

**Minutes of the Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 18 July 2005 at 7.30pm in the Community Centre**

**Present:** JE Coston (chair) PK Oldham RH Chapman R Day M Ellwood RJ Farrington B Jefferson CJ Lock IF May J Payne HM Smith RT Summerfield RLE Waters County Councillor M Williamson (from min 305/05 – apologies for lateness - at another meeting)  
The clerk SJ Daniels

**1 Apologies for absence – AJ Campbell**

289/05 **2 Declarations of Interest – JEC** item 8 prejudicial, RLEW item 10 personal (grand children use play area)

290/05 **3 Resignation of Councillor – Casual Vacancy – EH Baker** had resigned (work commitments). The clerk had written to Liz thanking her for her hard work and had also advertised the vacancy. Two candidates were interested in becoming a councillor.

291/05 **4 Minutes –** the minutes of the meeting of 13 June 2005 were approved and signed as a true record.

**5 Clerk's/Chairman's Report**

292/05 Youth insurance claim (camera, keys etc) – claim was rejected by Cornhill.

293/05 Highway changes – noted that Bob Howard was new Highways Supervisor.

294/05 Crime figures – previously circulated.

295/05 Youth – AGREED that the Chairman sign the Service Level Agreement.

296/05 Funding Fair SCDC – organised for 21 September 3pm to 7pm.

297/05 Tesco Transfer of Licence – noted.

298/05 **6 Planning –** the minutes of the meeting of 11 July were received and noted.  
New applications

299/05 S/1331/05 Mr & Mrs Smith 2 Townsend Close – first floor side extension to house – **no recommendation.**

300/05 S/1338/05/A Silver Fern Trust Ltd – sign adjacent to cycle / foot bridge – **no recommendation.**  
ME and BJ declared a prejudicial interest and left the room.

301/05 S/1349/05 CJ Hanson Ltd – land at Ely Road – dwelling and garage. Noted that the horse chestnut was showing early signs of bleeding canker and would need to be taken down eventually. **No recommendation.**

302/05 **Local Development Framework** (till 2016) – PKO reported that developments of up to 8 dwellings would be permitted in Milton – 15 in exceptional circumstances on brown field sites. There was little mention of Chesterton Fen.  
**AGREED** to make no comment.

303/05 **7 Play –** the minutes of the meeting of 17 June were received.

(259/05) Repairs – Reports from CJL showed that repairs on the equipment at The Sycamores had been carried out promptly. Apologies to MCC. The clerk would write a letter of apology to the chairman of MCC. **Action: the clerk**

(259/05) Play Inspections – Quotation from ROSPA for play inspections next April - £59 per area = £413. Noted that MPC had 4 areas and MCC 3 (2 at The Sycamores).  
[Wicksteed charge £40 per area for 6 areas = £240].

In recent years Wicksteed had not noticed important defects eg see-saw at The Sycamores and rotten wood supports at toddlers' play area Coles Road.

**AGREED** to ask ROSPA to carry out play inspections in April 2005.  
(11 votes in favour 1 abstention).

A one-off to inspect Maypole would cost £190.

**AGREED** to leave Maypole inspection till April 2005. In the meantime possible replacement equipment would be investigated.

Play bark had been delivered. Thanks to JP and family for spreading bark at Froment Way. As it had been difficult to get a working party together at short notice the clerk had asked Buchans to spread the bark in the remaining play areas at a cost of £180.

- (261/05) Skate Park – the skate park was in a dangerous state. Clever Curves appeared to be unco-operative in putting the defects right. HMS reported that in her opinion the equipment was not fit for its purpose. Another company had quoted £2855 to repair. A vigorous debate ensued. The following points were made:  
The equipment was dangerous and must be made safe as soon as possible.  
The repairs would last perhaps for two years after which time another repair would be needed as the frame was wooden. Spending £2855 would be throwing good money after bad.  
MPC were obliged to maintain the half pipe for ten years as a condition of the £10,000 grant from SCDC.

**AGREED**

to contact SCDC immediately to ask for an inspection of the equipment and to ask whether the half pipe could be removed on grounds of safety.

If SCDC refuse to allow its removal an emergency meeting would be held on Friday 22 July. (11 votes in favour 2 abstentions).

**Action: HMS and RTS**

[RHC offered to remove the equipment].

The clerk would contact Jane Thompson SCDC initially and ask for advice about taking legal proceedings against Clever Curves. **Action: the clerk**

- (262/05) Youth Shelter – HMS was in dialogue with Urban Engineering about the problems and how to make the shelter more vandal resistant as the polycarbonate was not the appropriate material. Urban Engineering were taking a responsible attitude. Council would not pay the invoice until the shelter had been completed satisfactorily.

RLEW stressed that every project should have a projects manager and that proper records kept by the clerk to ensure satisfactory completion.

304/05 **8 Parish Council Office**

- (287/05) JEC left the meeting and PKO chaired this item.

**AGREED**

to close the meeting to members of the public under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 Section 1 paragraph 2 whereby publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest owing to the confidential nature of the business.

This item was deferred until the September meeting to allow the clerk to make further inquiries.

305/05 **9 Highways – minor improvements scheme**

Suggestions considered: 30mph flashing signs; crossing at bottom of cycle bridge; footpath Landbeach Road to cemetery; improving visibility at Winship Road entrance.

Two out of 79 bids were successful in 2004/05. Milton had been successful on three occasions in recent years.

**AGREED**

to make no application for 2005/06.

(11 votes in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention).

306/05 **10 Diseased Horse Chestnut Froment Way**

PKO reported that this tree was diseased.

**AGREED**

to accept (Buchans) quotation of £150 for taking down the tree and not to replace it. [A Sorbus was growing nearby].

Noted that horse chestnut at Pond Green would need to be taken down in time. The “self set” on Memorial Green would be moved in the Autumn.

307/05 **11 Landfill Liaison**

Minutes of the meeting held on 14 June were circulated. Noted that a planning application to extend the life of the landfill site was being prepared.

- 308/05 (227/05) **12 Recreation Land**  
 All requests for land had received negative responses. RHC, RD and IFM had met and recommended that Council open negotiations with the County Council for (some of) the land north of the A10. **AGREED.**  
 MW would discuss with David Nuttycombe of the County Council. **Action: MW** RHC, JEC and IFM to negotiate on behalf of Council.
- 309/05 **13 Mobile Library changes**  
 The County Council were suggesting new times Saturdays 11.45 – 1.30; Wednesdays 1.30 – 3.15.  
 Council’s response:  
 “1 We are concerned that the library will not be present at the end of the school day on Wednesday. Families go away at weekends and will not always find Saturday convenient.  
 2 We suggest that the Saturday stops should be first at the Post Office followed by a stop at The Rowans near Shapers. [The Community Centre car park can be busy at weekends.]  
 In our opinion these amendments will help encourage younger readers.”
- 310/05 **14 MCC Update**  
 The Summer Fayre was successful. The clerk to send a letter to the chairman of the organising committee. **Action: the clerk**  
 The CCTV was installed and working properly. Colin Nunn was managing this project. Under the Data Protection Act trained personnel only would be allowed to use the equipment. Notices had been put up advising about the CCTV.  
 Sue Horrod was recovering from an illness.
- 311/05 **15 Bills for Payment and Money Received**  
**CONFIRMED** payment of cheques 3057 – 3062 and Inland revenue (online)  
**AGREED** to pay cheques 3063 – 3077  
 JEC was concerned that there were no checks in place to prevent misuse of accounts online. Cheques for example needed two signatures.  
 Bank reconciliation checked quarterly by the chairman of the Finance Committee would notice irregularities. In addition Council was insured against fraud. Finance Committee to discuss.
- 312/05 **16 County Councillor’s Report**  
Accident Cycle Bridge – one of the bollards at the southern end was being removed as it was causing problems for cyclists.  
Highways Supervisor – MW had taken Bob Howard around Waterbeach. It was suggested that MPC invite Mr Howard tour Milton.  
Surgery – there had been one visitor.
- 313/05 **17 District Councillors’ Reports**  
 HMS  
Meeting with Tesco – Michael Greener had taken action on: litter, zebra crossings, cleaning up passageway and installation of CCTV.  
 He was happy to receive requests for help from the village.  
 A system to prevent trolleys from being taken off site was to be introduced.  
Ditch - the ditch at the Hospice was due to be cleared out again by members of the RAF.  
 RTS  
Capping – the Government intended capping SCDC by £2.6 million. SCDC had attended court to ask permission for a judicial review.
- 314/05 **18 Correspondence**  
 ACRE - notice of AGM  
 EEDA - Networking East Bulletin  
 Defra - Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005  
 CCC - Village Benefits Advice Service
- 19 Dates of Next Meetings**  
**Planning** tba  
**Youth** tba August  
**Council** 5 September

The meeting ended at 10.20pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....