

## **OLD MILVERTON AND BLACKDOWN JOINT PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 29TH. NOVEMBER 2021 AT OLD MILVERTON VILLAGE HALL**

**PRESENT:** Councillors J. Emmerson (in the Chair), Rachel Pope, M. Rayner and W.M.O.Tansey; County and District Councillor W.L.Gifford and District Councillor Sidney Syson

#### **2131. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs. L. Keeling (belatedly); County Councillor W. Redford; and District Councillor Carolyn Gifford.

#### **2132. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 6th. September 2021 were approved, and signed by the Chairman.

#### **2133. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

(a). The Clerk reported that the service rendered by HSBC Bank was still abysmal by failing to return promised telephone calls and claiming not to have information already provided or requesting details not requested previously and threatening to close the Parish Council's account on 13th. December 2021. Concern was expressed at this inconvenience and it was agreed that enquiries be initiated with view to transferring the accounts to the Unity Trust Bank, Birmingham, which was used by WALC.

(b). The Clerk had sent a message to Heather Clatworthy inquiring about the latest position with regard to fishing rights on the Rive Avon near the Saxon Mill and, since no response had been received, it was agreed that the previous disputes had probably been resolved.

(c). The Parish Tidy Day on 15<sup>th</sup>. September 2021 had proved to be a successful and social occasion and appreciation was expressed to all who had organised or participated in it.

(d). County Councillor Redford had requested specification of the sites of traffic speeding and counting strips in both Old Milverton and Blackdown, which the Clerk was arranging to provide.

#### **2134. 2021-22 ACCOUNTS, 2022-23 ESTIMATES AND 2022-23 PRECEPT**

The accounts as at 22<sup>nd</sup>. October 2021 were received and found satisfactory, and bank statements were made available for inspection. Consideration was then given to the estimates for 2022-23: taking into account the need for professional assistance and existing balances it was agreed that the precept for 2022-23 be £7,500. The accounts and estimates were approved in accordance with the summary at Appendix A.

#### **2135. REVIEW OF SPECIAL PARISH MEETING**

The Special Parish Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup>. October 2021 to supplement the Annual Meeting conducted by zoom in April, which had not been attended by any members of the public, was discussed and it was agreed that it had proved successful with 16 attending. The provision of refreshments had contributed to a constructive and convivial meeting and suggestions were received for expenditure on previously suggested schemes and the content of the web site.

#### **2136. ADOPTION OF SCHEMES TO BE FUNDED FROM CIL GRANT**

Careful consideration was given to schemes suggested in the recent questionnaire. Those discussed at the October Special Parish Meeting were:

- (a). Signage at footpath entrances
- (b). Feasibility study for new foot ways and cycleways
- (c). Tree planting
- (d). Signage to indicate Blackdown
- (e). Provision of benches
- (f). Contribution to Old Milverton Village Hall improvements
- (g). Decorative hardstanding at notice boards

and in addition, there were:

- (h). Traffic calming measures on Stoneleigh Road near Sandy Lane
- (i). An mph sign on Stoneleigh Road, after leaving the Bericote Road roundabout
- (j). Safe crossing measures on Kenilworth Road near Northumberland Road (in Leamington)
- (k). Safe crossing measures on Kenilworth Road near Sandy Lane.

It was agreed to initiate (a), (b) and (d) in the first instance

#### **2137. REDESIGN OF PARISH WEBSITE**

Cllr. Pope reported that work on redesigning the Parish website remained in progress, and some useful additions had been suggested at the recent Special Parish Meeting.

#### **2138. CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(a). A letter was received from Mrs. Sandra Robinson (SR Web Services) who manages the Parish Council's web site, indicated that she wished to amend her charging arrangements with effect from 1st. January 2022 to £20.00 per month, covering the first 2 hours of any work, with any additional time charged at the rate of £14.00 per hour. This arrangement was duly approved.

(b). A message had been received from Warwickshire County Council Forestry Section regarding the proposed tree planting on Stoneleigh Road indicating that this was not a scheme which could be prioritised at this time owing to funding issues and staff resources, but it was hoped to "pick up" the issue in the following year. The Clerk had responded that this was disappointing, especially after having to wait for so long already and that if the issue were lack of finance, it was possible that the Parish Council might be able to subsidise the scheme. It was agreed to send a reminder in April 2022.

#### **2139. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The following Planning Application actions were approved noted:

*W21/0685 Moorlands, Leamington Rugby Football Club, Kenilworth Road, Blackdown*

Replacement of timber storage sheds with 4 metal versions for the storage of Club equipment  
GRANTED

*W21/1694/LB Blackdown Mill, Hill Wootton Road, Blackdown*  
Repair and replacement of roofing  
GRANTED

#### **2140. 2022-2023 MEETING DATES**

Approval was give to the following meeting dates for 2022-2023:

##### **2022**

25 April

16 May

4 July

5 September

17 October

28 November

##### **2023**

16 January

13 March.

#### **2141. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS**

The payments specified in the Schedule, including £183.67 Clerk's administrative expenses, were approved.

#### **2142. BUDGET COMPARISONS AND COMPARISON WITH BANK BALANCES**

Balances as at 22<sup>nd</sup>. October 2021 were verified by one of the Parish Councillors.

#### **2143. ITEMS FOR FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

(a). It was reported that the street lamp outside 13 Old Milverton had still not been repaired and the Clerk was asked to pursue the matter urgently with Western Power.

(b). The brash from the ditch along Church Lane was still lying on the grass verge, making mowing impossible. The Clerk had made various enquiries as to who had left the area in this condition without success and Cllr. Tansey kindly agreed to co-ordinate efforts to clear the eyesore, perhaps via a Winter Village Tidy session which would necessitate the use of a trailer to dispose of the rubbish. The date of the event would be circulated on a handout by Cllr. Pope and any necessary expenses would be met by the Parish Council.

(c). Cllr. Tansey volunteered to supply and plant trees in hedgerows where appropriate, including along the dell by Old Milverton Village Green and this offer was accepted with thanks.

#### **2144. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

CHAIRMAN

**APPENDIX A**

**OLD MILVERTON AND BLACKDOWN JOINT PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Review of 2021-22 Estimates and Actual Receipts and Payments,**  
**and Consideration of 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 Estimates**

	2020-21 actual	2021-22 estimate s	2021-22 revised estimate s	2021-22 actual to 22.10.2 1	2022-23 estimate s	2023-24 estimate s	2024-25 estimate s
Brought forward	<u>78004</u>	<u>80160</u>	<u>80848</u>	<u>80848</u>	<u>82492</u>	<u>81171</u>	<u>76499</u>
<b>INCOME</b>							
Precept	7500	7500	7500	7500	7500	7500	7500
Bank interest	28	60	7	3	10	15	20
VAT refund	<u>.....</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>176</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>.....</u>
	<u>7528</u>	<u>7560</u>	<u>7507</u>	<u>7503</u>	<u>7686</u>	<u>7515</u>	<u>7520</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>							
Salary and tax	2675	2800	2750	1350	2800	2900	3000
Admin. expenses	764	760	700	276	760	770	770
Meeting room hire	15	120	105	60	120	120	120
Subscriptions	264	260	260	184	260	270	280
Insurance premium	254	290	257	257	290	300	310
Audit fees (a)	50	250	50	50	250	50	50
Plant tubs main'ce		100	90	65	100	100	100
Professional pl services		500	1000	750	1000	1000	1000
Grants	500	100			500	500	300
Election expenses (c)						3250	
Speed gun expenses		50	40		50	50	40
Website expenses	157	350	300	177	350	350	370
Courses		200	50		100	100	100
Publications		50			50	50	50
Zoom fees			60	60			
Tidy Day expenses			25	25			
VAT payments	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>176</u>	<u>176</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>.....</u>
	<u>4684</u>	<u>5830</u>	<u>5863</u>	<u>3430</u>	<u>6630</u>	<u>9810</u>	<u>6490</u>
	80848	81890	82492	84921	83548	78876	77529
CILexp ringfenced (b)	<u>0</u>	<u>2377</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2377</u>	<u>2377</u>	<u>2376</u>
General contingencies	80848	79513	82492	84921	81171	76499	75153
C/F							
<i>Bank accounts at 22.10.21</i>							
<i>Current account</i>				33985			
<i>Deposit account</i>				<u>51031</u>			
				85016			
<i>Less un-cashed</i>				<u>-95</u>			
				84921			

**NOTE**

(a) £250 where there is an external audit; £50 for an internal audit

(b) Based on formula £7,130 divided by 4 years

(c) 2023-24 figure based on 1 uncontested election (£250) and 1 contested election (£2,500 to £5,500 depending on size); owing to formation of South Warwickshire District Council, the elections might be deferred to 2024-25

*Balance Sheet 2021-22 and Estimates 2022-23 etc.*