

MINUTES

**OLD MILVERTON AND BLACKDOWN JOINT PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY, 2 SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 8:00PM
IN OLD MILVERTON VILLAGE HALL**

- PRESENT:** Cllrs Emmerson (Chair), Keeling, Pope, Tansey, C/Cllr Redford, D/Cllrs B Gifford and Syson and the Clerk.
- 2343. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
None
- 2344. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
None
- 2345. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**
- 2345.1. The minutes of the meeting held on 1 July 2024 were approved and signed.
- 2345.2. There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting that are not covered in this Agenda
- 2346. ISSUES & PROJECTS**
- 2346.1. CIL- Funded Initiatives
- 2346.1.1. Footpath signs/wildlife information boards [Cllr Pope]
Final survey carried out by Worcestershire Wildlife Trust and sent final report. Report is large and difficult to circulate; Cllr Pope will prepare a precis. Will be put in touch with designers. This information will be useful towards argument that this land is not 'greybelt'. Cllr Emmerson offered to have a look at reducing the file size.
ACTION: Cllr Pope to share file with Cllr Emmerson, who will get converted to a screen resolution size document
The Clerk has not contacted WCC Highways about placement of signboards yet. C/Cllr Wallace offered to look at this if provided with site details and size.
ACTION: Cllr Pope to provide required information to Clerk
- Purchase of trail cameras [Cllr Tansey]
Purchased today for delivery next week. Once received will consider where to be located. Once deployed the What3Words reference will be recorded.
ACTION: Cameras to be placed in Autumn
- 2346.1.2. Blackdown bench & trees [Cllr Emmerson]
Contractor has expressed concern about security of the bench, because it is cast iron. Considering anti-theft measures before installation.
ACTION: Cllr Emmerson and contractor to consider options
Trees are to be planted over this tree-planting season.
ACTION: Clerk to request invoice for trees from WCC Forestry sooner rather than later
- 2346.1.3. Footpath Feasibility Study [Cllr Emmerson]
Cllr Emmerson has been in further discussion with Sustrans and work will be carried out in Quarter 4. Cllr Emmerson has explained reason for not requiring an Environmental Study and also requested invoice.
- 2346.2. South Warwickshire Local Plan [SWLP]
No significant progress to-date. C/Cllr Sysons referred to National Planning Policy Framework 160 additional questions and will be attending a webinar on the subject. In the consultation it points out that areas used for recreation have additional protections.

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	<p>[at the end of the meeting Cllr Pope raised the following]</p> <p>Cllr Pope is concerned that the schedule is now out of date. The next consultation phase could be announced at short notice, giving little or no time for the PC to consult with its legal advisers. A brief discussion followed.</p> <p>ACTION: Cllr Pope to speak to the legal advisers</p>
2346.3.	<p>Traffic monitoring</p> <p>Data received. Clerk looked at analysis and shared with Cllr Pope and C/Cllr Syson has also offered to have a look.</p> <p>ACTION: Cllr Pope to look at the Clerk's analysis and forward/discuss with C/Cllr Syson</p> <p>Ed King, Warwickshire Police carried out a monitoring session outside North Leamington School on Friday, 12/07/2024 from 16:30-17:30 [School term ended 19/07/2024]. Results were 26% of vehicles travelling at 35mph or above [agrees with the Clerk's analysis]. Cllr Emmerson read an email from Warwickshire Police Traffic Management, which has added this location to the agenda of the Multi-Agency Speed Meeting, stating the site does not have a casualty issue, but does have a non-compliance issue in relation to the speed limit with an 85th percentile speed of 39mph, the highest speeds coming into the school from the roundabout. That would normally mean enforcement, but that is not possible because of the site layout and the distance between the speed limits and safe places to stand, etc. For the same reason they cannot put a mobile camera there. Road safety engineers suggested that as the main entrance to the school is mainly vehicular, they could not consider it a pedestrian safety issue, but the use of a temporary 20mph limit with flashing signs as school times may help the speeding problem. This would have to be funded by the locally delegated budget – if it could be funded neither the Police or Road Safety Engineers would object. A discussion followed.</p> <p>ACTION: Cllr Emmerson to forward email from Warwickshire Police Traffic Management to C/Cllr Redford and D/Cllr B Gifford in his C/Cllr capacity.</p>
2346.4.	<p>Defibrillator [on hold awaiting Church project progress]</p> <p>Cllr Tansey has researched funding towards defibrillators, for use when project may be given the go-ahead.</p>
2346.5.	<p>Community Maintenance</p>
2346.5.1.	<p>Platinum Jubilee plaque on OM Green [Cllr Emmerson]</p> <p>ACTION: Carried forward - Cllr Emmerson to speak to contractor</p>
2346.5.2.	<p>Near noticeboard, OM – verge parking – replace grass with setts</p> <p>ACTION: Clerk to forward information to C/Cllr Redford to explore possibility</p>
2347.	<p>COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS</p>
2347.1.	<p>Warwickshire County Council</p> <p>There has been less WCC activity over August. Nothing to report.</p>
2347.2.	<p>Warwick District Council</p> <p>WDC Finances are under review. A brief discussion followed.</p>
2348.	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>D/Cllr Gifford asked that Parish Council attends Planning Committee if objecting, or going against the Officers' recommendations. Clerk will be notified if an application is to go to Committee and speaker should be registered with WDC.</p> <p>Cllr Emmerson asked whether W/23/1698 has been scheduled for Committee. D/Cllr Gifford will check and advise.</p>

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2348.1.	Applications decided - None
2348.2.	Applications ongoing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> W/23/1698 - Woodberry of Leamington Spa, Bericote Road, Blackdown, Leamington Spa, CV32 6QP – Object (sent: 15/01/2024) No further information or schedule for this application to go to Committee (see above).
2348.3.	New applications - None
2348.4.	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: Other applications – Nothing to report
2349.	FINANCE
2349.1.	The Financial Report & Bank reconciliation were approved and signed.
2349.2.	The following payments were approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website support (APR-JUN) £60.00 Biodiversity Audit – Summer (CIL funded) £1,010.47 Clerk’s Salary (SEP) £299.69 Tax on Clerk’s Salary (JUL-SEP) £24.80
2350.	COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION
2350.1.	Recruitment Cllr Tansey has approached someone and will keep the Council posted.
2350.2.	Training None requested
2350.3.	Communications
2350.3.1.	To consider councillor emails & .gov.uk domain [Cllr Emmerson] The Clerk has experience of a company registered administrator for .gov.uk, and passed their details to Cllr Emmerson earlier in the year. Research required to register/purchase a .gov.uk domain and emails for Councillors (MS365 Business Basic) ACTION: Cllr Emmerson to research – carry forward
2351.	ITEMS FOR FORTHCOMING MEETINGS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Tansey – Grounds maintenance – discussions with a potential contractor have failed. However, noted WCC is responsible for rural verges outside of 40 mph speed limit, WDC should cut grass 10 times a year between April and March, including smaller towns and villages. Does this require further investigation? Hedges not included – a brief discussion about hedges followed. Verges and potholes was removed from the agenda as a WCC Highways issue. Old Milverton Lane has a number of potholes. These need to be reported as soon as possible, with location references, to WCC Highways, copying in C/Cllr Redford.
2352.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Keeling asked about a Tidy Day. A discussion followed about doing an Autumn Tidy Day. Cllrs Pope and Tansey proposed Saturday, 09/11/2024 and will publicise to gauge support from the community. Cllr Pope raised the issue of SWLP consultation and seeking advice from the legal advisers [see 2346.2 above]

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2353.

NEXT MEETING

Monday 14 October 2024 at 8pm in Old Milverton Village Hall.

Signed as a true record:

..... (Chair)

Date:

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DRAFT

