



Milland Parish Council Minutes – March 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, 9th March 2022 in Milland Memorial Hall**

Present: Mr. J Parker (in the Chair) (CJP), Mr. C Stopher (CS), Mrs. L Myles (LM), (JW), Mrs. J Pilkington (JP), Mrs. S Hoar (SH), Mrs. M Truss (MT),

966. Apologies:

Mr A Farley, Sir J Wigram, County, Councillor Kate O’Kelly

Resignation:

Following 13 years on the Parish Council Mr. M Cusack has resigned. He informed the Chairman that it is a decision not taken lightly and is due solely to work and family commitments. As Chairman for a number of years he had overseen the important production of the Milland Neighbourhood Plan as well as giving support to the neighbouring villages who were fighting the Durand Academy and Fracking site.

The Parish Council is very grateful for all his hard work over the years and will no doubt be taking him up on his offer of advice and expertise.

967. Minutes of the Meeting 12th January 2022

Approval **proposed** by Mrs. M Truss and **seconded** by Mr. C Stopher

968. Declaration of personal or prejudicial interests

None

969. Reports from the County and District Councillors

County Councillor Report to Milland Parish Council 9th March 2022 – Kate O’Kelly

Ukraine

- Both Councils are now flying Ukrainian flags.
- At WSCC there was cross party agreement to write to the Ukrainian ambassador offering support and to the Prime Minister calling on him to align th UK’s policy on sanctuary for Ukrainian refugees with Europe, CDC have been asked to do the same.
- Local charity – **Children on the Edge** are appealing for cash donations – they have 2 decades of working in Eastern Europe – Donations will mean charities in Moldova and Romania can buy locally what is needed. <https://www.childrenontheedge.org>
- **Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC)** <https://www.dec.org.uk>
- **The Ukrainian institute** – London information on how to help <https://ui.org.ua/en/>

Midhurst Greenway

- Following a very good turnout at the Grange for the exhibition, I have had a meeting with WSCC officers leading on the scheme this week.
- I am hopeful we can persuade them to change the proposed surface to one more suited to the rural setting and to reduce the width where possible. We also discussed including only replacing the bridge with a larger one until when it needs replacement – this would be a be a better use of resources and would reduce the cost of the scheme considerably.



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- The most challenging area to date has been to look at the South route round the pond rather than the North. Following previously insurmountable safety concerns raised by the team, we asked them to look again at this in view of the strength of feeling in the community.
- Consideration of a 20mph speed limit / traffic calming option in South Street being added into the scheme particularly looked at - this might make it possible to direct the route South of the pond.
- The officers will be reviewing all the views from the consultation then they will arrange a follow up meet up with key stakeholders.

Highways

- TRO – change of policy – new rolling programme – for communities to make simple changes to the highway – signs and lines.

Health and Adults Social Care (HASC) Committee

- HASC met this week– scrutinising the plan to change the status of the Neonatal unit at St Richards to a special care baby unit.
- Premature babies between 27 weeks and 32 weeks will no longer be looked after at St Richards but be transferred to QA and then back to St Richards when appropriate.
- We agreed the recommendations – best practice means a unit like the one at St Richards should look after 25 babies a year in this category – they are only seeing 9 currently. Best outcomes in this very specialised area are achieved at a tertiary centre.
- We asked about transport and facilities for parents at QA and were reassured.

Budget day at WSCC

- The Full Council Meeting scheduled for 18th February was postponed until 28th February because of storm Eunice.
- Headlines:
 - The Executive proposed a 2.99% rise in the County Council Tax.
 - 1% specifically for adult social care – costs still spiralling.
- The Liberal Democrat (LD) group suggested amending the budget however these were refused.
 - More occupational health provision in the community to support independence at home
 - More support for carers – appointing officers to help with financial advice for carers
 - An additional mental health team embedded in schools.
 - Children’s mental health - more provision – specifically on eating disorders – 50% increase in demand during Covid
 - Climate – looking at a capital fund for communities to apply to for climate community initiatives.

Budget day at CDC

- This week the budget was agreed, including a £5 increase in council tax. We put two amendments in:
 - Addition of a landscape officer to help with enforcement in new developments – working with developers and the council to improve the environmental protections.
 - Addition of an officer in the economic development team looking at supporting businesses specialising in sustainable activities – the officer will for grants – work with small businesses to scale up activities such as retrofitting homes.
- There was cross party agreement for our amendments so both these initiatives will go ahead.

My next drop-in March 28th Milland Stores 10.30-12.30

970. Public Participation

None

971. Matters arising from the Minutes

None

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972. Finance

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

April Starting Balance £10,381.15													
Milland Parish Council		Statement - March 2022											
Balance b/f		01.03.21		£16,381.20									
Payments Previously Made													
Date	Payments Made	Description	Gross	VAT	Net								
05.01.21	Nest	Pension Contribution	£28.87	£0.00	£28.87	DD							
31.01.22		Claranet	£212.52	£35.42	£177.10	DD							
14.02.22	Linch PCC	Marquee Hire GBGW 1/2 (total £150)	£50.00	£0.00	£50.00	OL57							
14.02.22	Milland PCC	Marquee Hire GBGW 1/2 (total £150)	£50.00	£0.00	£50.00	OL57							
14.02.22	Rising Sun (Mighty Stone Foot)	LG Retirement Party	£495.20	£62.53	£432.67	OL58							
Totals			£836.59	£97.95	£738.64								
Payments Received													
Date	Payments Received	Description	Gross										
Payments For Approval													
Date	Payments For Approval	Description	Gross	VAT	Net								
01.03.22	V Williams 28.02.22 (11)	Salary E - P.11 Office E58.33	£771.63	£0.00	£771.63	OL59	P	LGA72					
01.03.22	HMRC 28.02.22 (11)	PAYE P.11 (2211)	£229.62	£0.00	£229.62	OL60	P	LGA72					
01.03.22	V Williams 31.03 (12)	Salary E - P.12 Office E58.33	£771.43	£0.00	£771.43	OL61	P	LGA72					
01.03.22	HMRC 31.03 (12)	PAYE P.12 (2212)	£229.82	£0.00	£229.82	OL62	P	LGA72					
01.03.22	REIM V Williams	Land Registry - Higham's Fence	£13.00	£0.00	£13.00	OL63	P	LGA72					
01.03.22	Rob Findlay	Maintenance January-February	£148.00	£0.00	£148.00	OL64	P	LGA72					
01.03.22	Vision ICT	Email Hosting 22/23	£21.60	£3.60	£18.00	OL65	P	LGA72					
01.03.22	REIM V Williams	Stationery / Expenses	£10.84	£0.00	£10.84	OL66	P	LGA72					
01.03.22	SLCC	Membership Sub	£115.00	£0.00	£115.00	OL67	P	LGA72					
Total payments due			£2,310.94	£3.60	£2,307.34								
Estimate balance after Payments			£14,070.26										
Less Ringfenced Funds			£4,070.00										
Estimate Available funds			£10,000.26										
Ringfenced funds													
MTC Resurfacing fund			£4,070.00										
TOTAL			£4,070.00										
<i>P - Precept; O-Outside Precept; E-Excess of Precept</i>													

b) These Payments were Approved

- The Clerk reported that following discussions with the Milland Tennis Club the PC would be receiving a larger ‘ground rent’ and taking over the payment of all invoices.
- MTC has asked that essential works be carried out in April 2022 to keep the courts fit for purpose - *Two Court Clean and Binder / Colour Spray*. 3 quotes have been obtained:
 - Coloured Courts: £4,390+ VAT
 - Clearway Sport: £4,437.50 + VAT
 - Academy Sports: £4,900 + VAT
- On the advice of the Tennis Club and based on works previously carried out the Council **AGREED** that the contract should be awarded to Clearway Sport.
- The PC currently holds £4,070 and by the time the invoice is approved at the May meeting, MTC will have made the yearly payment of £2,500 to the PC for the 2022/23 financial year.
- **This has been documented fully in the Recreation Ground Minutes.**

Action: Clerk

973. Other Administration

a) Broadband

- 100% of the required pledgers has now been reached. However as this is the minimum required and does not include every household identified by Open Reach (OR), there is still time for those that have not done so, to pledge their vouchers.
- OR have written to the PC to advise about an upcoming initiative that will have an impact on the voucher scheme temporarily.
 - On the 8th April the voucher scheme will be paused for between 3-6 months for all properties in West Sussex. On that date West Sussex is going into Project Gigabit procurement phase <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-new-5bn-project-gigabit>.

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- This is a £5bn government infrastructure project where various network suppliers will be invited to provide their commercial proposals to roll out FTTP connectivity across the country.
- The areas that will be targeted will be the remote ones that have poor connectivity and are therefore not likely to be included in any commercial deployment from a network supplier.
- In order for the Milland project to progress sufficiently and not to be impacted by the pause, the voucher pledges must hit the pledge target giving enough time for the vouchers to be sent out and also enough time for the recipients to validate them (this is only a couple of clicks on the voucher email they receive).
- It was **AGREED** that the Parish Council should publicise this new information, emphasising the urgency to pledge and sign T and C's via social media, website, update board located at Milland Stores.

Action: Clerk / JW / JP

c) Annual Parish Assembly – Speaker

- The Clerk confirmed that following a very informative talk on Eco Rother Action by UN Climate Ambassador Rachel Ritchie (see 975a below for details) she had contacted Rachel to invite her to speak at the APA to advise on the current climate change emergency and the role of both the PC and individuals in making positive steps to reduce the carbon footprint of the Parish – Rachel has accepted the invitation.

Action: Clerk

974. Planning – Cllr Stopher

a) Planning Applications/Decisions

New Planning Applications

- **SDNP/22/00318/HOUS** Installation of 1 no. free standing greenhouse - Brook Cottage, Hollycombe School Road, Milland, Liphook, West Sussex, GU30 7LY
- **SDNP/22/00934/TCA** Notification of intention to crown raise up to 3m on 1 no. Oak tree (T1) - Hollycombe Primary School, Hollycombe School Road, Milland, Liphook, West Sussex, GU30 7LY

Applications Determined

- **SDNP/22/00314/NMA** Non-material amendment to planning permission SDNP/21/05042/FUL increase size of sitting room with alterations to fenestration - Aston House (formerly Dellwood Cottage), Wheatsheaf Enclosure, Milland - **REFUSED**

975. Environment & Amenities and Highways matters

a) Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Point

- SH briefly summarised the **West Sussex Chargepoint Network – Opportunities for Community Landowners** webinar held on 27 January 2022 (the recording had been previously circulated to all Councillors).
- Connected Kerb and a number of County and District Councils have formed a partnership to provide a new chargepoint network across West Sussex.
- The partners will be working together to install thousands of chargepoints across the county within the next ten years, forming the new West Sussex Chargepoint Network. This ambitious scheme will give West Sussex residents the confidence to go electric in time for the ban on the sale of new petrol and diesel vehicles in 2030.
- The partnership wants to deliver chargepoints in locations that work best for residents. Chargepoints will be located on streets and in council car parks. The partnership wants to collaborate closely with:
 - **Residents** to assess where there is demand for chargepoints.
 - **Community landowners** to identify opportunities at community facilities across the county and find out where they would like to see chargepoints.
- This fully funded project only offers 7kw charge points.



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- The PC does support EV charging points but feels that this particular scheme is geared towards more urban environments. Therefore it is hoped that there would be a scheme tailored more to suit rural areas thereby offering more efficient charging points.
- It was **AGREED** that this scheme would not be pursued at this time due to its unsuitability outweighing the cost of losing 1-2 parking spaces when the majority of properties have off street parking.
- CJP reported that he had spoken to the Landlord of the Rising Sun and that the brewery (Fullers) is looking to provide EV charge points in the future. It was agreed that the PC would support an application made by the pub.

b) Eco Rother Action Climate Awareness Talk and Summary

- SH Reported on the talk by Rachel Ritchie on Climate Crisis and what PCs can do about it – organised by Eco Rother Action 14 February 2022.
- Rachel Ritchie, who is from Petersfield, is a UN Climate Ambassador.
- The main body of her talk was on the developing climate crisis but **the role PCs can play** was also covered, including:
 - Declaring a climate emergency.
 - Make mitigating climate change a priority in every PC decision. Look at the climate implications on every Council decision.
 - Setting up an action group within the council but also encouraging the involvement of members of the community.
 - Encouraging local groups and supporting local policies and plans from District and County.
 - Promoting practical action by local people.
 - Promoting and protecting local businesses.
 - Promoting plastic free events.
 - Designating sites for nature restoration.
 - Creating community recycling hubs.
 - Using local newsletters and magazines to promote environmental activities and policies.
- It was discussed that whilst not all points were germane the PC must work to implement as many ideas as possible ie:
 - Making mitigating climate change a priority in every financial decision.
 - Encouraging the Queen’s Jubilee Celebration to be ‘plastic free’
 - Investigating the possibility for a central recycling point for not widely recycled packaging and electrical items.
 - Continued communication with landowners to create sites for nature restoration.

c) All Parishes Meeting

- CJP summarised the issues discussed at the All Parishes Meeting held on 07 February 2022:

Culture Spark 22 - *An initiative to increase cultural activity across the district.*

- CDC is calling for ideas and events that meet this aim - CJP suggested the Milland Memories exhibition which is being planned for the Jubilee weekend as a possible event and the Clerk has contacted the organisers.

Tik Tok 22

- Nominations sought for 22 young people to create short (60 sec / 3 min) videos on social media to show what culture means to them.
- This is being promoted by Chichester Festival Theatre; the Clerk included this information in the Milland Valley News (MVN) to encourage involvement in Milland.

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5 Year Housing Land Supply

- CDC has agreed a 5 Year Land Supply; this is measured against the Government standard housing methodology.
- Chichester requires 634 houses +5% buffer **TOTAL 666 houses per annum** or **3329** over the period 2021-2026.
- CDC has in fact reported a surplus of 207 houses (therefore a 5.3 year supply). These figures include developments where planning has already been granted.
- The importance of this Supply is that with it in place:
 - The planning authority has a greater ability to refuse inappropriate development.
 - More importance is placed on Local/Neighbourhood Plans when determining planning applications allowing more control over the houses built.
- CJP asked at the All Parishes meeting if the proximity of Milland to Liphook and its large-scale developments would affect the 5 Year Land Supply for CDC. He was informed it would not and he was assured that there is coordination between adjoining planning authorities when such developments are determined.

Fly Tipping:

- The All Parishes Meeting reported this as a very complex problem with CDC responsible for collecting the rubbish and WSCC responsible for its disposal thereby ensuring that no one organisation has to bear the full cost
- CDC and WSCC are appointing a countywide coordinator to develop a multi-disciplinary approach (WSCC / CDC / Police / Parishes / Courts) as from 01 April 2022.

Tree Project

- Funded by HM Treasury's Shared Outcomes Fund.
- CDC is one of five councils offering pilot tree planting schemes:
 - Subsidised Tree Scheme
 - Agroforestry and Orchards
 - Urban Tree Establishment
 - Trees in the Farmed Landscape/Hedgerow
 - Community Tree Nurseries
- There are various grants available including agroforestry and orchard.
- MPC has been publicising the grants available for tree planting via the 'SDNPA call for nature sites' and 'the Queen's Green Canopy' initiatives and will continue to try and engage landowners with the tree planting schemes.

Hyde Housing

- As part of the Hyde 50 strategy the Housing Association is aiming to reduce the age of properties to no more than 35 years by 2050 and is focused on producing a sustainable and energy efficient portfolio.
- There is also a focus on working with residents to allow for movement to more suitable areas / properties as situations change.

Strategic Wildlife Corridors

- Connections between the Harbours and the Downs currently not applicable to Milland as they focus on:
 - The Hambrook Corridor
 - Area East of Chichester

d) Queen's Green Canopy

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- CJP Summarised the project stating that it encourages a significant increase in woodland across the country and he has been hoping for a piece of land in the Parish.
- The Clerk had followed up with the Manager of the Hollycombe Estate having previously asked the new owners if they would be interested in providing some land for a proposed wood. The estate responded stating that they had no firm plans at present as they were also submitting a Planning Application which would include extensive landscaping.
- CJP asked that if any of the Councillors could think of any further suitable areas to inform the Clerk.

e) Queen's Jubilee

i. **Celebration**

- CJP reported that there is now a community committee organising a Jubilee event. Having met with the committee the Clerk reported the plans to date:
 - 'Big Lunch' event to be held on Sunday 05 June 2022 12pm – 5pm.
 - Intended as a 'bring your own food and drink' event but with all logistics (tables, chairs, marquees, decorations and entertainment etc) to be organised by the committee.
 - To include family games, live music with tea and cake to finish.
 - The Rising Sun to also provide a simple drinks stand with Pimms and beer.
 - The Hall is booked for the entire weekend.
- The Clerk confirmed that with CJP sitting on the committee it becomes a sub-committee of the PC and would therefore be covered by the PC insurance. The Clerk is also to continue working with the Committee and assisting where necessary.
- CJP confirmed that the PC would offer a small donation if required but that it was unable to provide the £250 sub the organising committee had requested. Instead the Clerk is to assist and ask the Bonfire committee for a donation.

Action: Clerk

ii. **Lasting Commemoration Pedestrian Gate for the Rec**

- Following discussions for a lasting commemoration it had been decided that a new pedestrian gate be purchased for the recreation field.
- The suggestion of a bespoke gate created by Richard Weaver of Design Through Metal Work based in Milland was unanimously supported by the PC.
- Richard has offered a bespoke gate for £2,500. *As this is a bespoke design no further quotes will be obtained as this is to be seen as a fitting tribute to the Queen, a gift for the village and a support for local industry.*
- The existing gate continues to be unstable due to the current position of the gate posts over the footings of the Village Hall. The position of the gate will therefore need to be moved away from the hall when fitted.
- The payment of the gate is to be a combination of grants ie contribution from the PC and fundraising.
- It was **AGREED** that CJP would ask for detailed sketches. At the next meeting the actual financial risk to the PC must be agreed before the work is commissioned as fundraising would continue after the order is placed.

Donated oak tree

- Milland based Griffins Nursery have kindly offered to donate a 20ft English Oak tree as part of the Jubilee celebrations.
- Potential sites for planting have been investigated:
 - Cartersland – following a consultation with Cartersland Wildflower Group it was felt that the area would not be appropriate.
 - Hollycombe School –have not yet responded.

Action: Clerk

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f) Recreation Field 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 previously considered the suggestions proposed by the residents including a quote submitted to heighten the stock fencing behind the goal (£650).
- As it would be unreasonable for the PC to spend public money without knowing the ownership of and therefore responsibility for repairs / improvements to the fence, the Clerk contacted Land Registry (LR) to ascertain ownership. She was unsuccessful and therefore the owners of the field would need to consult the deeds of their property.
- It was **AGREED** that CS would to speak to the owners of the field as the PC does not support the erection of a high fence and that a better solution may be to include an access gate onto the property to allow the retrieval of stray balls without any further damage to the existing fence.

Action: CS / Clerk

g) Litter Pick 2022

- The Clerk reported that the annual spring clean litter pick is to take place on 26/27th March 2022.
- All bags, litter pickers and high-vis vests will be placed outside the shop.
- CJP asked that it also be advertised on social media and noticeboards to allow interested residents to take part.

Action: Clerk

h) Winter Resilience

- Following the recent storms the Clerk reported that the winter resilience plan has always focused on the snow and ice and not storm damage. She therefore intends to update it to include qualified chainsaw operators to enable the PC to assist in the clearance of roads etc if necessary.

Action: Clerk

976. Parish Notices

Update on the Oak tree on the junction of West Meade and the Iping Road.

- Robert Findlay has now blocked all existing drilled holes to stop any further injection of possible chemicals into the tree.
- If additional holes now appear further surveillance may need to be considered.

Action: Clerk

977. Date of next meeting – 13 April 2022 – APA – 6pm at Milland Memorial Hall

Chairman: _____ Date : _____

These Minutes are unconfirmed until signed by the Chairman.