

MONKTON COMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on 18 April 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: Mr Buchanan (member of the public) (from 7.45pm)

1 **APOLOGIES:** None

2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None

3 **MINUTES**

Minutes from Ordinary Meeting 7 March 2011 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4 a. **Bills and Accounts**

Payments:	23.03.11	773a	Jane Angell	Salary	83.33
	18.04.11	773b	Ian Croker	Village Cleaning	243.82
	18.04.11	774	Ray Franks	Mileage	10.40
	18.04.11	775	ALCA	Subscription	62.84
	18.04.11	776	Jane Angell	ink cartridges	21.98

b. **Receipts:** 01.08.11 222 B&NES Village Cleaning 243.82

c. **Account Balances as at 31.03.2011**

Current	100.00
Reserve (Miss Davis)	4510.14
Reserve (MCPC)	7357.93

d. **Clk** Clerk advised notice of audit of accounts for the year ending 31 March 2011 had been received from Mazars. This needs to be completed by 30.06.2011 and returned to Mazars by 04.07.2011. The appointed date set for the exercise of electors' rights 25 July 2011.
The annual salary paid to clerk for the financial year ending 31 March 2011 - £1,000

e. **Note** The letter to Nat West authorising the transfer of funds from the Miss Davis account to the MCPC Reserve account for gardening expenses was duly signed.

f. **Note** The Local Council Administration reference book is out of date. It was agreed that this should be replaced. – *Clerk to purchase a new book.*

LA Cllr Alvis to look into re-investment for Miss Davis account. No progress as yet.

PLANNING

5 a **New Applications**

Clk Combe Grange Shaft Road - 11/01453/TCA

Eucalyptus – Carry out 25-30% crown height reduction and reshape – Pending consideration by B&NES
The Parish Council have no objection subject to formal consultation with neighbours.

Approved and signed 23 May 2011.....

Chairman Cllr Kevin Murphy

Viaduct Hotel Brassknocker Hill - 11/01379/COND

Discharge of conditions 4 and 13 of application 05/03105/FUL (Conversion to 9 no. Residential units) - Pending consideration by B&NES.

The Council are unable to comment on discharge of conditions applications.

Clubhouse Oldfield Rugby Club Shaft Road BA2 7HP – 11/00821/VAR

Variation of condition 3 of application 09/01859/FUL to amend the hours of use – Pending consideration by B&NES.

Whilst the Parish Council remains supportive of the sporting activities it remains concerned that ‘social activities’ continue to cause unacceptable disturbance to neighbouring residents. Complaints received from a number of residents that noise disturbance frequently occur well beyond the current limit, recently exacerbated by the use of an amplified PA system. It was resolved to OBJECT to this applications and comments have been submitted to B&NES.

Clk

Clerk / Chairman to respond to B&NES Council

b

Outstanding Applications

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

Application still pending consideration by B&NES. Monitor

Clk

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

Application still pending consideration by B&NES. Monitor

Clk

Ivy Cottage Shaft Road. 11/00006/LBA & 11/00005/FUL (revised submission).

Application still pending consideration by B&NES. Monitor

Note

Combe Grange Shaft Road 11/00516/FUL

Application withdrawn.

Clk

Parish Community Plan & Localism Agenda – The idea of a Community Plan had been raised at the previous Annual Meeting and it was agreed that a strategic plan for the Parish could be useful. Cllr Sturgess-Durden suggested that a structure for the plan would need to be established and that a ‘vision’ for village including projects for the future could be beneficial. The Chairman has reviewed a number of Parish / Community Plans. Most have similar themes and structures; the Chairman suggested a number of heading that might be considered. It was agreed that the views of the Parishioners would be sought at the forthcoming Annual Meeting. Clerk to add to Annual Meeting Agenda.

Clk

The Chairman noted that the emerging ‘Localism Bill’ may impact upon this plan and Cllr Franks suggested Peter Duppa-Miller, Clerk to Combe Hay Parish Council, be invited to speak at the Annual Meeting.

6

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF MEETING 7TH MARCH 2011

a

LA

Fencing on Summer Lane – Some of the wire has gone but there is still a section which is considered a hazard to pedestrians and cyclists. – *Cllr Alvis will continue to chase.*

Approved and signed 23 May 2011.....

Chairman Cllr Kevin Murphy

- b* **AB** **Brassknocker Hill** – There has been some investigation and work started on the problem of the running water that occurs after heavy rain fall. Engineers have found a pipe into Crossways where a manhole will be added. There will be further investigation to check pipe back to Trollope’s Hill. – *To be monitored*

7 **HIGHWAYS & FOOTPATHS**

- LA* **Innox Drung** – Hedge needs to be trimmed in places. – *Cllr Alvis to contact Ian Croker*

- LA* **Mount Pleasant path leading to Combe Down** – Stuart Ballard from B&NES agreed that the path is in a very poor state. Cllr Alvis will ring Stuart Ballard for an update - *to be monitor.*

- LA* **Shaft Road** – Cllr Alvis has spoken to B&NES regarding a grit bin once located just above Ivy Cottage, it was established this bin had to be removed due to damage. B&NES are not keen on installing new grit bins because they are not used correctly by members of the public. Too much salt is used because it is not generally know that only a small amount is needed per square meter, this uses stocks up too fast. It has been suggested that bags of salt could be delivered to delegated parishioners who would have room for storage to be handed out to cover dangerous spots in the bad weather season.

8 **CORRESPONDENCE**

- Clk* **Life Cycle UK-** *details to be passed to Ian Franklin*

- Clk* **Children’s Play Area** – Quarterly inspection – General maintenance required top of carousel and bottom of rocker to be de-scaled and painted. – *Clerk to obtain a quote.*

- Note* **Mill Lane Music Block Works** – An introduction letter has been delivered to residents of Mill Lane from Rydon Construction Site Manager Peter Holland with a contact number for him.

- Clk* **CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) – Avonside Village of the Year Competition** -There is an annual completion with a small cash prize. It was suggested that this could be raised at the annual meeting to see if there was any interest in the community to take part. – *to be added to Annual Meeting Agenda*

- Clk* **HRMC - Employers Registration** – This has been done and a reference number of registration received. An employer number will be sent with details of how to set up the PAYE scheme.

9 **REPORTS FROM CLUSTER / LIASION/ VALLEY PARISHES ALLIANCE (VPA)**

PACT Meeting 14.03.11 – *Attended by Cllr Franks*

Beat surgeries still not very effective low attendances. Parishes to be asked if the police could be invited to suitable village events such as fetes so that they can mingle. This request passed on to the Village Hall Committee at their AGM on 15.03.11

Problems that were raised for investigation

- Freshford / Hinton Charterhouse – Speed of traffic on A36 junction with Branch Road. Police and Cllr Butters said that accident rate was quite low with few serious accidents. To be raised again at next Cluster meeting.
- Shoscombe - School parking and potholes.
- Camerton – Unlit roads are a danger to pedestrians, often young people.
- Englishcombe – Mud and slurry on road a problem. Roadside banks being eroded by traffic.

Next Meeting 18.07.11 7pm Combe Hay Church

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Chairman Cllr Kevin Murphy

VPA Meeting 14.03.11 - Attended by Cllr Alvis

- There is still concerns about the AONB / Green Belt / buffer zone around the World Heritage Site.
- The VPA having an interested in the section of canal running through this area would like to have a representative on the board of The British Waterways Charitable Trust but as yet have been unsuccessful. Bathampton, Claverton and Winsley intend to take this further.
- Traffic issues in this area have been raised by Cllr Dave Bartho (Claverton) at the Traffic Conference West of England. The A36/46 link road is still being raised. What are views of the Parish Council?
- B&NES intend to publish the final version of the Core Strategy in May 2011.
- Subscription will not increase.
- Development of a VPA website is being considered.

Village Hall AGM 15.03.11 – Attended by Cllrs Alvis, Franks and Sturgess Durden.

It was raised as to whether the Parish Council would contribute to the Hog Roast being held on the 29 April Bank Holiday to celebrate the royal wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton. It was confirmed that it would not be appropriate to use public funds which is for the maintenance of the village.

Parish Cluster Meeting 16.03.11 – Attended by Cllr Alvis

- Speeding – no funding available for the installation of speed camera but Police mobile speed cameras will not be affected by these cuts.
- Solar power installations adjoining parishes should be informed and should go through local councillor.
- Community Resilience Manual from B&NES the aim of the manual is to provide useful advice and guidance to residents and businesses.
- Buses – currently should be no change.
- Roads a lot of money spent last year to maintain the roads and at the present are in good state of repair. There will be less funds available this year however verges, gullies, rights of ways, cleaning and recycling at the moment all satisfactory.
- B&NES may provide bags of salt – *under Highways and Footpaths*
- Traffic and Safety Scheme – Limited funds available this year.
- Sweeping Scheme - No inflation increase for this year.

10

NEW ITEMS

Clk

Allotment and Sustainable Local Food Production – An allotment is a parcel of land not more than five acres, cultivated as a garden or farm. It includes a field garden, a fuel allotment, an allotment garden, and other land not more than five acres in extent. An allotment garden is a parcel of land not exceeding one quarter of an acre cultivated by the occupier for the provision on vegetables and fruit crops for himself and his family. The councils have been asked for their thoughts on allotments it was considered a subject to be raised at the annual meeting to gather the views of parishioners. A copy of the DEFRA Publication ‘Food 2030’ will be circulated in the Red Box – *Item to be added to Annual Meeting Agenda.*

ALL

Village Website – The website is currently being revised and updated on behalf of the Parish Council by Di Franks who kindly administers it. There was general agreement that better use could be made of it including the possibility of adding new links i.e. to planning with relevant applications and a brief profile of each of the Councillors as an introduction. – *It was agreed this should be added to Annual Meeting Agenda.*

ALL

Police information Point – As there is now no Community Van visits to the village an appropriate local point is sought to maybe house a notice board with police information including a phone number where non urgent messages could be left. – *to be discussed further.*

Annual Meeting Agenda - All items to clerk by 6 May.

Approved and signed 23 May 2011.....

Chairman Cllr Kevin Murphy

ALL

11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Items raised by Cllr Alvis:

- LA* **Tucking Mill Lane** – a complaint has been received that a large tree is starting to fall across the road. This is dead and needs to be removed. B&NES have been informed.
- Clk* **Stable Block Church Farm** – The original stable block is still in place. Cllr Alvis queried whether this was to be replaced by the new stable building. *Clk to review.*
- Clk* **Waterhouse** – There is an application to use Waterhouse for Hotel accommodation when not being used for conference / training – *Clerk to contact Limpley Stoke Clerk.*

Items raised Cllr Franks:

- ALL* Would it be appropriate to name Millennium Bridge or is it too late? To be discussed.

Items raised Cllr Bossom:

- Leat Pond** - It was reported that rubbish is being thrown into the Leat pond. The maintenance team from the school have been using this area to burn rubbish. The mill pool is now owned by the school.
- Church Lane/Summer Lane** – Is the sign in the right place? The sign is damaged Cllr Bossom will contact B&NES.

Items raised Chairman:

- Village Green** - There is a damaged manhole cover adjacent to the Village Green which poses a potential health & safety risk to children. Cllr Sturgess Durden will contact Mike Newton, the Village Hall secretary.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Franks for all his hard work over the past 4 years and wished him well for the future.

12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 23 May 2011 at 7pm in the Village Hall

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 21.05hrs

Approved and signed 23 May 2011.....

Chairman Cllr Kevin Murphy