

MILLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Mr. Jeremy Parker
Clerk: Mrs. Lorraine Grocott, BEM
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MINUTES of the Meeting of MILLAND PARISH COUNCIL held on Thursday 12th March 2020 at Milland Memorial Hall

Present: Mr. J Parker (in the Chair), Mr. C. Stopher, Mr. N Cartwright, Sir J Wigram,
 Mrs. J Pilkington
 Dr K O’Kelly, County Councillor
 One Member of the Public

782. Apologies– Mr A Farley, Mr M Cusack, Mrs M Truss, Dr A. Alsop,
 Mr Peter Wilding, District Councillor

783. Minutes of the Meeting 16 January 2020, agreed and signed.

784. Declaration of personal or prejudicial interests – There were none.

785. County Councillor’s report – Dr Kate O’Kelly

Covid-19 – Best place for advice remains Public Health England www.gov.uk/coronavirus.

WSCC – Full Council - Budget debate Friday, 14th Feb. Significant challenges with increasing children’s and adult’s services overspends. New budget agreed which includes a 3.99% rise in Council tax related to WSCC activities – approx. £50 for band D house. They have allocated an extra £1million for the roads, the debate was dominated by Highways issues. I spoke to the LD amendment which included cancelling the cut to the Local Assistance Network that helps families in crisis, also cancelling cuts to support for children who are over 16 and not in education or training. Our amendment included extra money for sustainable transport initiatives and climate change work.

WSCC – Household waste recycling sites - Significant issue locally with residents just living in West Sussex now needing to pay to use Petersfield site. I raised this issue at full council and directly with the cabinet member. As a result of the changes residents will need to travel longer distances to recycle which is not in keeping with the WSCC climate change agenda. Also, significant risk of increased fly tipping. The Cabinet member has agreed to enter negotiations with Hampshire to see if they can arrange payment for residents with certain postcodes to use the Hampshire HWRS – nothing confirmed yet.

Next County Local Committee - 17th March – 6pm Pre event is Be a Councillor session – followed by the North Chichester CLC which starts at 7. Petworth Child and Family Centre

Minutes of Milland Parish Council meeting 12th March 2020

Rother Valley Way – Petersfield to Nyewood cycle path - Recent meeting with RVW steering group. Hoping for more progress on this route over next few months. SDNPA cycling officer has more time to prioritise the development of the scheme.

Rogate Downhill Site - I have been liaising with Lorraine/ Highways/ Rogate PC. Highways have agreed in principle to allow hardening of the verges as a short-term measure.

Kate O’Kelly Drop ins - 2nd April Milland Stores – 10.30-12.30

786. Public Participation – Mr Anderdon who has lived in the village since 1989 attended the meeting to listen to the information and discussion about the state of local roads.

787. Matters arising

Item 774 – Local schools federation – The Council has been consultation on the formal federation of Rake and Rogate Primary Schools. The County Councillor advised that both schools have been working together toward this federation over the past year and the proposal has been working well. Milland PC supports this proposal.

Proposed federation of Stedham and Harting Primary Schools – Both schools are keen to support this proposal.

There is no proposal for Hollycombe to federate with a nearby school at present.

788. Finance report – L Grocott

Milland Parish Council		Statement - Mar 2020						
Balance b/f	30.12.2019		25845.15					
Receipts	30.12.19-11.3.20	1815.00	1815.00					
Payments	30.12.19-11.3.20	-5472.67	-5472.67					
			22187.48					
Payments for approval				Vou No	Vat	Net	Spend	
AL Grocott	Casters for snow plough	71.99		OL192	O	12.00	59.99	OpenSp
L M Grocott	Windows 10 upgrade	75.00		OL193	O	12.50	62.50	LGA72
Clearway Sport	Wash courts and herbicide	888.00		OL194	O	148.00	740.00	OpenSp
L Grocott	SE1945;O£125	1701.80		OL195	P		1701.80	LGA72
HMRC	PAYE	368.40		OL196	P		368.40	LGA72
R Findlay	Hedging ditching	324.00		OL197	P		324.00	OpenSp
Mill Recreation Field	Contingency from PC a/c	500.00	-2894.20	transfer	P		500.00	OpenSp
	Balance at bank 12.3.20		19293.28					
	Less Ringfenced Funds		-10438.00					
	Available funds		8855.28					
Ringfenced funds								
MTC Resurfacing fund		£2,088.00		<i>Payment in shaded area have been paid</i>				
Clerks Gratuity		£8,350.00						
Total Ringfenced		£10,438.00						
<i>P - Precept; O-Outside Precept; E-Excess of Precept</i>								

The payments were approved.

Other matters: -

- HMRC - VAT Reclaim for 2019-20 submitted for £572.26. This includes back payment for Spring 2019 and Admin vat for 2018.
- Approval was sought and received for No.2 payments for the next financial year.
 - AirS – part with Milland Memorial Hall £84 and 2) WSALC-NALC Subscription £281.85.
- Appointment of Internal Auditor – Ms Rachel Hall reappointed as the Internal Auditor. Rachel Hall was appointed the Council’s auditor in 2014.
- Year End accounts 2019-2020 will be prepared for internal audit after 31st March 2020.

789.

a) **Resignation of Clerk** – The Clerk tendered her letter of resignation. In her letter she said it had been absolute privilege to have served as the Clerk to the Council for more than 30 years, to have worked with so many fantastic and hardworking councillors and to have been part of making so many changes to this community. She has been lucky enough to have enjoyed a part time career in local government that has been as rewarding as it has been challenging. However, it is time for a new face for the community and she will support the new appointment in any way that she can to ensure a smooth transition. She plans to take the meeting in July with her final day on 31st July.

b) **Recruitment for new Clerk** – The position has been advertised on the Sussex Association of Local Council site. Consideration will be given to advertising in local papers. It will also be placed on the Council's website. It is expected interviews will be held in April and May. Councillors offering to be available for interviewing prospective candidates include the Chairman, Mr Stopher, Mrs Pilkington, Dr Alsop with the Clerk sitting in on the interview.

790. Joint governors' proposal to federate Rake and Rogate schools

a) The two schools Rake and Rogate have been in a formal partnership for about 18 months. During this time, the governors – which included the executive head and both heads of school have been assessing the benefits of the arrangement, the cultural fit, and whether federation would offer even more. The two boards of governors have had numerous individual and joint meetings with the local authority, the diocese and the governors and leaders of other school that have federated.

The governors of both schools now propose to build on this successful partnership and realise the added benefits this will bring to both schools by fully federating Rake and Rogate. Consultation will be taking place with parents and staff of both schools and with the local community. The formal consultation period will end on 1 May 2020. After this, the two sets of governors will meet separately to decide whether to go ahead with the plan in appendix A or a modified plan based on local views. If both boards of governors agree, then parents, staff, the local authority and the diocese will be asked to appoint representatives to a new unified board early in June, ahead of a formal federation date of 10th June. Having seen the formal "Statement of Intent" the Council agreed to send a formal letter of support.

b) Hollycombe Primary School – Development of a closer relationship between the school and the council – In the interests of developing a closer relationship between Hollycombe School and the parish council, the Chairman of Governors and Headmistress will be formally invited to attend a council meeting to share information about the school.

791. NALC Advice on holding council meetings because of Coronavirus

Normally Annual Parish Meetings (APM) are held between 1st March and 1st June in any year. The APM is not a council meeting but a meeting of electors, it is only by convention that it is organised by the parish council, it could be organised by electors themselves and in the general order of issues at the moment it is probably not critical. APM can be called by 6 electors any time during the year. Currently parish councils cannot hold 'virtual meetings' i.e. those where councillors participate from afar; councillors must be 'present and voting' and of course the meeting can only make decisions if it is quorate. Further information will be provided regarding the Annual Statutory Meeting in May.

792. VE/VJ Celebrations Friday 8 May - Although plans were made for this celebration, they can no longer take place due to the impact of COVID-19. Chichester District Council have offered councils a grant of up to £250 to commemorate this event.

793. Scottish and Southern Electricity (SSE) – Petersfield/Fernhurst Network Upgrade

During the next 15 months SSE will be investing £8.4 million over a 19-month long project to future proof a significant section of the South East network. The project will build resilience to the area's power supply through the undergrounding of sections of cable and the refurbishment of the primary substation on Bedford Road in Petersfield. The second section will be Harting Combe Road and the road will be closed from 14/04/20-13/09/20. Access will be maintained for residents to properties and pedestrians. The Rake Road closure will be from 11/09/20-12/01/21.

Minutes of Milland Parish Council meeting 12th March 2020

794. Planning report – Mr Stopher reported on the following: -

a) Current applications

Nov	05097/HOUS	Raising height of part of roof to gain an additional bedroom	3 Milland House	No Objection	Approved	Jan-20
Dec	06006/HOUS	Propsd ext to exstg Studio & wrkshp, anc to main hous (Knapp House) - variation	Knapp House	No Objection	Approved	Jan-20
	06007/LIS	of C 2 of pp SDNP/18/01521/HOUS - Eaves height raised on north elevtn. Revised Revised door/window configuration to north & west elevtns. The roof ridge remains the same height & only increases in length slightly compared to the original proposal.	Iping Lane			
Jan-20	06109/LDP	Single storey rear ext & front porch	Keepers Cottage Fernhurst Road	No Objection	Refused	Mar-20
	00095/HOUS	Ext & Alts, inc constructn of a link betwn main house & barn, infill SS ext on north elevation and internal works.	Bobbolds Farm	No Objection		
	00096/LIS		Cooks Pond Rd			
	06108/HOUS	SS rear ext & side in-fill extension.	Field House Wheatsheaf Enc	No Objection		
	00307/TCA	Notification of intention to fell 1 no. Prunus Avium tree	Hollycombe School	No Objection	Approved	Feb-20
Feb	00572/TPO	Fell no.1 Leyland Cypress tree (T2) within Area, A1 subject to ML/71/00714/TPO	9 Pennels Close	Support		
	00538/HOUS	New outbuilding attached to stables	Longfield Wardley Lane	No Objection		
	00582/LDP	Convert existg bldg to create ancilliary accommodation.	Lambourne House Lambourne Lane	No Objection		

b) Planning meeting held on 17 February discussed the following items: -

1. CDC Guidance Note on Class Q Prior Approval (Agricultural to Residential changes of use) 2020.
2. Land at Strettons Copse – The owner’s interest in a small development project.
3. Planning application – Lambourne House
4. Planning application for siting of storage container at Moor Cottage, Moorhouse Lane
4. Decision on Appeal – Land West of Junction with Dangstein Road Borden Lane - Dismissed
5. New Appeal Yew Tree Cottage – Upheld.

795. Environment and Amenities

a) Manorial Waste in the Parish. There are three (3) areas of Manorial Waste in Milland including the land on Milland Lane to the left before Pollards Cottage, the land opposite No.13 Milland Lane and the land opposite Durrants Pond. Regarding the land opposite Durrants Pond, discussion will take place in the future to cut back the bramble, coppice the hazel and generally tidy up the area.

b) Spring Clean weekend, 21/22 March – CDC will collect the rubbish on 23rd from the crossroads.

796. Highways and Byways

a) Cartersland Green repairs to the verge surface – The Council now has nominal approval from Highways for two permanent parking bays, currently used for overflow carparking and BT. The detail and the surfacing need to be confirmed. They are recommending porous-plastic-pavers to prevent future damage to the area. The council has a quote for £984 and this was agreed.

b) Tullecombe downhill cycling facility and events – verges and drainage

Meetings and discussion have taken place between Rogate & Milland PCs, B1KE, Forestry England (FE) the County Councillor and Highways. As a result, a gully and pipe across the road has been uncovered in the lowest part of the road, FE have agreed to clean out the ditches and Highways have agreed that the land owner, FE, can install compacted plainings with high clay content with a surface lay or top soil under a standard form of consent with conditions. This is a temporary solution which will be reviewed after a 2-year period, or until such time as a dedicated car park can be planned/installed. This has the approval of Milland and Rogate Parish Councils.

Minutes of Milland Parish Council meeting 12th March 2020

c) Rake Road leading to Harting Coombe – flooding from Forestry England (FE) land at the top of the road. Highways have met with FE to discuss the problem. It was hoped that the water could be drained to the east however that would involve another landowner. Alternatively, Forestry England will excavate a channel to achieve optimum drainage on the land. There is also the possibility of the Highways Drainage Team installing a gully and a pipe across the road.

d) Footpath in front of Durrants Pond – slope to the ditch – The footpath needs to be relevelled as it is subsiding down into the deep ditch which presents a danger to mothers with buggies.

e) Rake Road from Milland crossroads through to Harting Coombe – Councillors expressed their concern about the poor state of the surface, the verges and the increasing number of potholes.

(Since the meeting Highways have undertaken a full inspection of the carriageway throughout Rake/Harting Coombe Road. It is agreed it is now in poor condition and the verges are also in a poor state. The Asset Management scheme for resurfacing was added to their list several years ago and the road has deteriorated since then. As the works required for this area are far too great to be undertaken using maintenance budgets, the Asset Management Team will be asked to undertake a review of this proposal with a view to moving this up the priority list. In the meantime, they will continue to undertake safety inspections and carry out safety repairs as necessary. 18 March 2020)

f) Highways maintenance - Residents can report potholes through the Love West Sussex app.

797. Local groups / organisations

a) CLC Meeting 17th March at Petworth – JP to attend

798. Date of next meeting – 7th May, 2020 at 7.30pm – *The parish council may look at an alternative way to hold this meeting due to Coronavirus restrictions.*

Chairman: _____ Date : _____

These Minutes are unconfirmed until signed by the Chairman.