

MINUTES

OLD MILVERTON AND BLACKDOWN JOINT PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 10 MARCH 2025 AT 8:00PM IN OLD MILVERTON VILLAGE HALL

- PRESENT:** Cllrs Emmerson (Chair), Keeling, Pope, D/Cllrs Bill Gifford, Syson, 3 Members of the public and the Clerk
- 2390. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Cllr Tansey [approved reason: work], D/Cllr Carolyn Gifford
- 2391. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
None
- 2392. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**
- 2392.1. The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 13 January 2025 were approved and signed
- 2392.2. There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting and not covered in this Agenda
- 2393. ISSUES & PROJECTS**
- 2393.1. CIL-Funded Initiatives
- 2393.1.1. Footpath signs/wildlife information boards [Cllr Pope]
With the Annual Parish meeting coming up, Cllr Pope to contact Worcestershire Wildlife Trust for visuals for signage to be shared. Cllr Emmerson to have visuals printed.
- ACTION: Cllr Pope to contact WWT**
ACTION: Cllr Emmerson to print visuals
- Clerk reported no response from WCC Highways' Locality Officer, who is leaving, D/Cllr Gifford reported that replacement Officer is to start on 1 April.
D/Cllr Gifford reported that he has asked WDC to provide a number of bins in locations where footpaths meet the road in an effort to encourage proper disposal of dog waste bags.
- 2393.1.1.1. Trail cameras [Cllr Tansey]
Cllr Tansey not present. Has reported sighting of an otter on trail camera. Cllr Emmerson's trail camera requires adjustment.
- 2393.1.2. Blackdown bench and trees [Cllr Emmerson/Clerk]
Awaiting contractor.
- ACTION: Cllr Emmerson to follow up**
- 2393.1.3. Footpath Feasibility Study [Cllr Emmerson]
Cllr Emmerson has now received the feasibility report from Sustrans and will circulate to all Councillors.
- ACTION: Cllr Emmerson to forward report to Cllrs**
- *At this time a member of the public asked when they were permitted to speak/ask question at this point. Please see Public Participation at end of minutes for further information.*
- 2393.2. South Warwickshire Local Plan [SWLP]
Leaflets delivered. Preferred Options Consultation responses closed on 07/03/2025. Council submitted on 06&07/03/2025 (see appendix).
Main argument of the Council was for protection of greenbelt land – sufficient land identified outside of greenbelt.
Dec-Jan will see publication of 3rd option where will find out whether SG06 is one of the preferred options. If not, will still need to monitor and make representations to keep SG06

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	out of preferred options. Barrister appointed. Discuss greenbelt review and if SG06 is in preferred options, barrister will be used to assist. PC to carry out own Greenbelt review – asked to be added to list of the consultants. Hope they may be able to carry out review on PC's behalf. WDC version appears to have been a desk-based exercise. Can we wait or do we want to go ahead with WALC suggestion? It was agreed to wait until the Autumn and go with the preferred consultants.
2393.2.1.	Social media update Campaign included leaflets, website, Facebook and Instagram. Website statistics +999% engagement. 5-week social media campaign – 1,600 clicked through to website. £800 in costs + £200 adverts. More comments have been submitted at this stage than last time.
2393.3.	<u>Parish environment</u>
2393.3.1.	Platinum Jubilee plaque on Old Milverton Green [Cllr Emmerson] Awaiting contractor. ACTION: Cllr Emmerson to follow up
2393.3.2.	Community maintenance Nothing to report
2394.	COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS
2394.1.	Warwickshire County Council C/Cllr Redford not present
2394.2.	Warwick District Council Local Plan and devolution have been main focus recently. WDC meeting scheduled for 31 March – interim proposals for unitary authority. Whole of Warwickshire -v- District Councils. Ministry will look at these proposals and decide which should be pursued. The Government wants everyone to be part of a strategic authority, but WM Authority has said that he does not want boundaries changed, so Warwickshire could not join. A discussion followed. WDC is concerned that it should be business as usual; a lot of time has been spent by senior officers attending meetings about the above.
2395.	PLANNING
2395.1.	Applications decided - none
2395.2.	Applications ongoing W/23/1698 - Woodberry of Leamington Spa, Bericote Road, Blackdown, Leamington Spa, CV32 6QP – Object (sent: 15/01/2024)
2395.3.	New applications - none
2395.4.	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: Other applications decided LAWFUL - W/24/1332 – Woodberry of Leamington Spa, Bericote Road, Blackdown, Leamington Spa, CV32 6QP - Lawful Development Certificate for existing building works and use including the erection of existing storage buildings, office building, two storage shelters and wood dipping unit and the siting of containers for a period in excess of 10 years prior to the date of the submission of the application. LAWFUL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATES DO NOT REQUIRE A RESPONSE



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2396.	FINANCE								
2396.1.	The Financial Report & Bank reconciliation were approved and signed.								
2396.2.	The following payments were approved: <table style="margin-left: 40px; width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>• Clerk's Salary (MAR)</td><td style="text-align: right;">£311.14</td></tr> <tr> <td>• Tax on Clerk's Salary (JAN-MAR)</td><td style="text-align: right;">£33.60</td></tr> <tr> <td>• Representations on SWLP</td><td style="text-align: right;">£37,780.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>• Social Media Campaign SWLP</td><td style="text-align: right;">£645.55</td></tr> </table>	• Clerk's Salary (MAR)	£311.14	• Tax on Clerk's Salary (JAN-MAR)	£33.60	• Representations on SWLP	£37,780.00	• Social Media Campaign SWLP	£645.55
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2397.	COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION								
2397.1.	Recruitment One potential candidate found Monday evenings would be impractical Cllr Pope has a new potential candidate Member of public expressed interest in Councillor role [See Public Participation at the end of the minutes]								
2397.2.	Training None								
2397.3.	Communications .gov.uk – nothing to report Clerk has been informed that some emails are ‘bouncing back’. Taken action on full mailbox recently, so there should not be a problem. Technical discussion may be required outside of this meeting. The Council Agreed to register with the Information Commissioner’s Office. ACTION: Cllr Emmerson to look into ICO Registration and .gov.uk								
2398.	ITEMS FOR FORTHCOMING MEETINGS								
	None								
2399.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS								
	None								
2400.	NEXT MEETING								
	Annual Parish Meeting, Monday 28 April 2025 at 8pm in Old Milverton Village Hall – hopefully get a decent number. Similar agenda to previous meetings. Wine and nibbles. ACTION: Clerk to notify OMVH to ensure hall is clear on 28th Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, Monday 19 May 2025 at 8pm in Old Milverton Village Hall								

Public Participation

- **K2L CYCLEPATH**
Resident on Kenilworth Road – Expressed dissatisfaction with K2L design team and contractors and their failures of communications, etc. A discussion followed. D/Cllr has previously assisted the resident in this matter and will follow up. The Council offered to relay its concerns to the contact on the K2L Team that D/Cllr Gifford gave.
ACTION: Clerk to write to K2L Team
- **SWLP**
Same resident had not heard about the Preferred Options Consultation of SWLP. The Council apologised for any oversight in leafleting and ensured the resident was aware of the prospective date of the next stage.

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- **RECRUITMENT**

Same resident expressed an interest in the Parish Councillor vacancy. The Council explained that it already has another potential candidate lined up, but would consider all expressions of interest.

Signed as a
true record:

.....**(Chair)**.....

Date:

DRAFT