



## Milland Parish Council Minutes – January 2022

### MILLAND PARISH COUNCIL

**Chairman:** Mr. Jeremy Parker  
**Clerk:** Miss Viki Williams  
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**MINUTES of the Meeting of MILLAND PARISH COUNCIL held on  
Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021 in Milland Memorial Hall**

**Present:** Mr. J Parker (in the Chair) (CJP), Mr. C Stopher (CS), Mrs. L Myles (LM), Mr A Farley (AF), Sir J Wigram (JW), Mrs. J Pilkington (JP)

**955. Apologies** –Mr. M Cusack, Mrs. S Hoar, Mrs. M Truss, County Councillor Kate O’Kelly

**956. Minutes of the Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

Approval **proposed** by Mr. C Stopher and **seconded** by Mrs. L Myles

**957. Declaration of personal or prejudicial interests**

1. Mr. A Farley - SDNP/21/05788/FUL - Wardley Farm Cottage Wardley Lane Milland GU30 7LX

**958. Reports from the County and District Councillors**

#### **County Councillor Report**

#### **WSCC Fire and Rescue Service report**

My first WSCC activity of 2022 I met with Sabrina Cohen-Hatton and her leadership team with Kirsty Lord the Lib Dem group leader and leader of the opposition at WSCC we had a full briefing on their plans for the Fire Service.

West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service has launched a public consultation around their proposals for their Community Risk Management Plan 2022 – 2026.

This document sets out the direction of the service over the next four years, and as part of this they have six proposals that we are seeking feedback on.

- Enhancing their retained (on-call) operating model
- Weekend protection, prevention and response improvements – better cover at weekends seamless 7 day rotas
- Improving protection, prevention and response performance in rural areas – more prevention visits in areas where they know response times are poor
- How WSFRS should deal with false alarms from automatic fire systems - not come out automatically if the premises are low risk – no people
- When we should review our Emergency Response Standards -Simplify
- How WSFRS proposes to undertake a review of our specialist appliance requirements to consider current and future risks to firefighter and public safety

Final CRMP which we intend to publish in spring 2022.

The closing date for responses is Friday 21 January 2022. <https://yourvoice.westsussex.gov.uk/crmp>

The Fire and Rescue service team have offered parishes a speaker at annual parish events.

#### **Covid**

Latest data – 1309 new cases in Chichester District – 11,542 new cases in West Sussex, for the 7 days up to 30<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1471 in hospital in SE region on 4<sup>th</sup> Jan.

Test and Trace support scheme – extended to 31 March 22 – ( this scheme pays eligible residents £500 to self-isolate) [www.chichester.gov.uk/helpwithfinances](http://www.chichester.gov.uk/helpwithfinances)

#### **Motion on 20mph and more flexible speed policy**



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I submitted a motion to persuade the Council to have a more flexible speed policy including introducing 20mph where appropriate – this was agreed by Full Council in December – there is going to be a review of the speed policy – I am hoping once agreed it is going to be easier for communities / residents to be able to make changes to the speed limits on their roads where they know best.

### **Vulnerable Support**

West Sussex County Council - the Community Hub. This service is available to those who are struggling to access food, medicine and essential supplies. The team can be contacted on 03302227980 or at [www.westsussex.gov.uk/covid19communityhub](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/covid19communityhub).

### **Financial Support**

Help with finances web page: [www.chichester.gov.uk/helpwithfinances](http://www.chichester.gov.uk/helpwithfinances). This lists the support that is available if someone is struggling to pay their bills or rent or if there have been changes in their income. There is also a link to a free benefits calculator [www.entitledto.co.uk/benefits-calculator](http://www.entitledto.co.uk/benefits-calculator) which provides people with an estimate of their entitlement to benefits, tax credits and Universal Credit.

### **Next drop – in Midhurst The Grange – 31<sup>st</sup> Jan – 10.30-12.30**

#### **959. Public Participation**

None

#### **960. Matters arising from the Minutes**

##### **Monitoring Officer**

- CS reported that following the query raised at the last meeting with regard to a gift of thanks received the Clerk had contacted the Monitoring Officer, who had stated:  
*“Strictly speaking this gift does not need to be reported as it is under £50 BUT I recommend that it is, in accordance with the advice given to all parishes some time ago. In my opinion a refusal would cause offence as it appears that this is a token of appreciation rather than an action designed to influence or turn a situation to one’s advantage. Please offer my thanks for their proper conduct if you do come to discuss this with the Councillor.”*

##### **Speed Limits**

- Following on from the County Councillor’s report at the last meeting the principle of 20mph for country villages was discussed at the West Sussex County Council’s (WSCC) Full Council meeting as a motion and it is hoped that this will reduce rural speeding.
- An email had also been received from a concerned resident regarding the need for traffic calming along the Fernhurst Road, particularly the stretch between the junction with Milland Lane and Hollycombe School Road.
- The Clerk summarised that although Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) and Speed Indicator Devices (SID) are an option they would need to be funded by the PC and volunteers would be needed to carry out the necessary location changes and data collection. This is not something for which the PC has budgeted but discussions should continue over the coming months to address the concerns.
- Traffic calming systems involving removal of white lines and narrowing of roads (as recently installed in Rake) was also discussed but deemed inappropriate for this location.
- Other areas discussed which might benefit from the potential new 20mph speed limits include:
  - Borden Wood
  - Milland Lane
- Brief discussion regarding the difficulties with passing places at the top of Milland Lane; this again is to be monitored and raised with National Highways if necessary.

#### **961. Finance**

- a) Statement of Accounts – V Williams – Previously emailed.

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	April Starting Balance	£10,381.15							
	Milland Parish Council	Statement - January 2022							
	Balance b/f	01.12.21		£19,637.09					
<b>Payments Previously Made</b>									
Date	Payments Made	Description	Gross	VAT	Net				
07.12.21	Nest	Pension Contribution	£28.87		£28.87				
29.12.21	PWL	Loan Repayment	£654.95		£654.95				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>£683.82</b>		<b>£683.82</b>				
<b>Payments Received</b>									
Date	Payments Received	Description	Gross						
20.12.21	MVMH	Shared AirS Payment	£60.00						
<b>Payments For Approval</b>									
Date	Payments For Approval	Description	Gross	VAT	Net				
01.01.22	V Williams 31.12 (09)	Salary £ - P.9 Office £58.33	£771.43		£771.43	OL50	P	LGA72	
01.01.22	HMRC 31.12 (09)	PAYE P.9 120PT00315500 2200	£229.62		£229.62	OL51	P	LGA72	
01.01.22	V Williams 31.01 (10)	Salary £ - P.10 Office £58.33	£771.63		£771.63	OL52	P	LGA72	
01.01.22	HMRC 31.01 (10)	PAYE P.10 120PT00315500 2210	£229.62		£229.62	OL53	P	LGA72	
01.01.22	Microsomma	IT Security and Back-up	£100.00		£100.00	OL54	P	LGA72	
01.01.22	Rob Findlay	Maintenance November-December	£92.00		£92.00	OL55	P	LGA72	
01.01.22	Churchyard M/I/L	Grant (2nd half)	£225.00		£225.00	OL56	P	LGA72	
		<b>Total payments due</b>	<b>£2,419.30</b>		<b>£2,419.30</b>				
		<b>Estimate Balance</b>	<b>£16,593.97</b>						
		<b>Less Ringfenced Funds</b>	<b>£3,280.00</b>						
		<b>Estimate Available funds</b>	<b>£13,313.97</b>						
		<b>Ringfenced funds</b>							
	MTC Resurfacing fund		£3,070.00						
	LG Retirement		£210.00						
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£3,280.00</b>						
<i>P - Precept; O-Outside Precept; E-Excess of Precept</i>									

### b) These Payments were Approved

*Action: Clerk*

### c) Lorraine Grocott (LG) farewell party

- CJP summarised the difficulties that had been faced in finalising a date and invitation list for the party. As LG officially retired just as the country entered a second lockdown this prevented Councillors both past and present from bidding her farewell and thanking her for her truly remarkable dedication to the Parish for over 30 years. The intention was always to hold the party at a later date. However as the pandemic has continued to prevail in varying degrees since that time, over a year has now passed and it was felt that the party must now be held even on a reduced scale.
- After discussion the date and time were finalised. The Rising Sun is booked and discussions are ongoing regarding the final cost per head. The party will be funded by a combination of the money raised at the time of LG's retirement and a contribution from the PC.
- The Clerk summarised the current status of responses to the invites which had been sent out. The positive responses were clearly reduced because of uncertainty as a result of the pandemic. She also stated that over half are yet to respond and it was therefore **agreed** that a polite reminder should be sent out this week to determine whether the party would be able proceed on the chosen date.

*Action: Clerk*

## 962. Other Administration

### a) Broadband

- JW summarised the current situation:
  - 10 November 2021 - final proposal signed off by OpenReach (OR) with the final offer at £250,000. This usually would initiate the process of residents applying for vouchers which should normally take 4/6 weeks. Unfortunately to date this has still is not started, with the failure being laid at the door of the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS).
  - Communication between JW and OR is ongoing and frequent and as soon as DCMS approve the voucher process, the portal will be opened. The PC will then need to

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communicate the next steps to all residents. JW has OR fliers ready for distribution and has asked that as well as being hand delivered, these are also publicised via email, on the website and on Social Media.

- JW stated that he is keen not to pressurise those residents who are not sure if they want to pledge. In these times of such uncertainties and increased financial pressure, it is felt that if households do not feel confident in the assurances regarding cost they should be allowed to opt out even having shown initial interest.
- Despite the delays JW is still optimistic that the cable will be laid in 2022.
- A question was asked regarding the future of fibre versus satellite broadband provision. JW stated that fibre provides a more reliable and secure service and therefore will remain more necessary.

*Action: Clerk / JW*

### b) Annual Parish Assembly – Speaker

- Although not mandatory there is the possibility for the Council to invite a speaker to address and inform the audience on community matters at the Annual Parish Assembly (APA) which is to be held in April.
- The Clerk reminded the Councillors that this is separate to a Parish Council meeting and is a relatively informal event for the community and asked for suggestions for a speaker:
  - It was suggested that because of timing it may be appropriate to again invite a member of the OR team this time to talk about the physical logistics of emplacing the cables for the broadband project.
  - The Clerk reported that following an earlier meeting with CJP she had already contacted the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) to investigate the possibility of a speaker to come and talk about the strategy of the Authority with regard to climate change. It was asked that if an SDNPA speaker was available then the topic could be expanded to include the Local Plan and anything else that the SDNPA might feel is urgent to address.

*Action: Clerk*

## 963. Planning – Cllr Stopher

### a) Planning Applications/Decisions

#### **New Planning Applications**

- **SDNP/21/05788/FUL** Demolition of the existing residential dwelling and replacement with two storey three bedroom residential building - Wardley Farm Cottage, Wardley Lane, Milland, GU30 7LX
- **SDNP/21/06160/TPO** Crown reduce by approx. 3m on 1 no. Oak tree within Group, G1 subject to ML/73/00717/TPO - 15 Mill Vale Meadows, Milland, Liphook, West Sussex, GU30 7LZ

#### **Existing Applications**

- CS reported that nothing further had been added to the Planning Portal regarding the two large applications below. Both are still awaiting decisions:
  - **Case No. SDNP/21/03670/FUL**  
**Proposal:** Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling.  
**Location:** Stocksfield, Borden Lane, Borden, Milland, GU30 7JZ.
  - **Case No. SDNP/21/03378/FUL**  
**Proposal:** Demolition of existing light industrial units and replacement with 5 no. new light industrial units with improved parking and landscaping  
**Location:** The Sawmill, Iping Road, Milland, GU30 7NA.
- A question was asked regarding:  
**SDNP/20/04369/CND** Yew Tree Cottage, Fernhurst Road, Milland GU30 7LU.  
CS raised concerns as this appears to be having far more extensive works carried out than the approved two storey side extension including new front dormer. A large amount of the

building appears to have been removed. CDC Planning suggested that MPC contact enforcement to raise the concerns of the Council and this was **agreed**.

*Action: CS*

**964. Environment & Amenities and Highways matters**

a) Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Point

- The Clerk summarised the outcome of a talk given by a representative of West Sussex County Council (WSCC) National Highways team:
  - The UK's largest electric vehicle (EV) chargepoint deployment by a local authority has been announced by West Sussex County Council providing a blueprint for local authorities across the UK to deliver affordable, reliable and accessible chargepoints in their thousands to help the 40% of drivers nationally without off-street parking to go electric.
  - WSCC have paired with Chichester District Council (CDC) to build a partnership with a single EV charging point provider in order to roll out the proposed EV
  - UK-based Connected Kerb fully funded project and will also manage and maintain the chargepoints on an ongoing basis. The company has extensive experience of working with local authorities and public sector organisations.
  - Local Authorities are to put land forward for consideration and Connected Kerb will then carryout a full feasibility study and decide if the land is suitable and how many parking spaces could be installed.
- A question was asked regarding the potential sites:
  - Vales Garage
  - The Rising Sun
  - Milland Community Shop
- It was felt that as the pub and garage already suffer from a lack of parking which has implications of verge parking around the village, the shop car park would be the most suitable location.
- Although at peak times (Saturday mornings and nursery drop off), parking can be very limited, at most other times the loss of one space would not cause a significant impact.
- It was **agreed** that once the application process starts MPC should apply to be considered.

*Action: Clerk*

b) Queen's Green Canopy & SDNPA Call for Nature Sites

- CJP Summarised the two projects stating that both encourage a significant increase in woodland across the country.
- The Clerk had approached the Manager of the Hollycombe Estate to ask if the new owners would be interested in providing some land for a proposed wood on the eastern side of the field to extend the access land that already exists below the hanger; potentially to include a strip that would extend across the middle of the field towards Milland Lane with the intention of creating a wildlife corridor and helping to reduce the flooding of the road by Mill Cottage that is common after heavy rain.
- The estate had responded and are willing to discuss this over the coming months.
- CJP asked that if any of the Councillors think of any further suitable areas to inform the Clerk.

*Action: All*

c) Queen's Jubilee Celebration

- Discussion regarding the options for the PC's involvement in the events for the Queen's Jubilee weekend 02-05 June 2022.

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- CJP started that he hoped that the community would come together to create a celebration similar to that held in the Parish in 2012 for the Diamond Jubilee.
- AF suggested that the organisers of the Diamond Jubilee be contacted to ask for any information regarding the logistics.
- The point was strongly raised that for anything to be organised, a committee would need to be formed. It was therefore decided that the PC should be seen as a facilitator and not an overall organiser and that the forming of a committee should be encouraged from the community.
- A draft letter to gauge community interest addressed to all local community groups and businesses was **approved** by the Council and would to be sent out with a deadline for response. This information would also be added to the website and social media platforms.

*Action: Clerk*

d) Riparian Responsibilities

- Concerns had been reported to the Clerk about the management of the waterways by some properties in the Parish. She summarised that flooding is caused in the centre of the village when Hammer stream which runs through the Parish and a number of properties until it meets the Rother, is blocked by debris.
- The Clerk therefore asked permission to send a letter to all properties bordering the stream to remind them of their riparian responsibilities and ask them to ensure that all fallen trees / branches / general debris be cleared to ensure the stream be allowed to flow freely.
- It was agreed that the letter would be sent out and the situation monitored and if properties fail to meet their responsibilities, West Sussex County Council would be informed.

*Action: Clerk*

e) Hedge on Rake Road

- The Clerk reported that she had received a number of emails raising concerns about the removal of the Hedge on the land of Great Trippets adjacent to the Rake Road.
- The Clerk had been in touch with SDNPA to ensure that the works carried out conform to Planning legislation and they are investigating.

*Action: None*

f) Higham's Fence

- Following the PC emplaced signs on the North Eastern fence of the Recreation field to discourage trespassing onto the fields behind; the owners of the field have contacted the Clerk to say that the problem persists and they would like further action to be taken.
- The PC considered the suggestions proposed by the residents including a quote submitted to heighten the stock fencing behind the goal (£650).
- Currently the ownership of and therefore responsibility for repairs / improvements to the fence is not clear. As it would be unreasonable for the PC to spend public money without this information it was agreed that that the PC cannot take a stance on this until the ownership of the fence is determined.
- It was **agreed** that the Clerk is to contact Land Registry.

*Action: Clerk*

**965. Date of next meeting – 09 March 2022 6pm at Milland Memorial Hall**

Chairman:

Date :

*These Minutes are unconfirmed until signed by the Chairman.*