

MINUTES

OLD MILVERTON AND BLACKDOWN JOINT PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 8:00PM IN OLD MILVERTON VILLAGE HALL

- PRESENT:** Cllrs Emmerson (Chair), Pope, Tansey, D/Cllrs Bill Gifford, Syson, C/Cllr Redford and the Clerk
- 2274. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Apologies received from: Cllr Keeling [to Chair], and D/Cllrs Boad, C Gifford, Kohler and Russell [via D/Cllrs in attendance]
The Parish Council wished to record its condolences to Cllr Keeling on the loss of her husband, Martyn, last week
- 2275. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**
None
- 2276. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**
- 2276.1. The minutes of the meeting held on 3 July 2023 were approved and signed by the Chairman
- 2276.2. Matters arising, not on the agenda – None
- 2277. ISSUES & PROJECTS**
- 2277.1. CIL Funded Initiatives
- 2277.1.1. Blackdown signs – Clerk has written to WCC Highways Minor Works Team and is awaiting an invoice
Clerk to pay invoice on receipt
- 2277.1.2. Footpath signs – Cllr Pope has been in contact with Worcestershire Wildlife Trust (Warwickshire WT is too busy to help and put them in touch). Proposes carry out a year-round series of surveys and produce information panels, which would cost in the region of £1,250. A discussion followed about widening the survey area to see as much wildlife as possible in both parishes – this may require liaising with landowners. Cllr Pope to ask for updated costs for a wider remit, but it was agreed to ask them to proceed, because the CIL funding period will expire in November 2024, so to get a year-round observation period + production of signage, this project needs to start promptly.
**Cllr Pope to ask Worcs WT to go ahead with surveys
Cllr Pope to contact landowners to arrange access**
- 2277.1.3. Blackdown bench – Clerk has been informed that WCC Highways will not carry out installation works and has written to a number of local contractors asking for quotes. Only one has responded saying they are “unable to quote”. A discussion followed. It was agreed that the Clerk should give the other contractors an opportunity to respond, following the holiday period. Cllr Pope suggested asking HS2 whether it is something its Community Outreach team could do. C/Cllr Redford will mention the issue at a meeting with HS2 and if appropriate will forward contact information.
**Clerk to await responses
C/Cllr Redford to contact HS2 and forward contact information**
- 2277.2. Footpath Feasibility Study
Nothing to report. Cllr Emmerson is awaiting a response from Sustrans.
Cllr Emmerson to chase up Sustrans for a response
- 2277.3. Conditions of footpaths on Stoneleigh Road, Blackdown
The Clerk has received a response from WCC Highways, “*Delivery Team is scheduled to do footway reconstruction works around October 2023, which will be the rural footway*”

MINUTES

towards the end by the Bericote Road/Westhill Roundabout. If there are any more areas you want me to inspect, please confirm and I can see if any repairs are needed closer to Sandy Lane junction."

Clerk to acknowledge and request inspection around 'top of Sandy Lane'

2277.4.

South Warwickshire Local Plan

D/Cllr Bill Gifford contacted Phil Clark asking about the pause in the Local Plan and for an update. The new administration and increase in new Councillors has caused delays. They have been prioritising analysing responses, developing the evidence base and appraising new Councillors with the work done so far. Will provide a report as soon as possible.

Observed that responses have been published on the website.

A discussion followed.

2277.5.

Traffic Monitoring

The Parish Council has not received the revised analysis. Cllr Emmerson to check status of this in Cllr Keeling's absence. C/Cllr Redford asked to be advised if revised analysis has not been received.

Cllr Emmerson to clarify position with revised analysis

Asked C/Cllr Redford about initiating another annual survey. Important to specify where data recording is wanted.

Clerk to request new survey

2277.6.

Chesford Bridge Fields

Nothing to report.

2277.7.

Saxon Mill Footpaths

Nothing specific to report.

Observation made that the estate's "NO SWIMMING" signs have been vandalised and now read "SWIMMING".

Cllr Tansey expressed intention to lookup discharge data from Finham and sewage treatment facility nearby and add to Safer Seas & Rivers Service app to encourage swimmers to relocate to the River Leam at Pottertons Field.

This is not a Parish Council issue other than advocating sensible use. It was decided to remove from future agenda continue to monitor this issue.

Clerk to remove item from future agenda

2278.

PLANNING

2278.1.

Applications Decided – None

2278.2.

Applications Ongoing – None

2278.3.

New Applications – None

2278.4.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY: Other Applications (non-planning application and not requiring comment) – None

A discussion followed about the impact of the Network Rail work on the viaduct over the Avon and the apparent lack of an Environmental Impact Report. Work has now been carried out.

It was established that emails have been sent to the Clerk's old email address. This has been addressed by the Clerk and will hopefully not re-occur.

2279.

FINANCE

2279.1.

To consider the Financial Report and Bank Reconciliation – Noted



MINUTES

2279.2.	To approve payments as listed in the Financial Report – Approved
2279.3.	<p>Internet banking update –</p> <p>Parish Councillors have received requests to login to the banking. Cllr Emmerson has done so. The Clerk has informed all Councillors of their memorable word.</p> <p>Cllrs Pope and Tansey have not set their logins up. Clerk to make payments via cheque for time-being.</p>
2280.	PARISH COUNCIL ADMIN
2280.1.	<p>Recruitment</p> <p>No interest expressed by people approached.</p>
2281.	ITEMS FOR FORTHCOMING MEETINGS
2282.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="284 734 1465 947"> <p>• Cllr Pope has been approached by Community Speed Watch [CSW] about speed limit where the new speed humps have been put in. Believes this should be reduced to 20mph. Concern that drivers are speeding between the humps. CSW to approach WCC Highways, but asked whether Parish Council supports.</p> <p>Also raised issue of water collecting between humps and pavement causing pedestrians to get soaked by passing cars.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Requires observation during wet weather</p> <p>A brief discussion followed about the 20mph zone proposal. Consensus of opinion was that it is unlikely to be successful, having already been reduced to 30mph and traffic calming already in place, but the Council agreed to monitor the issue and consider possible alternatives.</p> <p>It was proposed to include this area in the traffic survey areas (see item 2277.5)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Cllr Pope to respond to CSW</p> <li data-bbox="284 1227 1465 1395"> <p>• Cllr Tansey raised the mowing on the ‘Green’ in Old Milverton which is overgrown. Being an island, surrounded by roads, it appears to be WCC Highways land and therefore should fall within their maintenance contract with WDC. Clerk to seek confirmation and action.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Clerk to contact Contract Services, WDC to discuss</p>
2283.	NEXT MEETING
	Monday 16 October 2023 at 8pm in Old Milverton Village Hall.
Signed as a true record:	<p>..... (Chair)</p>
Date:	<p>.....</p>

DRAFT