

MONKTON COMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on 17 January 2011 at 7pm

Parish Council: Cllr Kevin Murphy (KLM) (Chairman), Cllr Lyn Alvis (LA),
Cllr Ray Franks (RF), Cllr Alison Bossom (AB),
Cllr Alison Sturgess-Durden (ASD), Mrs Jane Angell Clerk

Others Present: Cllr Neil Butters (Bathavon South) (from 9.00pm)

1 **APOLOGIES:** None

2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None

3 **MINUTES**

Minutes from Ordinary Meeting 1 December 2010 were approved and signed by the Acting Chairman of the 1 December meeting Cllr Alvis.

4 **Bills and Accounts**

a.	Payments	01.12.10	768b	Ian Croker	Village Cleaning	241.31
		29.12.10	7687c	Jane Angell	Salary	83.33
		17.01.10	769	Jeff Alvis	gardening	120.00
		17.01.10	770	Ray Franks	mileage	15.26
		01.01.11	770a	Ian Croker	village cleaning	241.31
b.	Receipts	01.11.10	214	B&NES	Village cleaning	243.82
		09.12.10	215	B&NES	village cleaning	243.82
		01.01.11	216	B&NES	village cleaning	243.82
		31.12.10	217	Nat West	interest dec 10	1.02
		25.11.10	218	HMT	interest	69.58
		07.01.11		HMT	gov bond redemption	2226.58

c. **Account Balances as at 31.12.10**

Current	100.00
Reserve (Miss Davis)	2283.04
Reserve (MCPC)	7813.56

d. 2011/12 Budget. It was RESOLVED that the precept for the 2011/ 2012 financial year would be maintained at the existing level of £3,600. It was also agreed to adopt the National Joint Council guide lines recommending for mileage allowances to take into account the recent VAT and fuel cost rises.

5 **MATTERS ARISING:**

- a.
- Governors Field – Discussed under Planning on main Agenda.
 - Contacting School – For incidents ring reception and they will give the relevant number for contact it was agreed that this could be added to all future newsletters for reference.

AB

- b. **LA Fencing on Summer Lane-** No improvement to barbed wire section which is considered a hazard to pedestrians and cyclists. Cllr Alvis sent another letter to Nick Sperring (B&NES) only to receive a letter with apologies. – *Cllr Alvis will continue to chase.*

Approved and signed 7 March 2011.....

Chairman Cllr Kevin Murphy

- c **AB** **Brassknocker Hill** – It was reported that water is again running across Brassknocker Hill at the crossroads with Church Lane and Trollope’s Hill. Cllr Bossom advised that the new manhole cover fitted recently at the crossroads has lifted up with the amount of running water this has been reported to Council Connect the customer number is 38850 – *to be monitored.*
- d **Parish Online** – *Discussed under Parish Community Plan on main agenda.*
- e **Phone Box** – It now appears that the light has been replaced by BT and the phone service has been maintained. No further action required at this time.
- f **KLM** **Schedule of Roles & Responsibilities Document** – The Chairman will review this document and circulate a revised draft allocating responsibilities following the Council elections in May and the number of Councillors has been determined. *To be added to main agenda in May.*

6. **PLANNING**

a **APPLICATIONS**

Course Of Old Somerset Coal Canal, Warminster Road. 10/02577/FUL

Change of use of land from car park to the stationing of 15 no touring caravans for a period of no more than 7 days each year during July and August. Application still pending consideration by B&NES.

Music Block Monkton Combe School Church Lane. 10/ 03615/FUL

Alterations and extensions to existing music school to provide new teaching practice and recording rooms and rehearsal and performance space together with landscaping. Application still pending consideration by B&NES.

Governor’s Field Monkton Combe School Church Lane.10/05151/FUL

Provision of access road, parking and drop-off area including new pedestrian route and landscaping. The application was discussed in general terms and it was agreed that an opportunity be provided for parishioners to put any views forward on the revised scheme they may have prior to making a formal response. B&NES has given an extension to the return of any comments if required – *Clerk to book Village Hall and place appropriate notices.*

Combe Grove Lodge

10/05349/COND Discharge of conditions 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of application 09/04144/LBA

11/00025/COND Discharge of conditions 1,2,3,4,5,6,7 and 8 of application 09/04143/FUL

b **KLM** It was recorded that this had been submitted. The Parish Council is not entitled to comment upon discharge of conditions.

c **Note** Parish Planning Procedures – The Chairman handed out revised draft - *to be discussed next meeting.*

Parish Community Plan – It was agreed that this should still become a key agenda item to be progressed once the implications of the Governments ‘Localism Bill’ were fully understood. The use of Parish Online is seen as a potentially useful tool in this work.

7 **HIGHWAYS & FOOTPATHS**

- LA/** **Innox Drung Hand Rail** - Cllr Butters (Ward Cllr) contacted Cllr Alvis to advise he had been to visit
- KLM** Mary Smith of the Croft regarding the possibility of having a hand rail installed at the bottom end of the

drung. Sheila Petherbridge (Rights of Way Officer B&NES), advised Cllr Butters the cost would be £600. Various avenues for funding have been explored. Cllr Vic Pritchard (B&NES) confirmed that Housing Services Disabled Facilities Grant is restricted to within the building. Paul Pennycook (Strong Community Manager B&NES), is looking into the matter. The Chairman had contacted Quartet Community Foundation and had been advised that no funds were available for this project. Having exhausted all apparent avenues of funding the Parish Council, whilst sympathetic to Mrs Smiths problem, believed it would not be appropriate to use public money for this work. However, the Parish Council will remain on the lookout for other funding possibilities.

LA **Mount Pleasant path leading to Combe Down** – It was reported to the Clerk that further large pot holes have appeared. Cllr Alvis will contact Stu Ballard again at B&NES to advise the footpath is broken up and in a poor state due to the latest bad weather.

NB At this point (9pm) Cllr Butters jointed the meeting The Chairman re-capped on the Governor's Field application and Innox Drung. With reference to the Innox Drung discussion Cllr Butters advised that there is a possibility that the RAF Benevolent Fund may be able to help and that he would advise if this is the case.

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CORRESPONDENCE

Clerk **From SLCC** (Society of Local Council Clerks) – Membership - The Clerk considered that the information and services provided seem to be covered by ALCA so not considered a necessity at this time.

The Winter Maintenance Review Report - Cllr Butters advised that the report was being finalised with the necessary maps being added. It will state the B&NES Council's gritting routes. Which additional grit bins will be provided and when. For the grit bins provided by Parish Councils it is confirmed that B&NES Council will refill them on request. It will also advise on the legal implications of members of the public spreading grit.

The Big Tree Plant Info – The funding is for community and civic groups, or non-profit organisations to establish community led tree planting projects in areas that would benefit most. – Not currently applicable to this Parish.

From B&NES **Energy Champions** – Residents are being encouraged to work together to reduce their carbon footprint. The B&NES Council scheme is aimed at local groups who want to run their own energy saving project in the community.

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CLUSTER / LIASION MEETING/ VALLEY PARISHES ASSOCIATION (VPA)

Draft Core Strategy Meeting 21 December 2010 – A presentation from the evening had been received by the Clerk and circulated. The Chairman hoped that further presentations would be forthcoming by B&NES relating to the Localism Agenda and what it means for us.

RF **Avon Local Councils Association (ALCA) – SGM** – 1 December 2010

The Executive Committee, realising that several member councils were minded to dissolve ALCA asked the Working Group to look into ways of radically overhauling ALCA to allow it to continue.

- The Working Group presented its report which recommended: a) the size of the Executive Committee should be reduced from 24 to 10 members. b) The hours of the county secretary should be reduced by two hours per week and the post of assistant to the County Secretary be abolished. c) Each of the Executive Committee members would have an active role supporting the County Secretary, i.e. one would deal with finance and one with training etc. d) Where ever possible all communication would be by electronic means.

- On a vote 43 supported the Working Groups report to allow a slimmed down ALCA to continue with 23 against and 3 abstentions.
- It is unclear whether any of the 23 opposed will resign from ALCA or whether councils who
- Have already resigned return.

LA

VPA Meeting – 13 January 2011

- Having put an article about the VPA launch into the Chronicle contact with the Wiltshire Times was proposed. Comments were also submitted to the Wiltshire Times on the Wiltshire Local Transport Plan 2011-2026 covering cross boundary issues, sustainable transport, and net work management. The VPA is of the firm opinion that an A36/A46 link road is not the answer to traffic and air pollution problems in Bath.
- Cllr Hugh Delap (Chairman Freshford) is to form a VPA Transport sub-committee and suggests a representative from Monkton Combe Parish Council (MCPC) would be a good idea. It was agreed that Cllr Alvis would do this.
- The VPA have been invited to have representation for the Kennet & Avon Canal Partnership Board. Bleddyn Griffith will do the first report back. Mooring Strategy Steering Group (MSSG) meet on the 28th January. Cllr Dave Batho (Claverton) has produced a Vision Statement which everyone agreed with he will attend the meeting.
- It was voted that Cllr Tony McCann (Bathampton) would represent the VPA on the B&NES Transport Commission.
- The VPA responded to the West of England joint Local Transport Plan and The Bath World Heritage Site Management Plan with approval.
- The deadline for response to B&NES Draft Core Strategy is the 3 February. MCPC will respond to for VPA to David Robins. MCPC could respond separately.
- To be discussed next meeting – VPA website is it necessary? Also to be discussed affordable housing. Next Meeting 14th March 2011.

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RED BOX

NB Mobile Library – Service deleted due to occasional users only and very difficult road danger of vehicle damage. – *Cllr Butters agreed to look into it.*

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ANY OTHER BUSINESS

ALL **Additional Councillors** – The Parish Council is considering expanding to seven Councillors. It was agreed that a note would be placed in the Parish newsletter to determine the level of interest. Suggestions for potential candidates were discussed. The question as to whether it was possible to move up to seven by the May elections was raised – *Cllr Butters will enquire to be added to agenda.*

ALL **Annual Meeting Date** -The date for the Annual Meeting has been arranged for 16 May 2011.

ALL **Kennet and Avon Canal Trust** – The option to subscribe to the magazine was raised but as all the information in magazine is available on-line it was considered not necessary.

clerk **Emergency Planning Power Cuts** – Which parts of the village are on which circuit? - *Clerk to contact Western Power.*

AB **Trollope's Hill** – Cllr Bossom advised there was to be some coppice clearing being carried out by tree surgeons for the electricity board including an elm tree to be removed.

KLM **Recycling Collections** – The collections are now all up to date with the exception of the Christmas tree

Approved and signed 7 March 2011.....

Chairman Cllr Kevin Murphy

collection – *Cllr Murphy to chase.*

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DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 7 March 2011 at 7pm in the Village Hall

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 22.24hr

Approved and signed 7 March 2011.....

Chairman Cllr Kevin Murphy