

## **Milton Lilbourne - Annual Parish Meeting (APM) Minutes:**

**Venue: Village Hall**

**Date: Monday 17th May 2021**

**Time: 7.30pm**

### **Present:**

Cllr Paul Oatway QPM (Chairman), Sarah Spanswick (Clerk), Cllr David Fall, Cllr Liz Minnear, Cllr Anthony Wells, Cllr Ann Maconie, Cllr Jamie Cayzer-Colvin & Cllr Ray Edwards

### **Apologies:**

None

### **Parishioners in attendance**

None

The Chairman of the Parish Council stood down and handed the meeting over to the clerk.

### **Election of Parish Council Officers**

With there being no Council formed the Clerk confirmed that the Milton Lilbourne Councillors had been duly elected un-opposed on Thursday 6th May 2021.

All Councillors were happy to retain their positions and duly completed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office (See Appendix 1)

### **Nomination of Chairman and Vice-Chairman:**

Clerk asked for nominations for the post of Chairman for the period 2021/22 and Cllr Cayzer-Colvin proposed Cllr P Oatway to be re-instated. This was seconded by Cllr Maconie.

With Cllr Paul Oatway having been duly elected the Clerk then handed the meeting back to the chairman.

Cllr Paul Oatway then declared his Chairmanship with his Acceptance of Office (see Appendix 2)

The Chairman then asked for nominations for:-

The Vice-Chair of the Parish Council. Cllr Fall was proposed by Cllr Cayzer-Colvin and seconded by Cllr Clayden. Cllr Fall did express the need for succession planning and asked the Council to give this some thought for next year.

The council will continue to operate with:

Cllr Fall - Chairman of the Community Committee  
Cllr Cayzer-Colvin - Chairman of the Finance Committee  
Cllr Maconie - Chairman of the Planning Committee.

### **Approval of minutes from last meeting:**

The Minutes were proposed as a true and accurate record of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on 30th May 2019 (none held in 2020 due to Covid 19 pandemic) by Cllr Jamie Cayzer-Colvin and seconded by Cllr. Ann Maconie.

### **Chairman's Annual Report:**

In view of the challenging year we have had as a country and a parish, Cllr Oatway wanted to thank all the commendable work carried out by the numerous volunteers and parishioners for helping out in the community.

A new Council has been formed at Wiltshire Council and Cllr Jerry Kunkler has been re-elected as County Councillor for the Pewsey Area

### **Finance Committee Report:**

Cllr Cayzer-Colvin that the balance of the MLPC Bank Accounts were confirmed as follows as at 17.05.2021

Current Account	£ 6,180.87
Reserve Account	£ 15,000.00

The first precept payment for 2021/22 of £6,810.00 has been received and the payment to cover the Parish Insurance of £484.78 is now due.

### **Planning Committee Report**

Cllr Ann Maconie advised the following application had been submitted since our last meeting all of which are in the process of being determined:-

<a href="#">PL/2021/03192</a>	Mill Meadow, New Mill, Pewsey, SN9 5LD	New timber garage building, single storey extension to house with internal reconfiguration
<a href="#">PL/2021/04375</a>	Upper Farm House, Milton Lilbourne, SN9 5LQ	Works to trees in a conservation area
<a href="#">PL/2021/04374</a>	Upper Farm House, Milton Lilbourne, SN9 5LQ	Consent under Tree Preservation Order
<a href="#">PL/2021/03126</a>	Little Barn, The Street, Milton Lilbourne, SN9 5LQ	Erection of single storey extension to the rear linked to the original building. Removal of timber porch roof, walls to be clad in weatherboarding to match existing with brick plinth wall and painted double glazed windows and doors to match existing
<a href="#">PL/2021/04494</a>	Little Barn, The Street, Milton Lilbourne, SN9 5LQ	

Comments for Little Barn are to be submitted by 3rd June 2021.

Cllr Maconie also advised that the application for The Old Vicarage (swimming pool and plant room) has now received formal approval by Wiltshire Council.

### **Community Committee Report:**

- Cllr Fall advised that Clay Lane remains impassable. Chippings provided by parishioner tree surgeon James Coughran are being spread making a base for when we receive scrapings from road surfacing from Wiltshire Council. Cllr Cayzer-Colvin agreed to loan one of his gardening vehicles with a dumper on the front to help with the spreading.

Cllr Wells warned that in using chippings the lane could become like a swamp as they just soak up the water, swell and become soggy. The problem down Clay Lane is an ongoing problem as it is on a water course. It seems to get worse every year and is impassable for pedestrians.

Cllr Oatway advised that Wiltshire Council have cleared the drains to help alleviate the problem and a ditch has been dug out to balance the water flow.

- Cllr Fall advised that one meter of the bank opposite the old Three Horseshoes Pub (from the road inwards) is the councils responsibility. Cllr Oatway has referred this to a WC Highways Engineer, and it appears that the steepness of the bank is the just the nature of the footpath. This has been raised before at which time a sturdy handrail was installed to assist walkers up the slope. No action is required.
- Cllr Fall suggested that perhaps funds could be made available in the coming year to (i) purchase more swings at the play park (ii) re-oil the play tower and (iii) purchase a saracen stone to place besides the WW1 trees.

### **Public Questions**

- Whilst there were no parishioners present at the meeting a question was submitted by e-mail regarding the disrepair of the road to the Old Severalls which has seriously deteriorated over the last few years. The parishioners have been trying to find out who owned the road and who was responsible for the upkeep as they were happy to repair the strip in front of their house but wanted the owners permission first.

Cllr Oatway advised that this is an unadopted road but he will raise wit with Highways to find out who is responsible for the maintenance of By-ways such as this

**Action - Cllr Oatway**

### **Councillor Questions**

- Cllr Wells asked what was the plan was regarding the repair of the railings at New Mill as unsightly temporary plastic railings have been in situ for c.3 months now.

Cllr Oatway advised that the plan is to repair and replace the railings but unfortunately doesn't have any timescales at present. There is also the issue of not being able to paint them due to environmental issues and the running stream but the committee wondered why they couldnt be painted off site and fitted when dry. Cllr Oatway will raise this again with Highways.

**Action - Cllr Oatway**

- Where are the fingerposts on order?

Councillors requested an update/delivery date for the 3 x fingerposts currently on order.

*Note: Subsequent to the meeting the attached update was received from the Fingerpost Company confirming that the delivery was imminent.*

**Action - Clerk to chase fortnightly.**

- Cllr Minnear was concerned that the work vehicles at Cobbetts Way were obstructing the turning into Havering Lane for the buses. It was agreed to take no action as the work is nearing completion and the problem would soon be alleviated.

- Debris continues to be dropped on The Street from Somerset House up to the Crossroads and beyond as a result of the refurbishment works at Somerset House. The Clerk sent an e-mail to A G Builders on behalf of the PC advising that whilst we appreciate the need to transport building materials and waste to and from the site it was their responsibility to manage this and keep the highway clear.

As this was the second time the PC have had to draw their attention to this (a further trail of mud, gravel, sand and spoil) they were asked to take the matter seriously otherwise we would make a formal complaint to WC regarding their ongoing conduct whilst undertaking work at Somerset House.

A response was immediately received from A G Builders advising that a sweeper had been down and that the road had been cleared.

Cllr Edwards advised that shingle has still not been cleared where it had been dropped from vehicles turning from the street onto the B3087. The state of the road will continue to be monitored.

- Cllr Fall asked all councillors to give some thought to the Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations in June 2022 and to feed all suggestions directly to him.
- Cllr Clayden advised that he had tried to report the frequent outages experienced by parishioners to BT but found that he was unable to report the problem collectively and that BT would only take complaints if they were reported by the individual home owners. They have requested that if you experience a problem, to call BT immediately to report the outages of 10-15 minutes or more.
- Cllr Minnear raised the subject of the two flowering cherry trees on the small piece of land on the corner of Forge Close. The clerk has made investigations and has contacted WC, SSE and Qudos Builders (who built the new development) none of whom own the land and it therefore appears to be unregistered land. Historically the trees have been trimmed - arranged and paid for by Cllr Minnear, Mr and Mrs Bowers & the previous owner of Lavender Cottage. They are still alive and now require a further trim. The owner of Lavender Cottage is concerned as they are obstructing sunlight into his back garden and is worried that the rear of his property will become damp. Cllr Oatway will get a quote to have the trees trimmed.

**Action - Cllr Oatway**

- Cllr Fall raised the question of co-opting another member to the committee and urged councillors to forward their suggestions to the Clerk

The meeting ended at 8.15pm

Minutes submitted by: Clerk, Sarah Spanswick

Minutes approved by: Paul Oatway Chairman

E-mail received from Heritage Finger Posts on 19th May 2021

Good evening Sarah,

Thank you for your email concerning the progress of the completion of your finger post signs.

Normally at this time of Spring we are able to bring all of our new finger - post signs out of the workshop and rest them on working trestles and test fit the double - ended signs as well as touch up any of the finish black and white paintwork. This ongoing Winter like conditions of ever freezing weather through March & April have now been substituted for on and off situation of belated April showers. I am beginning to wonder when this Spring/Summer of 2021 is ever going to really start as it has been devastating for the painting aspect of our black and white finger post signs as everything is taking far longer to dry and harden between the 6 coats of the black and white Sadolin paint. We really do depend upon perfect Summer days to apply the finishing coats of paint and then allow the Sun to bake it dry and hard. Doing this with indoor heaters does not achieve the same deep base finish that we get from the natural elements. As you can imagine this has been so far a very frustrating spring as we have not been able to any of our finger -post sign site work out in the rural villages. I have invested in the purchase of industrial heaters but can't achieve the same results as having days of dry and warm weather.

Apparently the weather is set to improve next week so we will take the opportunity to get your signs ready for the courier collection.

Please don't imagine for a moment that we are on some sort of go slow with your signs as they are very large and taking up a considerable amount of space in our workshop so we will be only too pleased to see them despatched to your village as quickly as possible.

Our greatest concern has always been getting the finger - post signs to you in perfect condition and ready to install. With the increase in orders for our classic **1920's & 30's** black and white finger-post signs we are looking to take on another workshop area dedicated to the painting aspect of our work which is separate from the carpentry area. Due to the fact that we use Acrylic paints as opposed to oil based we can not add any fast dry chemicals. We use the air-breathing Sadolin paint as it is so much better for applying to hardwoods and lasts much longer than oil based paints that don't allow the timber to breathe or expand and contract with the changing seasons. I managed to purchase a large batch of carefully selected construction grade seasoned oak which has been kept indoors for several years. Good quality Oak is now in short supply so our decision 4 years ago to purchase a large batch was definitely the right one.

This Summer we plan to paint at least **20** of these oak posts so that we can continue supplying them through the Autumn and Winter period so this should really help to speed up our production of the classic signs.

I will pull out all stops to arrange for you signs to be delivered to your village as quickly as possible. I already have the courier on notice to collect them so please be assured that we are giving this matter our highest priority. I am constantly looking at what technologies are available to speed up the production of the bespoke vintage signs however one always needs some help and co-operation from mother nature. Our signs only look as good as they do due to no corners being cut from what is an ultra high specification.

I hope that this give you a better idea of this challenging situation with the ongoing bad weather and our strongest desire to provide you with stunning period finger - post signs

Kind regards,  
Marc

