

MERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Meeting
held on Monday 10th September 2018 in The Clinton Hall

Councillors Present: Steve Papworth (Chair), Tim Horner (Vice Chair), Jill Malcolm, Philip Collins, Bill Brown, Chris Laughton, Councillor Nanckevill and County Councillor Andrew Saywell

Minutes taken by: Councillor Jill Malcolm

Also in attendance: 0 members of the public were present

BUSINESS TRANSACTED

27. **Welcome:** Councillor Steve Papworth, Chairman of the Parish Council, welcomed everyone to the meeting.
28. **Apologies for Absence:** Parish Clerk (Zena Tett), Councillor Scantlebury and District Councillor Richard Wiseman
29. **Minutes of the Last Meeting:** held on Monday 9th July 2018 were agreed. Proposed by Cllr Collins, seconded by Cllr Papworth, all in favour. In the absence of the Clerk, the signing was deferred until the next meeting.
30. **Declarations of Interest:** Cllrs Malcolm and Horner – Playground
31. **Public Speaking Time:** None
32. **District and County Councillor Reports**
 - 32.1 District Councillor Wiseman
District Councillor Wiseman was absent.
 - 19.2 County Councillor Andrew Saywell
Cllr Saywell reported that the B3124 is closed until November. Diversions are in place and take traffic through Merton. The road is open as far as Rosemoor. He reported that he is on a task force looking into how Highways are performing. They are up to date with gully cleaning and hope to be finished by December. They will then be ready to tackle any problems as they arise. The fleet has been increased from 6 to 8.
33. **Matters Arising**
 - 33.1 Communities Together Fund
Due to the absence of the Clerk this item was deferred until the next meeting.
 - 33.2 Footpath Adjacent to A386
Cllr Horner reported that he does not have a start date for the new footpath, but it is in hand.

- 33.3 New Agreement Between School and Parish Council
Cllr Collins took the council through a letter from the Village Hall committee to the Clinton Hall concerning the parking spaces for the school staff in the Clinton Hall car park, informing the school that the committee is happy to accept the current arrangement with the school in its new guise.
- 33.4 No3 The Square Access
As Mr Winsbury is now considering opening access to the square sooner rather in the future, he has been advised that the Parish Council will have to be consulted before any building work is started. Cllr Horner proposed that a letter is sent to Mr Winsbury enclosing a copy of the latest letter from Parish Council solicitor. Seconded by Cllr Malcolm. The motion was carried.
Action Clerk
There was further discussion on if we give permission for access on to The Square. Cllr Horner proposed that we do not allow such access to be made, Cllr Collins seconded, motion carried.
- 33.5 New Footpaths & Bridleways
Cllr Collins had maps showing the paths that the Council would like designated as footpaths: namely Clarks Lane, Back Lane, Bounsells Lane, the lane past Old Bailey to Back Lane, and the road between Grange Lane and Clarks Lane at the rear of the Church. Clerk to contact the relevant authorities to get the ball rolling. **Action Clerk**
- 33.6 Highways: Clinton Terrace Parking
The Clerk has written to Darryl Jagger concerning parking outside Clinton Terrace. He is happy to meet councillors to inspect the problem, meeting to be arranged. The Council felt that a short length of double yellow lines immediately below the garage would solve the problem, but Councillor Saywell stated that this would have to come out of next year's budget, as that for the current year has been committed.
- 33.7 Clinton Terrace Property
Cllr Horner has spoken to Adrian Pitts who has promised to get the occupier to tidy it up.

34. **New Items**

- 34.1 Parishioner Retiring from Cutting Grass
Keith Wharton is no longer able to cut the grass between his hedge and the main road. This verge was previously cut by Tarka housing. Cllr Horner has contacted Tarka to see if they will take this over again, otherwise we may have to include it in our schedule. The Council would like to thank Mr Wharton for his work cutting the verge. **Action Cllr Horner**
- 34.2 Village Benches
Cllr Malcolm suggested that some new benches should be bought for the village. Cllr Brown proposed two new benches, one for each end of the village. Cllr Horner seconded, motion carried. Cllr Malcolm to check prices etc. **Action Cllr Malcolm**

35. **Planning**

- 35.1 1/0547/2018/CPE: Cott, Merton for certificate of existing lawful use for the use of land as C3 residential use – garden and parking. To minute the decision made by TDC to grant permission for this application.

- 35.2 To discuss any planning items which may have arisen since the date of the Agenda. There were none.

36. Clerks Report

36.1 Correspondence

To note the items listed below which have been circulated or were available for inspection at the meeting and there were no issues.

36.1.1 TDC: road closure at Rosemoor Gardens

36.1.2 Highways: notification of roadworks from Pear Tree Cottage to Mowhay, Merton.

36.1.3 Highways: notification of roadworks at Merton Mill. As there is no specific time for this work, it has not been posted on the village web site.

36.1.4 DCC: Devon Food Waste Conference

36.2 External Audit

Due to the absence of the Clerk this item was deferred until the next meeting.

37 Councillors' Reports and Items for Future Agenda

37.1 Cllr Horner is hoping to do a footpath survey. It would be appreciated if anyone can inform him of any obstacles or damaged fixtures they find on the public footpaths.

37.2 Cllr Papworth reported on the defibrillator. We will continue to use the existing unit whilst batteries and pads are available, and the unit continues to be operational.

38 Finance

38.1 Payments

To consider the following payments:

38.1.1 PKF Littlejohn - - external audit £360.00

38.1.2 Clerks Expenses £67.33

38.1.3 Play Inspection Company £120.00

38.1.4 Grass Cutting £28.84

Proposed by Cllr Collins seconded by Cllr Brown, all in favour. **Action Clerk**

38.2 Bank Balance

The balance as of 10th August 2018 was £16,975.94. There are payments which total £576.17 and once these transactions have gone through the balance in the account will be £16,399.77.

- 39 **Date of Next Meeting:** the date of the next meeting was agreed as 12th November 2018.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:30 pm

SIGNED AS A TRUE RECORD: (Chair)

NAME:DATE: