

MINUTES

OLD MILVERTON AND BLACKDOWN JOINT PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 3 JULY 2023 AT 8:00PM IN OLD MILVERTON VILLAGE HALL

- PRESENT:** Cllrs Emmerson (Chair), Keeling, Pope, Tansey, D/Cllrs Bill Gifford, Kohler and the Clerk
- 2264. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Apologies received from: C/Cllr Redford [via email] and D/Cllrs Boad, C Gifford, Russell and Syson [via D/Cllrs in attendance]
- 2265. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
None
- 2266. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**
- 2266.1. The minutes of the meeting held on 15 May 2023 were approved and signed by the Chairman
- 2266.2. Matters arising, not on the agenda – None
- 2267. ISSUES AND PROJECTS**
- 2267.1. CIL Funded Initiatives
- 2267.1.1. Blackdown signs – **Clerk is awaiting an invoice for works**
- 2267.1.2. Footpath signs – Cllr Pope has been in touch with Warwickshire Wildlife Fund about signage content, but it is not taking new commissions at this time. Has given contact details for commercial partner company and awaiting response. Cllr Tansey confirmed that the landowner will not be interested in supporting the project, but has no objection
- 2267.1.3. Blackdown bench – Bench is ready for delivery, waiting at the manufacturer’s depot. Clerk has tried to contact WCC Highways Locality Officer a number of times regarding delivery and installation, but received no response. D/Cllr Gifford recommended trying again with cc to C/Cllrs Wallace and Jan Watecki, Portfolio Holder for Highways and Team Leader, WCC Highways. **Clerk to chase Highways Locality Officer again.**
- 2267.2. Footpath feasibility study – **Cllr Emmerson is awaiting response from Sustrans**
- 2267.3. Conditions of footpaths on Stoneleigh Road, Blackdown – **Clerk is awaiting response from WCC Highways Locality Officer** (see 2267.1.2).
- 2267.4. South Warwickshire Local Plan – Cllr Pope confirmed that the SWLP timetable is currently under review following the elections and change of controlling parties in both Councils. Cllr Pope has been contacted by Hunter Cole, which has assisted the Council with consultation work in the past, and has been asked to work on another property in the parish (Blackdown Farm). They would like to work with the Council again, but would understand if it was felt there was a conflict of interest. It was agreed that this was unlikely to cause a conflict.
- 2267.5. Replacement planters – Cllr Tansey has completed installation and planted them up. No further action needed. **Clerk to remove question about relocation of village signs from email chaser to WCC Highways Locality Officer.**
- 2267.6. Traffic monitoring – No new monitoring has been carried out and schools summer holidays will begin soon. Previous agreement was to carry out annual monitoring and it was decided to ask for September monitoring again as a direct comparison rather than carry out a new survey at a different time of year. **Clerk to contact C/Cllr Redford to request new monitoring data in September.**
- 2267.7. Chesford Bridge Fields – D/Cllr Kohler, who previously offered to invite an Officer to explain the licensing process for temporary events, explained that this was not possible

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	<p>due to a formal investigation being under way with regard to this site. A Community Protection Warning was issued under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. The landowner has since cancelled forthcoming public events over the summer. WDC will continue to monitor this issue.</p>
2267.8.	<p>Saxon Mill Footpaths – Cllr Tansey has met with the Swimming Campaign Group representative. It is possible that the existing permissive route may be adopted without opposition. It may be possible to establish swimming rights if a club was formed and applied for a licence, but this is not a satisfactory outcome for the campaign group. The fishermen and other user groups continue to fundamentally disagree and the Parish Council cannot arbitrate.</p> <p>Any threats of violence or evidence of weapons should be reported immediately to the Police.</p> <p>It is important to stress that the existing footpaths are NOT cycle paths – cycling causes soil compaction and some areas are badly affected and cannot be used by the farmer. The Council will continue to advocate responsible use on the countryside</p>
2268.	<p>PLANNING</p>
2268.1.	<p>Applications Decided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • W/22/1758 & 1759LB – Saxon Mill, CV34 5YN - Raising of barriers on the east footbridge to 1.1m; installation of a reach and rescue pole at the corner of the building, installation of a raised walkway above existing cobbled footpath; and erection of fencing along the perimeter wall adjacent to the external seating area (part retrospective application). – Response submitted 22/02/2023 – GRANTED 19/05/2023 • W/22/1760 – Saxon Mill, CV34 5YN – Display of 2no. emergency rescue information signs to accompany a proposed reach and rescue pole – Response submitted 22/02/2023 – GRANTED 19/05/2023
2268.2.	<p>Applications Ongoing: None</p>
2268.3.	<p>New Applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillors observed that Application No. W/23/0522 – River Avon Viaduct North of, Old Milverton Lane, Old Milverton, Leamington Spa was not received by the Parish Council. Councillors agreed with the comments made by Leek Wootton & Guy’s Cliffe Parish Council. Cllr Tansey to draft an email to the Planning Officer, to be sent by the Clerk to forward, conveying concerns of the residents and asking why a consultation notice was not sent to OM&B Parish Council.
2268.4.	<p>FOR INFORMATION ONLY: Other Applications (non-planning application and not requiring comment):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • W/23/0809 (Proposed Lawful Development) - Wickstead Lodge, Stoneleigh Road, Blackdown, CV32 6RE - Erection of new outbuilding to the rear of the existing property with a maximum height of 3m for the use of the family as an annexe to the main dwelling.
2269.	<p>FINANCE</p>
2269.1.	<p>Audit of 2022/23 Accounts</p>
2269.1.1.	<p>a. The Annual Governance Statement 2022/23 was approved and signed by the Chair and Clerk to the Parish Council</p> <p>b. The Annual Accounting Statement 2022/23 was approved and signed by the Chair and Responsible Financial Officer (The Clerk)</p>



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2269.1.2.	The Period of Exercise of Public Rights will run from Monday, 3 July to Friday, 11 August. This has been advertised on the Council website and in noticeboards.
2269.2.	The Clerk presented a new version of the Financial Report, which is intended to be clearer for Councillors to understand the banking activity, but still includes a bank reconciliation. It was agreed that this style of Financial Report is acceptable and the Report was approved.
2269.3.	The payments listed in the financial report were approved.
2269.4.	Internet banking update – the Clerk now has access to online banking and is awaiting instructions for setting up authorisers to enable online banking.
2270.	PARISH COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION
2270.1.	Recruitment – A discussion about potential Councillors who have been or may be approached for co-option followed.
2271.	ITEMS FOR FORTHCOMING MEETINGS
	The Clerk is carrying out a revue of core council documents and policies, for example, the Standing Orders require updating. ‘Policies & Protocols’ will be added to the agenda in September for approval.
2272.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS
	None
2273.	NEXT MEETING
	Monday 4 September 2023 at 8pm in Old Milverton Village Hall
Signed as a true record:	<i>J Emmerson</i> (Chair)
Date:	<i>4 September 2023</i>

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