late to seek local views for this meeting. Residents are advised to use the link below for information about the application and to comment upon it if desired. An extension has been agreed with SODC to enable consideration to be delayed until March's Parish Council meeting.**

<http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/planning/ApplicationDetails.jsp?REF=P21/S0343/FUL>

21/21 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held virtually on Monday 18th January 2021 were approved as a true and accurate record of proceedings and signed on camera.

22/21 Financial Resolutions

A The following payments were authorised, and were physically signed along with associated invoices subsequent to the meeting:

Tim Darch. Salary, Tax and Expenses. £498.65

Jonathan Dudley. Bulletin production January. £202.60

Website hosting January (reimbursement to Clerk). £19.99

SLCC membership renewal. £112

St Mary's Church annual mowing grant. £600

Wheatley Dental Surgery. Refund of double payment for advertisement. £100

SODC dog hygiene Oct-Dec 2020. £269.10

B The latest monthly bank reconciliation, accounts and bank statements were received, signed and approved. Healthy reserves but there will be significant tree works to pay for from them. The reconciled bank balance as at 3 February was £35,481.61.

23/21 Review of documents

The council's Fixed Asset Register, Financial Regulations, Standing Orders and Risk Management policy were reviewed by councillors in advance of the meeting and the suggested revisions were subsequently APPROVED.

24/21 Parish Clerk and Councillors' update of matters in hand

- It has been suggested by several villagers that a permanent Christmas tree could be planted in the location where the temporary tree is erected. There is general support for this idea from councillors, and a kind offer to donate a tree has been received from Les Preston. The matter has not progressed beyond 'idea' stage: however residents in the immediate vicinity are asked to contact the Parish Clerk if they have any strong objections to this possibility.
- A resident has advised of frequent speeding being observed on London Road in Milton Common. Contact has been established with the neighbourhood policing team with regard to speed monitoring in the area and checks will be scheduled shortly.

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- Cllr Deacon raised the issue of significant quantities of dog excrement being deposited on Chilworth Road's verges. All councillors were appalled to hear of this when there is a dog bin in the vicinity and a refuse bin outside the houses on Green Hitchings. Dog owners are once again reminded of their responsibility to keep the village clean and safe, and to tidy up after their dog.

25/21 COVID-19: update on village response/impacts

No significant developments were reported in Great Milton with regard to the ongoing Coronavirus outbreak.

26/21 Village mowing

Following the receipt of estimates from the current provider and two others, a new contractor is recommended to take over the mowing of the village greens and verges, Recreation Ground, Thame Road verges and other grassed areas. It was AGREED to offer the new contractor (McCracken and Sons) the village mowing contract for the two coming growing seasons and to thank Green and Growing for their sterling work in the village in recent years.

27/21 Proposed move to new dog waste collection contractor

Notice has been given to SODC for the emptying of dog waste bins: a private contractor will take over from April, at around half of the quoted cost of continued provision by SODC (although this is still five times more than SODC's charge of two years ago). A Service Level Agreement will be signed once the content is agreed.

28/21 Proposed road closure, Windmill Hill 24 - 28 May 2021

Advice has been received from Oxfordshire County Council of a five-day road closure of Windmill Hill from Little Milton to The Forties from 24 to 28 May (except for access to residences and businesses). The suggested alternative route diverts all traffic via the A329 and The Forties: use of The Forties for significant volumes of traffic in both directions raises concerns over safety and the impact on this single-track road for the period of the closure, while the diversion of all traffic that would normally bypass the village via Windmill Hill raises concerns over safety and traffic volumes, particularly at school pick-up and drop-off times. OCC Highways have been informed of the Parish Council's concerns, and have suggested that they will look at an alternative proposed route which diverts traffic via Milton Common and the A418 to Wheatley.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm.

The next meeting of Great Milton Parish Council is currently scheduled to be held virtually on Monday March 15th starting at 7.30pm.

SIGNED _____