

MILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Office
Coles Road
Milton
Cambridge
CB24 6BL



Clerk to the Council Jim Daniels
Tel: 01223 861447
Fax: 0871 433 9275
Email: clerk@miltonvillage.org.uk
Web: www.miltonvillage.org.uk

20 June 2011

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

There will be a Maintenance Committee meeting of Milton Parish Council in the Bowls Pavilion
on Monday 27 June 2011 at 7.30pm

AGENDA

- 1 Election of chairman
- 2 Apologies for absence
- 3 Public Participation – members of the public are invited to speak
- 4 Declarations of Interest – personal and/or prejudicial
- 5 Approval of minutes of 28 March 2011
- 6 Winter gritting – Michael Oakman from Cambridgeshire County Council will brief on winter maintenance
- 7 Cemetery
 - The chairman and clerk filled 25 bags of rubbish mainly from the green bin at the cemetery. Alan Smith from Blackwell's caravan site kindly took it all away to the HWRC in Butt Lane. I have sent him a message of thanks.
 - Command Pest Control continue to treat the workings for moles and rabbits.
 - An inquiry has been made about Muslim burial, specifically whether a plot could be made to face directly east (by compass point). Discussion as to whether a separate area should be designated to accommodate such burials.
- 8 Allotments – update (M6/03-11)
 - Dangerous tree – has finally been removed.
 - Inspection – report from WDB and ES.
- 9 Play – update (M7/03-11)
 - Play inspections (PC 9/04-11 also refers) – as the City Services were no longer conducting inspections the clerk, JEC and A Gray MCC had asked Fenland Leisure Products from Christchurch to quote. This company have already done a one-off inspection (Min PC12/06-11 refers).
See attached report. It has been suggested that Paul Capitain could do some of the work (highlighted yellow).
To be considered: recommendations to be put to Council
 - New equipment - replacements for Hawthorn Hedge site. Quotation received. (See min PC12/06-11)
 - Fitness equipment – two companies have provided quotations. (See min PC12/06-11).
Details of quotations will be available at the meeting. *Should a sub-committee be formed to look at these ideas including grant funding?*
 - BMX track (PC8/10-10) – the residents have decided not to proceed.
- 10 Tomkins Mead

On the recent village bike tour, it was noted that one of the signs for Tomkins Mead was missing (the one at the surgery end). Mick Woolhouse from Milton Country Park was contacted and his response is below:
“Ok, this came up 18mths or so ago = we agreed to get a quote to have both of the signs replaced as it was noted that one was in a bad state of repair (this was the one at the surgery end as it was no longer safe) and both were dated. The 'common view' was that it would be more appropriate to have these made in wood. What we did was source a quote from a guy who works on the Industrial Estate next door the Park (Ted at Harlequin Woodcraft) and passed this back in for discussion. The quote was £135 per sign for a carved sign saying Tomkins Mead Local Nature Reserve....the trail ran dry at the point I think. I know Ted would still be able to do the job - I can ask him to look at his price again given the passage of time but I expect this would still be £270 for the 2 signs - before I go back to him to ask him to look again please can i have some comfort that it is not a waste of time!? Do you think the Parish Council will support this? Please advise and I will act accordingly.”

11 Correspondence

Footpaths - Parish Paths Partnership Scheme

From Kate Day Rights of Way and Access Manager:

“Way back in December, we had a meeting to outline future options for the Parish Paths Partnership Scheme. At that time it was unclear what funding might be available or not. I had hoped to write to everyone before now but finalising budgets has taken much longer than we thought. South Cambridgeshire District Council have been able to retain some funding for Parish Paths work.

The County Council's Revenue Budget for Rights of Way has been cut by £50K representing a cut of approx 26%. We have capitalised what spending we can and retained funds as far as possible for the following; grass cutting, Farmers Path Management Contracts and bridge repairs/replacement. By focusing on these areas of work we are seeking to ensure that the paths currently available, remain open and the higher risk elements of the network (i.e. bridges) are covered, to some degree. We have reduced/cut revenue funding for signage/waymarking, gates, scrub clearance, surfacing work, printing and marketing i.e. attending public events/shows. We have also reduced spending in all areas to match minimum service requirements.”

Note that Bob was our Footpaths Officer. Unless we can find someone to take on the role this committee will oversee footpaths matters.

This also from Kate Day:

“I wrote to all Parish Councils earlier this year about the grass cutting programme for public rights of way. At that time we were planning our two cuts, in May and July, as normal. However, with so little rain earlier this year (although things seem to be changing again!) we have reviewed the outcome of the first cut and decided to defer the second cut from its planned start in July to Aug/Sept when it will have the more benefit to path users.

I know some parishes undertake additional cutting which is great and we continue to have over 50 farmers cutting paths on their land so hopefully between us, the paths should stay in reasonable order throughout the summer.

Several Parishes did come back asking for more information on which paths are being cut which we can readily provide if needed. A map of all recorded public rights of way can be found on our web pages;

<http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/environment/countrysideandrights/enjoying/findrightsofway.htm>

I just wanted to ensure you were all aware of the change in dates for the second cut. Any queries, please contact us.”

Skate park

“I moved to the area a few months ago and i remember there used to be a skate park behind tesco's... what happened to it? i am really into bmxing and am a bit gutted the closest park is a 20 minute bike ride from here. Do you think there is a chance of ever getting anything new built? preferably in concrete which is vandal proof! I don't know who i would need to email but would be very happy to help out as much as possible with the planning etc and getting other riders involved to make sure something decent gets built, even if it's just a halfpipe. thankyou. hope to hear back soon.”

12 Date of Next Meeting – 26 September 2011

Jim Daniels

Jim Daniels
Clerk

Minutes of the Maintenance Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 28 March 2011 at 7.30pm in the Bowls Pavilion

Present: M Ellwood (chairman) GA Covell R Day B Jefferson IF May RT Summerfield RLE Waters
D Chamberlin WD Booth E Spong The clerk

3 Apologies for absence - JE Coston SC Humphreys.

2 Public participation - none.

3 Declarations of interest – none.

4 Minutes – the minutes of the meeting held on 13 December 2010 were approved and signed as a true record.
Seat at Pond Green (M10/12-10) - now repaired.

5 Cemetery – update

Ashes (M5/12-10) – area for interment of ashes had been agreed with the family.

Recent funeral – many flowers still on site from recent funeral. It would be responsibility of the family to remove them. The chairman and clerk to monitor. **Action: Chairman and clerk**

6 Allotments – update (M6/12-10)

Waiting list – there were now two spare half-allotments. All those on the waiting list had been allocated allotments. One person had recently inquired about an allotment.

Dangerous tree – had been removed that very day.

Roadway - thanks to all who helped lay the planings.

Manure - WDB/ES would speak to College of West Anglia. **Action: WDB/ES**

Bonfires – the chairman would talk with allotment holder (s) responsible. **Action: Chairman**

7 Play – update (M7/12-10)

New equipment - replacements for Hawthorn Hedge site. GAC reported that residents would like swings, roundabout and slide. Equipment and costs to be ascertained. **Action: GAC?** Grant funding would be essential.

RLEW suggested a visit to the “Saltex” exhibition at Windsor in September.

Fitness equipment – MCC had agreed that this equipment could be installed on The Sycamores recreation ground (PC5/02-11) and would liaise with Council about exact siting. Similarly grants would be needed for this equipment.

8 Village cleaning (M11/12-10)

- Appraisal completed. Council’s litter picker had agreed to litter pick High Street/Cambridge Road twice a week. It was suggested that he keep a time sheet of his hours and work done. **Action: Chairman and clerk**
SCDC schedule:

“Monday - Chesterton Fen monthly

Tuesday - week 1 - week 4 Milton, High St from Coles Road to the Lion & Lamb Pub

Tuesday - week 1 and 3 Milton, fortnightly from Tesco roundabout to Country Park entrance

Tuesday - week 2, monthly from Tesco roundabout to Coles Road, High St Lion & Lamb Pub to Willow Crescent

Fen Road from High St to Coles Road

Anything else is 6 monthly.”

- **to consider litter picking Chesterton Fen** – as SCDC were litter picking monthly it was felt unnecessary to employ a litter picker. It was hoped that Council could monitor that SCDC were carrying out their duties monthly. [Note: a member of the public attended too late for the meeting. He was grateful for Council’s input in writing to SCDC and relates the clean up of Fen Rd Chesterton once a month to our efforts].

Noted that there had been an improvement at the area around the Tesco store.

9 Maintenance

a) Request to grub out shrubs adjacent pathway by Gunnell Close and grass seed – quote from Buchans £180. [Noted that this piece of land was apparently not in the ownership of the resident or the Parish Council].

The resident adjoining had offered to pay £50 towards the cost.

Buchans had cut the shrubs back to the edge of the path.

It was **AGREED to ask Buchans to keep the shrubs cut back once a year as part of their contract.**

b) Request to consider planting trees along verge to Landbeach – to ‘soften’ landscape. In places along this verge there was not enough room to allow planting (5 yards from the road needed). It was for this reason that more trees had not been planted there. In addition the verge may be needed for a cycle path.

AGREED no further action.

10 Date of Next Meeting – 27 June 2011

The meeting ended at 7.58pm (precisely).

Signed..... Dated.....