

MINUTES

**OLD MILVERTON AND BLACKDOWN JOINT PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY, 24 APRIL 2023
AT OLD MILVERTON VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors Emmerson (Chair), Keeling, Pope and Tansey, D/Cllr Syson, 16 members of the public and the Clerk.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Rayner, D/Cllrs B Gifford and C Gifford and C/Cllr Redford

2. MINUTES

- a. The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 25 April 2022 were approved for signature by the Chairman.
- b. Any matters arising are covered in the Chairman's Report.

3. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 2022/23

a. The Chairman's Report

The Previous APM held in April 2022 was sparsely attended. It was envisaged to hold a Special Parish Meeting in October 2022, similar to the October 2021 meeting, but in view of other commitments and the little progress of contemplated CIL project details to report, it was agreed that this meeting should take the form of an ordinary Parish Council Meeting.

Annual Parish Meetings will take place in April most years, pandemics permitting.

Meetings: April 2022 to March 2023

7 Parish Council Meetings were held in May, July, September, October, November 2022, and January and March 2023.

Personnel

Blackdown: Cllrs Emmerson (Chair) and Keeling

Old Milverton: Cllrs Tansey (Vice-Chair), Pope and Rayner

Clerks: G Cooper (retired September 2022) / K Sheriston (Locum). Helen Eldridge has been appointed as the new Clerk to the Parish Council.

The next council will be formed on 5 May 2023: J Emmerson, R Pope and W Tansey all elected uncontested. Vacancies due to Cllr Rayner retiring and possibly Cllr Keeling (who was out of country at the time nomination papers could be submitted)

Reminder to electors: ID required to Vote next week

Is anyone interested in being co-opted?

Finances

JPC holds over £94,000 of cash including an amount of CIL funds from Blackdown Manor, Old Milverton Lane and Jephson House, Stoneleigh Road.

Total Precept income annually of £7500 – less than £100 per dwelling

Funds could be used in the main for professional advice in protecting the area from inappropriate development in the green belt.

CIL money has to be spent within 5 years of receipt on appropriate infrastructure projects, the 1st batch will expire October 2024 if not spent.

Matters dealt with

The minutes of the parish council meetings are displayed on the notice boards and posted on the website, all the detail is contained within the minutes, but to give a summary of what has been going on in the past 12 months:

- CIL funded projects:
 - Blackdown Bench

MINUTES

- Signage/Information Boards at footpath entrances
- Welcome to Blackdown signage
- Footpath between OM&B feasibility study
- Traffic survey (later)
- Tree Planting Stoneleigh Road – no but around Bench ok
- Stoneleigh Road footpaths
- Transfer of banking HSBC to Unity / Online banking applied for
- Chesford Bridge Field noise
- Planning- Quarry Park
- Website
- Parish Tidy Day was not held this year.
- River Avon Fishing/Swimming

Forthcoming Events

- King's Coronation – 7 May a Coronation Tea will be held at Old Milverton Village Hall.

Neighbourhood Watch

Ann Kelsey stepped down in May 2021 after many years, Mrs Rachel Emmerson in caretaker role, but now employed and unable to devote any time to the role – vacancy therefore exists.

Thanks

The Chairman thanked:

- C/Cllr Wallace Redford
- D/Cllrs Boad, Kohler and Russell (Blackdown/Lillington Ward)
- D/Cllrs B Gifford, C Gifford and Syson (Old Milverton/Milverton Ward)
- The Parish Councillors
- Auditor, Norman Pratt
- Clerks: Graham Cooper and Kay Sheriston
- And anyone who plants a tree, mows an area they don't have to, or picks up some litter!

b. Response to the South Warwickshire Local Plan [SWLP]

Cllr Pope gave a brief report on the progress of the SWLP.

The Parish Council's response to the Issues & Options stage was driven by protection of the Green Belt.

The next consultation stage will be Preferred Options, July-October

The Parish Council has previously had support from a consultancy firm and is currently investigating a possible Barrister who may represent the Council, if necessary.

c. Traffic Survey

Cllr Rayner was not in attendance to present his analysis of the traffic survey data.

4. OPEN FORUM

The Chairman opened a questions and answers session, after which the Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 20:30

