

PARISH OF MILTON

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on
Monday 19 April 2010 at 8.00pm in the
COMMUNITY CENTRE ANNEXE
COLES ROAD

AGENDA

- 1 Introduction by Chairman and apologies for absence
- 2 Introduction of Parish Councillors
- 3 To confirm minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on 20 April 2009 (attached)
- 4 Chairman's Annual Report including draft accounts 2009/10 (attached)
- 5 Retirement village options - recreation land or money
- 6 Charities' report (attached)
- 7 Parish Plan report (attached)
- 8 Neighbourhood Watch report (attached)
- 9 Milton Action for Youth report (attached)
- 10 Milton Community Centre report (attached)
- 11 County Councillor's report
- 12 District Councillors' reports
- 13 Question and Answer Session

RH Chapman
Chairman Milton Parish Council



Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 20 April 2009 at 7.30pm in the Bowls Pavilion

Present: JE Coston (chair) PS Badley RH Chapman G Covell RJ Farrington HM Smith RT Summerfield RLE Waters

The clerk, County Councillor M Williamson and 7 members of the public:

D Geasor R Jones P Nowak L Sandford SJ Snaith M Waggett M Woolhouse

1 Introduction of Parish Councillors – the Councillors introduced themselves. The chairman pointed out that Councillors had an excellent attendance record at Council meetings.

2 Apologies for absence – AJ Campbell R Day M Ellwood TA Drummond SC Humphreys B Jefferson IF May D Chamberlin.

3 Minutes - the minutes of the APM of 2008 were approved and signed as a true record.

4 Chairman's report and Draft Accounts – the chairman presented her report together with the draft accounts.

5 Parish Plan report – Phil Badley. It was exactly one year since the surveys were collected. An action plan was approved before Christmas and since then groups had been working together to produce “A Plan for Milton” which had now been delivered to every house. Full version of the data was on the website. Thanks to those residents who delivered the Plan.

The Environmental Group, Communication Group, Transport and Village Appearance Group and the Police Liaison Group had been formed and were working in various ways to address areas that were highlighted in the survey. The groups would report to the Parish Council. The Parish Council would then decide what is possible to take forward.

Over a period of time some actions will be replaced by others.

The need for information was clearly highlighted as an issue. The assistant clerk was in the process of producing a guide to Milton – to be paid for by adverts.

6 Milton Community Centre report

RJ F reported on staff changes. Andy Gray was appointed manager in November 08. The police were aware of anti social behaviour. A large window was broken on the previous Friday.

7 County Councillor's report – Michael Williamson presented his report.

Questions raised:

Has the traffic calming north of the village been successful?

Should there be white line markings in the middle of Cambridge Road / High Street? Vehicles often cross the unbroken white line that delineates the cycle lane.

The Parish Plan Transport Group intended looking at cycle routes in the village.

8 District Councillors' report – the district councillors presented their report.

Sport Lakes Trust S106 Agreement was not yet officially agreed but M Woolhouse expected this to happen shortly.

The Highways Agency had now agreed to clean off the graffiti from the Jane Coston bridge and had also taken responsibility for maintaining the lights. CCTV had not yet been installed.

Tesco wind turbine – HMS reported that permission had been granted. It was suggested that this turbine would produce a negligible amount of electricity.

Sluice gates (by river end of Fen Road) – one gate was stolen, two were now were in South Cambs yard. SCDC could not justify replacing them as they were not in the original specification. It was unclear who was responsible maintaining the wall on the river side.

Road signing Butt Lane / A10 junction – M Williamson would ask Alistair Frost, CCC for improved signing for vehicles approaching from Histon. Motorists had been observed carrying out dangerous manoeuvres in order to turn right towards Cambridge.

9 Question and Answer Session

Norman Industrial Estate – appearance at the entrance unsightly; vehicles parked were a hazard for cyclists. An area for double yellow lines? The Village Appearance Group were considering ideas for this area and The Parish Council was looking at proposals to improve the whole area.

Motor bikes nuisance – the police were aware of the problems of motor cyclists using roads in a manner likely to cause dangers to others. This subject was raised at the recent Neighbourhood Police Panel meeting. It was important to report all incidents to the police.

Speedwatch – 5 volunteers had been trained – more volunteers were needed. Speeding had been detected in Ely Road but by cars leaving the village.

The chairman thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 8.40pm.

Footnote: All reports above are kept with the minutes.

2010 REPORTS RECEIVED TO DATE

Agenda Item #4

ANNUAL PARISH CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2009/10

THANKS

First of all, I would like to thank our parish councillors for all the time and effort they devote to their duties. I would like to remind you that they do this on a completely voluntary basis. I believe every councillor is concerned for the well-being of the parish and has the best interests of the village at heart. I would also like to thank Jane Coston for her five years as Chairman of the parish council and effecting such a smooth transition of office. Thanks as well to the Charities and the Community Centre Management Committee and staff for all their support during the year. Finally, I would like to thank Richard Summerfield, who is stepping down after fifteen years of service as district councillor, for all his hard work and dedication to the village.

PRECEPT

We have set our parish precept this year at £120,000. For a Band D house, that means an increase of just over eleven pence per week (or £5.81 per year). We believe this represents great value for money as Milton is an extremely active parish and provides a number of vital services for village residents. We are also experiencing an ever-expanding workload in the parish office due to increased requests from both South Cambs District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council.

RECREATION LAND

Your parish council has been very active during the past year dealing with a whole range of issues which affect our village. One of the most pressing issues is the provision of additional recreation space. Milton's sports clubs are very active and are expanding all the time, which is a very positive sign of the health and robustness of our village. However, this expansion, added to the general pressure of use on limited recreation area, has meant that the acquisition of more recreation land is a high priority.

We have been looking for suitable land for ten years now, ever since the parish council sold recreation space for the Barnabas Court sheltered housing scheme. One option is to lease recreation land from the proposed retirement village on Ely Road. Another land option has come forward recently concerning fields owned by the College of West Anglia. The fields are adjacent to Ely Road opposite the college campus. Although it is still very early days of negotiations, one option may be to swap the parish's allotment and horse grazing land for these fields. The allotments would then be relocated onto the newly purchased fields. Although this would be a great inconvenience to village allotment holders, the parish would gain a significant parcel of land for recreation use.

I have made a great effort to keep the village informed of these various options. I have met with clubs affiliated with the Milton Community Centre as well as with the parish allotment holders to apprise them of the situation and discuss the potential consequences of the various deals. I also look forward to discussing these matters with all concerned residents at the Annual Parish Meeting. It is important to keep in mind that all land deals involve quite sensitive negotiations and the end results are often unpredictable, particularly considering the current economic climate. Finally, I would like to thank our Assistant Clerk for all his work on these land matters throughout the year.

OTHER ISSUES

The widening of the A14 is another issue we are monitoring. Although the parish council agrees in principle to the scheme, we are actively pursuing the provision for offsite planting along the Milton stretch of the road to enhance the visual impact and also hopefully mitigate noise pollution over the longer term. The parish council has also facilitated negotiations between the County Council and local business owners and representatives from Milton Country Park to install double yellow lines in the Crane Industrial Estate to address parking and traffic safety concerns. A Traffic Regulation Order is currently being drawn up. Thanks also to our parish and district councillors who lobbied successfully to dismiss the appeal for the proposed construction of a hotel on the field between the A14 and Tesco. And special thanks to District Councillor Hazel Smith, who continues to dialogue with the Tesco store manager and deal with issues that come up throughout the year.

NEW PCSO

I would like to welcome PCSO John Mason, the new Police Community Support Officer for Milton. John replaces PCSO Claire Whiteman. On behalf of the village, I have thanked Claire for her hard work and commitment to Milton and wished her every success in her new placement. Your parish council continues to liaison with the local police authority, which has resulted in more patrols throughout the village to combat anti-social behaviour.

PARISH CLERK'S OFFICE

We have made a number of improvements to the parish office and have had all the archive Minutes of the parish council meetings scanned onto disc for safe-keeping. I would like to thank our parish clerk, Jim Daniels, and his assistant, David Geasor, for all their hard work throughout the year. I would also like to thank CBS for agreeing to rent the parish a photocopying machine at a greatly reduced rate. Thanks as well to our village cleaner, Philip Adams.

PARISH PLAN

The various working parties continue to address the concerns you raised in the parish plan questionnaire and which are now part of the Action Plan. The Environmental Group conducts regular litter picks which are advertised on the parish notice boards, and I encourage all residents to take part. The Police Liaison Group has now set up a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, which has its own website (www.milton-neighbourhood-watch.org.uk). The Clerk's Office has also updated the parish council website (www.miltonvillage.org.uk) to reflect the information in the Guide to Milton. I recommend you visit this website for the most up-to-date information about the village, including a virtual parish notice board. The Clerk's Office has also produced Welcome Packs for new residents, so if you know of anyone who has moved into the village recently please send them along to the Parish Office to pick one up.

YOUTH

Milton Action for Youth was set up some time ago to help oversee the youth work in the village and activities which are held in the Milton Youth Centre adjacent to The Sycamores Recreation ground. They have received a grant from Awards for All (the Lottery grants scheme), which has been applied to providing First Aid training, a Babysitting Course, and a Youth Work Course for the Girls Club. A girls group now meets weekly in addition to the junior and senior clubs.

COMMUNITY CARE

Our Community Care scheme received a grant from the County Council and continues to provide vital services for Milton residents. Our clerk, Jim Daniels, is very proud of this scheme and believes it is one of the largest in South Cambridgeshire. Community Care Warden Tracey Ebbon and her assistant Linda Harding are doing excellent work and I commend them on their service and dedication.

CONCLUSION

Milton is a very active village, and I believe we have an excellent team working for us. I think it is important to remember that the parish council is responsible for representing the entire village, and I encourage all residents to make your views known to us.

Rob Chapman, Chairman Milton Parish Council

Agenda Item #6

Milton Parochial Charities - Clerks Report, 08/04/2010

Clerk

Andy Gray has recently taken over from Barry Jefferson as Clerk for Milton Parochial Charities.

Income for the Year ending 31/12/09

Land rent	£2372
Lifeline Alarm donations	£375
Interest on investments	<u>£482</u>
	£3229

Expenditure for the Year ending 31/12/09

Parish Council, towards the Community Care Scheme	£1000
Parish Council, towards the cost of tree surgery	£1000
All Saints Church	£619
Lifeline Alarms (maintenance and monitoring)	£404
Carter Jonas (fees)	£287
Miscellaneous	<u>£25</u>
	£3335

At the meeting on the 17th March, the Trustees agreed the following donations:

- £2000 to the Parish Council, towards the Community Care scheme
- £350 to the Parish Council towards a replacement seat at the Cemetery

The Charity continues to meet the expenditure of providing 'Lifeline' Alarms for 15 Milton residents. In return, the residents are asked for a minimum contribution of £20 to assist with this expenditure, which they have all recently provided.

Agenda Item #7

Milton Parish Council PARISH PLAN – Progress report on the Action Plan – April 2010.

The colour coded Action Plan show the significant progress since it was approved by the Council back in November 2008. Most of the items have been coded green because progress has been made – in some cases the issue has been absorbed into the normal business for the Council and its committees. The brown items have seen some progress and a small number remain red because there has been no progress.

Some of the working groups have been particularly successful. The Environment Group has a strong nucleus of members and meets regularly. There has also been regular 'litter picking', an on-going survey about insulation in Milton houses, a trip to the Donarbon site and visiting speakers. Neighbourhood Watch has been re-launched in the village and meets regularly. Communications group and the transport group met regularly in the early part of the year but have 'faltered' since the summer break. Both were closely involved in recommendations and activities in their relevant areas.

Particular successes and achievements over the year include –

1. Compilation, publication and distribution of the Milton Guide.
2. Web pages updated in line with the Guide.
3. Welcome Pack prepared for people moving into the village.
4. Increased information about the activities and events at the Community centre.
5. Variety of actions to impact on the village appearance and road layout.
6. Meeting with the Tesco management.
7. Police Liaison group and information about contacting the Police.
8. Creation of Milton Youth Action as a mechanism for fundraising.

Some issues need further work –

1. Continue updating and reorganising web site.
2. Increased awareness between all road users – cars, bikes and pedestrians.
3. Further reduction (or elimination) of plastic bags.
4. Creation of a Village Society (or Historical Society).
5. MPC, MCC and the Youth Committee will need to work with Youth Service, interested organisations and groups to ensure continuation of relevant provision in the village and maximise use of the Youth Building.
6. Explore the possibility of attracting a dentist service in the village.
7. Explore the interest in creating a village directory to cover businesses and services in and around the village.

Next steps.

The Action Plan now needs to be refreshed to ensure it is a relevant and useful document – and to ensure attention is given to appropriate issues. This should be carried out by the Steering Group and approved by the full Council. However, the Steering Group needs to be reconstituted since it has not met for some time.

On a personal note, I have been very closely involved with this Parish Plan since the initial idea and meetings in early 2007. I can no longer offer the time required – which while not extensive, is now clashing with my new work commitments. I am therefore stepping down as Chair of the Steering Group. Phil Badley.

Agenda Item #8

Neighbourhood Watch update

Quarterly meetings setup (next one in June 2010)

Web site launched last year (Dec 2009) all NHW documents, Minutes etc on this site

We have issues with the ISP and are migrating to new Internet provider

In process of recruiting street coordinators. We have these for Fen Road, Shirley Close and Coles Road.

We are currently procuring NHW signs for these streets.

We have regular attendance at the police liaison meetings

Way forward

Continue the drive for more street coordinators

Instigate new NHW security initiatives with local businesses to support elderly community in Milton

Ian Jones

Agenda Item #9

Milton Action for Youth report to Annual Parish Meeting on 19th April 2010

Milton Action for Youth is a charitable organisation (not currently a charity), set up last year by a group from the Milton Youth Committee (a committee of the Parish Council) and others, to be independent of the Parish Council. It supports additional provision of youth work in the parish, working with the County Council officers and youth team. Last year we received a grant from Awards for All of £9011.00 to support an extra session of youth work each week, specially for a girls club and some targeted courses to encourage teenage girls to attend.

The grant is spent over a year, and we are substantially through that year now.

Milton Action for Youth will have its AGM on Monday 17th May at 5pm at Milton Youth Centre.

ACCOUNTS FOR THE INITIAL PERIOD FROM 5th MARCH 2009 TO 31st MARCH 2010

INCOME	£
Milton Parish Council (balance from Youth Club)	420.09
Awards for All	9011.00
Sundry donation	1.00
Interest (tax paid)	<u>4.24</u>
	9436.33
EXPENDITURE	
Cambridgeshire County Council	5935.00
BALANCE (Cambridge Building Society) at 1 st April 2010	3501.33

Hazel Smith (Treasurer)

Agenda Item #10

Milton Community Centre - Managers Report, 08/04/2010

Bookings

The Centre continues to be busy, both daytimes and evenings and overall, bookings have increased slightly during the last year. However, Saturday night bookings have been a bit disappointing, although we have 2 in April and 3 in May.

The Annexe continues to be fully occupied by either Cygnets Pre-School or Kids-R-Us, Monday to Friday, 7.00am to 6.00pm, with additional groups using the facilities in the evenings. Children's birthday parties are held on Saturdays and Sundays, usually 2 or 3 times a month.

The Youth Building hosts the Youth Club on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, with a girls only session on Wednesdays from 4.15pm to 5.45pm. Young Carers use the facilities on Saturday mornings and the K9 project (via the Centre School at Cottenham) are in on a Monday and Friday, generally for 2 or 3 hours.

The village web site has been updated to include details for our new groups. There is now a link to a timetable showing when the various classes take place and probably more importantly, when there is available space for new groups.

Vandalism

During the last 6 months, there has been little vandalism, although I understand that a group of youths do occasionally congregate at the Community Centre in the evenings. I have been in contact with both PC Phil Shulvers and PCSO John Mason, to ensure they continue to patrol the area so that we avoid a repetition of the problems we experienced last summer.

Staff

There have been no staff changes during the last year.

Refurbishment

The exciting news is that we have recently received confirmation that 2 grant applications (WREN, £50,000 + SCDC, £8500) have both been agreed, meaning that our refurbishment programme can now go ahead. We are due to meet with the Builder and Architect on the 14th April, after which we will have a clearer idea of when the work will commence and how long it is likely to take. However, the Community Centre will remain fully operational during the refurbishment.

Andy Gray
Community Centre Manager