

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF MILTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, ON THURSDAY, JUNE 6th., 1968
at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Mr.D.Pearson, in the Chair; Mrs.M.Jones, Messrs J.S.Doggett, J.W.R.Lewis, R.T.Summerfield and E.J.Walking together with the Clerk. An apology for absence was received from Mr.L.M.Forbes.

4 residents of the parish attended as onlookers.

Mr.R.E.Clark and Mr.T.T.G.Hardy of the County Planning Office attended at 8.00 p.m. by invitation.

1416

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

On the proposition of Mr.E.J.Walking seconded by Mr.J.S.Doggett, Mr.D.Pearson was elected Chairman for the ensuing year.

1417

DECLARATION OF OFFICE

The Chairman signed his Declaration of Acceptance of that Office.

1418

APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

On the proposition of Mrs.M.Jones seconded by Mr.E.J.Walking, Mr.L.M.Forbes was appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

1419

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF MARCH 12th., 1968

The circulated Minutes of that meeting were confirmed, signed by the Chairman and adopted.

1420

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

1420

Tarmacing at entrance to Recreation Ground and Village Hall (1414) - The Clerk was instructed to send a letter of appreciation to the Committee of Management for the work carried out by members of the Committee in laying the tarmac surface. This had reduced the cost considerably to that of materials alone and the Council unanimously agreed to pay this cost amounting to £114 0 2d.

1421

Sale of old Village Hall and site (1404) - The Clerk presented Messrs Taylor's statement of account showing receipt of \$2430 - the balance due from purchaser, costs amounting to £48 16s, net amount £2381 4s due to the Council.

1422

REPRESENTATIVE TO THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.

Proposed by Mr. Summerfield, seconded by Mr.Walking that Mr.J.W.R.Lewis be the Council's representative for 1968/9 on the Committee of Management.

1423

ELECTION OF 4 REPRESENTATIVE TRUSTEES TO MILTON PAROCHIAL CHARITIES.

Proposed by Mr.Doggett, seconded by Mr.Summerfield and unanimously agreed that these representatives now to be elected remain in Office for two years.

Proposed by Mr.Summerfield, seconded by Mrs Jones that Mr.D.Pearson, Mr.E.J.Walking, Mr.J.S.Doggett and Mr.J.W.R.Lewis be re-elected. This was unanimously agreed.

1424

NOTICE OF AUDIT.

The Clerk reported that all Account books etc., were to be

deposited on Monday, June 10th.: the Clerk to appear on Thursday, June 20th.

1425

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

The Clerk presented the Council accounts for 1967/68. These shewed total receipts of £3746 17 6; expenditure of £3002 3 5 and a balance in hand of £1026 5 3. The aggregate amount of receipts and payments, £6749 0 11 was a record for the Council. Stamp duty on this amount would be £20.

Mr. J.W.R.Lewis suggested investment of Current Account funds in the Post Office. The Clerk said he would consult the Auditors about this.

It was proposed by Mr. E.J.Walkling and seconded by Mr. Lewis that the Accounts be adopted.

1426

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS

These Accounts for y.e. March, 1968 were received from the Secretary with the pleasure and thanks of the Council. A balance in hand of about £400 would result when the final payments had been made for the erection of the new Village Hall.

1427

MONIES RECEIVED

The Clerk reported receipt of net sum in settlement of sale of old Village Hall

from Messrs W.J. & J.G. Taylor	£2381	4	0
Allotment rents to Lady Day, 1968	35	12	6
	£2416	16	6

1428

BILLS FOR PAYMENT

On the proposition of Mr. R.T. Summerfield seconded by Mr. J. W.R. Lewis, it was agreed that the following accounts be paid:

Village Hall Committee:

Product of 1 st Rate (4337).....	£118	-	-
Cost of tarmacing	114	-	2
County Council Smallholdings Rent	33	-	-
Parish Councils Association:			
Annual Subscription	12	5	0
Reviews	1	10	0
Comm. Union Assurance, Guarantee Bond...		5	0
Tansley Typewriter Co, Stencils.....	2	2	0
Aston Building Co. Repair 'Bus Shelter roof	12	10	0
Eastern Electricity, 'Bus Shelter lighting			
to 31st March, 1968...	1	7	8
Audit Stamp on £6749	20	0	0
	TOTAL	£314	19 10

1429

VACANT ALLOTMENT TENANCY

The Clerk reported that Mr. H.F. Tyrell had given notice to quit his holding as at Michaelmas, 1968. Application had been received from one person for a tenancy: Mr. M. Housden. On the proposition of Mr. E.J. Walkling seconded by Mr. J.W.R. Lewis it was unanimously agreed that Mr. Housden be granted the tenancy.

1430

DANGER OF GRAVEL PIT BEHIND RECREATION GROUND

Mrs M. Jones said two worried mothers had approached her for help regarding the dangers from this pit. Their very young children attending the Play Group were liable to stray as far as this.

After discussion the Council agreed it was a matter for the Committee of Management and instructed the Clerk to communicate a previous decision about these pits to the two mothers concerned (Minute No: 1375 stated that the Council considered the pit owners to be responsible for public safety).

1431

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This was arranged for Friday, September 6th., a date which had already been agreed with the Village Hall Committee.

PLANNING CONSULTATION MATTERS

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Until the arrival of the County Planning Officers the Council discussed the following:

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Factory Site and Approach to Village - There was general agreement that the Factory Site presented a rather sordid approach and traffic dangers as well as lack of car-parking facilities. The Clerk said another application by owners of Bene't farm for development of a petrol station had been received that morning.

1433

Gravel Pit Farm Caravan Site - The Clerk read a letter from that Site's Residents Association. The Council agreed that it would seem unfair to evict these residents from their homes for no particular reason; there was no suggestion of development or other use of the land and they did not present enjoyment of the green belt. The Council agreed to give them their support.

1434

Ready-Mix Site, Cambridge Road - The Clerk had had considerable complaints, as had the County Planning Office, by aggrieved residents during the last five weeks and further complaints to the Clerk that the Planning Office were taking little notice of their complaints.

The Clerk reminded the Council that they had not approved this development in August, 1967 as involving heavy traffic. He now reported to the Council that he had taken up their complaints as each had come along with the Chief Public Health Inspector, the County Planning Office and with Messrs Ready-Mix (London Colney) and the Landbeeh Concrete Co., who all assured him that all possible was being done. He had told the residents accordingly.

The Clerk read copies of the letters sent by residents to the Planning Office which they had sent him. They all complained of non-compliance with the conditions imposed in respect of Sunday working, considerable dust, grit, mud and noise and complete lack of screening of the site.

The Council agreed that the matter was a serious one and just cause for complaint.

DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE COUNCIL AND TWO COUNTY PLANNING OFFICERS.

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At this stage Mr. R.E. Clarke and Mr. T.T.G. Hardy of the County Planning Office were welcomed to the meeting which they addressed on Milton planning matters and during discussion replies were made to the above complaints.

1436

Mr. Clarke - said that Milton was one of the 'necklace villages' and its recent rapid growth was slowing-up now. Present policy was the 'infilling' of buildings and there was to be no further inroads on the greenbelt without the consent of the Minister, very unlikely to be given.

~~consent of the Minister - very unlikely to be given.~~

The zoning of the Industrial Site was the decision of the Minister in 1950.

He then referred to particular developments on that site:

1437 (1434) Ready-Mix - This was approved only on a number of conditions to be complied with including screening with live trees and was classed as light industry.

Mr. J.S. Doggett contended that the nearness of the boundary road to residents gardens and the laying-of drains there would make it difficult to plant trees and Mr. Clarke replied that light rooted shrubs would not affect the drains.

The Chairman then invited comments from these members of the public who were present as onlookers and several complainants gave their views. They considered there should be a 5 m.p.h. speed limit on all vehicles: dust and fine sand blew off moving vehicles as well as the storage bays. The general noise level from the plant was excessive. There should be restrictions on the use of the road at night.

Mr. Clarke replied that the dust problem would improve as the new concrete road settled down and both he and Mr. Hardy assured questioners and the Council that they would do all within their powers in co-operation with the Chief Public Health Inspector to alleviate nuisance and see that the developers complied with conditions. A meeting on the site was to be held in a few days time between the Ready-Mix Co., themselves and the Public Health Department and they would particularly consider suggesting immediate fencing although this was not in the planning conditions. The use of the road was conditioned by restriction on the working hours of machinery from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

1438 Messrs Kaye's - This application had been granted on condition the new factory was set back and screened with flowering shrubs. It was to employ 8 people, only. Mr. Hardy pointed out that the position of this site when development was completed would obscure the older part of the industrial site from view on approach to the village - a matter with which the Council was particularly concerned.

1439 Messrs Stokes' - The Chairman asked the Officers what the position was as regards the failure of Messrs Stokes to remove unauthorised buildings as they had been ordered to do.

Mr. Hardy said they had been served with 3 enforcement notices on their 500 foot building: public enquiry had followed at which the Minister had confirmed the orders for complete removal. As this had not been complied with the Local Authority were now taking the matter to court.

1440 (1433) Gravel Pit Farm Caravan Site - Mr. Hardy said this was refused Licence as a site in 1957 but had by usage become a site habitually used and licence had then been granted to regularise the position: but not for further extension. The Minister confirmed it should not be regarded as a permanent site and after renewal the licence to remain expires in September, 1968.

He said that planning policy was not to encourage more Caravan Sites in Milton as such residents needed amenities like schools and shops as did housing estates and Milton was not an area in which further estate development was likely. This site was, technically, in the green belt.

Mr. J.W.R. Lewis thought that their presence did not affect

anyone's enjoyment of the green belt with which Mr. Clarke and Mr. Hardy agreed.

1441

Small piece of waste land: Fen Road/Old School Lane - Mr. Hardy said this was a piece of land which the original developers of the nearby estate had agreed to landscape and provide with a permanent footpath. Owing to their failure in business he thought it might now be difficult to implement this condition.

The Council told him they feel the footpath, which has now been in use for several years should be retained for public use. Mr. Hardy said he would investigate the position from the point of view of ownership of the land and legal rights as to its use by the public.

1442

Future development - Mr. J.S. Deggett asked the Planning Officers if they had information on the ultimate density of population envisaged for Milton.

Mr. Clarke replied that the Parish Council might feel disposed to inform the Planning Committee if they feel saturation point to be reached so that this can be borne in mind in future planning.

The Chairman thanked the Planning Officers for their addresses, their contribution to discussion and their kind attendance at the Council Meeting. He also thanked those resident for their attendance and views.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 10 p.m.

Signed *L. W. Forbes* Vice Chairman

Date *September 6th 1968*