

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on May 8 1984 in Milton Village Hall at 8pm under the Chairmanship of Mrs. B.C. Waterson.

Present: Mrs. B.C. Waterson, W.D. Booth, A.D.J. Bull, R. Day, H.W.H. Easy, P. Harrold, K.P. Humphries, Mrs. L.M. Lock, Mrs. G. Tonks, Mrs. J. Westwood, about 40 residents and the Parish Clerk S.J. Daniels.

Apologies for absence were received from: G. Patten and Cllr. J. Brackenbury.

Minute 5951

- 1. The Chairman extended a warm welcome to all present. The minutes having been circulated were confirmed and signed.

2. Matters Arising

Library. It was hoped that there would be a branch library in Milton within the next three years.

Cemetery. The cemetery had been purchased. It was levelled, seeded, a fence had been erected, thorn hedging and trees has also been planted.

Village Sign. A design had been submitted by Mr. Holder who was now awaiting the carpenter's comments on the height and dimension.

Home Defence. The Chairman asked if any person would be willing to attend a course of lectures during the next year.

Camtrial. Mr. Nunn had been unable to continue as Milton's representative on the committee. Mr. J. Sandford had volunteered to take over.

Level Crossing. The level crossing had been half repaired. The Parish Council were awaiting a reply from British Rail as to when repairs would be completed.

Ditch - Old School Lane. The responsibility for cleaning the ditch belonged to the homeowners. The Divisional Surveyor would clean the ditch under the road only if the remainder of the ditch were cleaned out first.

Country Park. The Parish Council were still pressing for the Country Park.

A45 Interchange. An extra sign directing traffic to Newmarket had been provided.

40 m.p.h. Sign. It was anticipated that the 40 m.p.h. signs at the northern end of the village would be moved during the next few months.

Direction Signs. Dr. Lock asked if Waterbeach and Landbeach direction signs could be erected again at Pond Green as motorists quite often appeared to lose their way.

Bus Service. Mrs. Cooper had organised a petition concerning the poor bus service. She and Mrs. Westwood met Mr. Daines of Eastern Counties with the result that certain changes were introduced. It was hoped that the service had now improved.

- 3. Accounts. The clerk pointed out that the largest single payment for the year was for the cemetery. £8181 was in the Bank at the end of the year of which £5000 was set aside for the purchase of Middleton's Pit, £1000 for the sign and £1350 towards the cemetery.

In response to a question the Chairman explained that it was a requirement of the Milton District Plan that the recreation ground be extended to include Middleton's Pit. Mr. Sandford pointed out that the northern end was totally unsuitable for recreation purposes being very marshy.

Dr. Lock was concerned about the possible levying of tax on the interest in the deposit account as proposed in the Budget. Mr. Summerfield pointed out that Parish Councils would not be affected by this proposal.

Charities. The Rector explained that most of the balance carried forward in No. 1 Fund was allocated for two alarm systems for the elderly. The No. 2 Fund - General Benefit Fund - had £1500 in reserve which was allocated in three amounts of £500 towards the purchase of a shelter at the cemetery, to the village hall committee and the church extension. This would be shown in next year's accounts.

4. Chairman's Report. The Chairman opened the report by explaining that in addition to the normal monthly meetings there had been a number of extra meetings mainly to discuss the proposed development. The following controversial plans had recently been discussed.

- a) Cul-de-sac development of 7 dwellings on the Orchard Site Butt Lane. This according to S.C.D.C. was a special case and had been passed against the Parish Council's wishes.
- b) Cul-de-sac development of 12 dwellings at the rear of 14 - 16 Butt Lane. Again this had been passed.
- c) Cul-de-sac development of 10 dwellings off Willow Crescent. Although a decision had not yet been received the Parish Council were firmly against this proposal.
- d) Phase 4 of the Science Park. S.C.D.C. had found a legal mechanism whereby Phase 4 could be developed ahead of the date suggested in the Milton Plan.
- e) Gypsy Site by Mere Way. Detailed plans had been submitted and the Parish Council made their comments.

Recreation. Council were still awaiting the results of discussions between the District Valuer and Cyril Middleton and Co., re the purchase of Middleton's Pit. Failing a satisfactorily negotiated settlement compulsory purchase measures would be taken.

It was envisaged that a Sports Pavilion would be built on the new 9 acre recreation ground.

Council were pursuing the idea of a Village Hall/Sports Centre to be sited on the Coles Road recreation ground. A meeting of interested parties would be called as soon as definite plans were made.

Grass Cutting. Simon Shipp was continuing to cut the grass in 1984 plus the cemetery.

Youth Club. Mr. and Mrs. Martin were running the Youth Club on a voluntary basis. Council had offered £150 donation towards the cost of equipment. On behalf of the village the Chairman thanked Mr. and Mrs. Martin for the marvellous job they were doing.

Village Hall Committee. Members of this committee had met with the Council in the autumn of 1983. Some form of financial difficulty had been encountered. Council would discuss an increase in the grant at the next council meeting. The Chairman emphasised that the committee needed encouragement and extended the village's thanks for their hard work.

Village Cleaning. Mr. Shipp was thanked for continuing to keep the bus shelters and village tidy.

Tomkins Mead. Cubs, scouts and any other young people who had helped R. Day look after Tomkins Mead deserved thanks. During 1983 Mr. Day had taken over 100 visitors through the reserve. Willows had been pollarded with the help of the Conservation Corps.

Village Venture Competition. The scouts and Youth Club had entered this competition and would be busy tree planting during the next year. £200 had been allocated to spend on shrubs for the visibility splay opposite the factory site.

During the previous season over 90 trees had been planted.

Landfill Site. The County Council apologised for rubbish that occasionally blew through the village. They would ensure that any problems arising would be dealt with as soon as possible.

Complaints. A number of complaints had been received during the year about cycling on footpaths, dogs fouling on the footbridge and rubbish being dumped in the village.

The Chairman concluded by thanking all the parish councillors for their hard work during the year and also the clerk and his wife.

## 5. Question and Answer Session.

Planning Applications. Concern was expressed by a number of residents about the planning applications mentioned in the Chairman's report. It was felt that the S.C.D.C. took little notice of the Parish Council's view. K.P.H. commented that S.C.D.C. were pressured by government policy to consider every planning application.

There was a strong feeling that the Butt Lane developments would go ahead at the expense of safety to children. It was queried whether the village could go to a higher authority.

Youth Club. Mr. Martin thanked the Parish Council for the donation which was appreciated by the youngsters.

Coles Road. Mr. Farrington complained about the state of the surface of Coles Road. The Parish Council had complained on more than one occasion and would discuss the matter again.

Footbridge. Mr. Poulter wondered if the staggered railings at the bottom of the bridge should be firmly embedded perhaps in concrete.

Tear Drop Site. In answer to a query the Chairman explained that St. John's College who wished to develop this site would appeal against the Milton District Plan at the Public Inquiry.

Pearson Close. With the amount of vehicular traffic in Pearson Close Mr. Lee asked if there was some way drivers could be informed of children playing in the area. Mr. Chilton commented that road sweeping and drain clearing ended at Shirley Close. It was noted that the west end of Butt Lane was missed off the rota.

### Milton Plan

Drainage. In response to questions K.P.H. commented that the A.W.A. Drainage Scheme had fallen into some disrepute. As the 13th Public Drain was not the width specified by the A.W.A. because of buildings on the industrial site the developers were looking into the feasibility of draining water through the ditch by the side of the slip road. The 13th which would be diverted along the side of the slip road (with the result that two drains would be thus running parallel either side of the fence) would continue to drain into the river. The water would be kept in pondings to be pumped into the river at a controlled rate.

Landbeach Road Junction. Mr. Norman expressed the concern of residents about the Landbeach Road junction. He felt that the junction would need to be improved tremendously to ensure that residents north of Butt Lane did not diver through the village to reach the A10 by-pass.

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The Chairman pointed out that amendments had recently been made to the Plan to ensure that the junction would be improved to accommodate the flow of traffic from the northern housing area on to the A10 and vice versa. Mr. Norman was grateful for the efforts of the Parish Council but not confident of the result. A suggestion by the County Surveyor that a spine road linking the two housing areas had been withdrawn after pressure from the S.C.D.C. The Parish Council had always opposed any such idea mainly because of the extra hazard to the children cycling to and from Impington.

New Village Hall. Mr. Summerfield wondered how the new village hall would be financed and where it would be built. It was proposed that the hall be built on the present recreation ground. Council was looking at grant aid from S.C.D.C., the Sports Council and Development Commission. If any other grants were available then the Council would apply for them. Money would also need to be raised through the rates. It was hoped that the developer would provide money or a pavilion itself for the new recreation ground. S.C.D.C. were pursuing the idea of a levy on each house with the developers.

Dr. Booth expressed concern that there seemed to be little enthusiasm from the floor for the new village hall. The Chairman pointed out that at this stage the Parish Council were not asking for comments. Council would ask the Village Hall Committee and the various organisations for comments and requirements at the appropriate time.

Mr. R. Day explained that as a condition of the Milton Plan community facilities would need to be improved. In the interests of the village he supported as big a hall with indoor facilities as could be afforded. The Council had been encouraged by S.C.D.C. in this project and felt it important that the scheme be started as soon as possible.

As a final point Mr. Norman commented that the present hall was flourishing but that the committee was not.

The Chairman concluded the evening by thanking all for attending and closed the meeting at 10.15pm.

Signed Beryl C. Watson (Mrs.) Chairman 14.5.85 Date