

MERTON PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Merton Parish Council was held in the Clinton Hall on Monday 14th April 2014 at 8.10pm

Apologies were received from Councillors Brown, Collins and PCSO Sandra Brown.

Present were Councillors Horner, Papworth, Down, Malcolm and Scantlebury.

73. Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 3rd March 2014 were signed as a true record, proposed by Councillor Papworth, seconded by Councillor Malcom and agreed by all.

74. Matters arising from the minutes not on the agenda;

a) Development Plan; Councillor Horner has discussed the Development Plan with the CDE. This will be updated when the 2nd Draft of the Development Plan is published.

75. Jubilee Seat update; still waiting for the granite slab. Councillor Papworth will contact Mr Gist to get it delivered. It was decided to write to Lord Clinton to arrange a date for the presentation of the seat to the village. June 21st was a suggested date. The seat will now need to be included on the insurance policy.

76. Dolton Scouts have replied concerning applying for a grant. However they have not yet stated number of children from Merton who attend. This item will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

77. Planning Applications; Councillor Horner explained to the councillors that planning applications come via e mail and the clerk would send them onto the Councillors for their comments. If there are objections Councillor Horner will call a special meeting to discuss the issues raised. If Councillors have no objections the clerk will reply accordingly.

78. It was discussed and agreed that the clerk write to the Clinton Hall asking for a copy of the minutes of the AGM and accounts also accounts for the last three years. It was also decided to ask for a copy of the Insurance Policy of the Hall as Trustees of the hall.

79. World War 1 Commemorative poppy seeds. It was agreed to ask Trevor and Judi Higton to plant some poppy seeds for the village. Places suggested were around the Monck monument, and on "Telly Tubby hill" at the hall.

80. The Council were asked to provide a letter of support for the archaeological investigation at Little Potheridge Merton for the NDAS to apply for a grant from English Heritage. This was agreed by all. The clerk will send this off ASAP.

81. Dog Fouling. The clerk has met with the Environmental officer re complaints of dog fouling in the village. A site inspection has taken place and signs have been erected. Large fines can now be imposed A complaint was also made about dog fouling at Jubilee Copse which has resulted in the school children not being able to make use of this area which is very sad. It was agreed to put a notice in the Merton Monthly concerning this and pointing out that owners of dog who foul in a public place can be reported anonymously to the environmental dept. It was agreed to arrange for a sign to be put up in the Jubilee Copse. If this fails it may mean banning dogs from the area.

82. The Council have received details of new bus services coming into operation in May. Details will be put in the Merton Monthly and at the Post Office.

83. Cheques signed outside the meeting included Play Ground committee (money held by the PC for the play equipment refurbishment.) TDC pay roll costs, Defibrillator lease for one year and cabinet.

84. Defibrillator; Mr John Lewis (volunteer first responder) came out to the village to do a site inspection to suggest the best place to site the defibrillator. He suggested outside the Malt Scoop as the best place, with the Post Office as a second choice and the Clinton Hall as the third choice. Councillor Horner proposed the Malt Scoop as the site preferred this was seconded by Councillor Down. Councillor Scantlebury objected to this proposal and was invited to put a counter proposal forward as the Clinton Hall for the site. This was not seconded. A vote of 5 for the Malt Scoop, 1 against and one abstention.

85. Correspondence;

a) Advisory Group meeting agenda Tuesday 15th April at the Methodist Chapel.

b) DALC membership form and fees

c) Devon CC Library Service review – clerk will forward this e mail for the councillors to see.

d) Faster broadband - this is being pursued with help from MP Geoffrey Cox.

86. Councillor Nancekivell asked if the Council could do anything to stop HGV using the Merton to Beaford road. A large lorry got stuck recently. This has happened before. The Council agreed a letter should be sent to DCC asking for prominent signs for this road.

Councillors Nancekivell and Collins joined the meeting after it had started and tendered their apologies for this due to work commitments.

87. Next meeting date will be the AGM and Parish Council meeting Tuesday 6th May 2014 beginning at 7.30pm.

Everyone was thanked for attending.

There was no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 8.45pm