

MINUTES OF THE MILTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 11TH APRIL 1978
AT 8 p.m. IN MILTON VILLAGE HALL UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF MR. R.T. SUMMERFIELD,
CHAIRMAN OF MILTON PARISH COUNCIL.

Present: Approximately 25 residents, D.J. Cook, H. Easy, Mrs. B.C. Waterson, K.P. Humphries, S.B. Poulter and the Clerk B.K. Connor.

Apologies received from Councillor Crossman, Mr. P. Kiddle, Mr. G. Patten and Mrs. M.E. Jones.

- 3892 1. The minutes and accounts for 1977 were presented in a brochure which was circulated and the minutes were then confirmed and signed by the Chairman.
2. There were no matters arising.

3892 3. Report by the Chairman

The Chairman welcomed those in attendance and advised the meeting that the past 12 months have again been a busy time for the Council and the Planning Committee. Two of the main planning matters covered the ASDA superstore which was refused as was the first application for the completion of the Shirley Close Estate, both of which are likely to go to appeal.

As far as the by-pass is concerned, the village presented a petition demanding action for a safer crossing at the Butt Lane junction and with the support of Mr. Francis Pym a meeting was arranged with the Eastern Road Construction Unit, the County Council and the Police.

Although all were in favour of a bridge or pelican crossing the Secretary of State ruled against these on economic grounds. Neither the petitioners nor the Parish Councillors were satisfied with this decision and with the help of Mr. Pym the E.R.C.U. have again been approached to review the matter.

With regard to the County Structure Plan this has been the subject of much discussion by the Council and after considerable pressure the County Planning Officer agreed to a public meeting in the village with support of over 200 people in attendance. A questionnaire was also prepared by the Parish Council which showed 88% of the population being against the proposals for Milton and only 12% in favour. The Parish Council have suggested 1) a population ceiling of 3,000 giving an extra 1,200 people up to 1991, 2) no new industrial sites in the village only completion of existing sites, and 3) any new industrial sites to be located south of the Cambridge northern by-pass.

With the help of Councillor Crossman the Parish Council can claim success in saving the village library which was destined for closure at one stage due to incorrect information being provided by the committee concerned.

Improvements in the village led the Chairman to offer his thanks to Mike Waggett for his tree planting efforts. A tennis court has been completed on the recreation ground with Parish Council money and an illuminated Christmas tree was provided on the war memorial green which was much appreciated. Thanks also to Roger Day for his work and organisation in clearing the Parish Council's new reserve behind Old School Lane and Coles Road which has now been named as Tomkins Mead as it was originally called this back as far as the year 1800.

The Silver Jubilee Committee deserve a vote of thanks for a very enjoyable days celebrations. The profit was divided between the official appeal and two commemorative seats.

The sad death of Mr. E.J. Walkling was reported and having served for so many years as both District and Parish Councillor he will be sadly missed in village life.

3892 4. Report on behalf of Milton School Managers by Mr. D. Bosley.

Pupil level remains the same at approximately 180 spread over six classes. There had been no problems with the children from the road construction unit - the standard of academic level has not dropped without the 11 plus. A very good understanding exists with I.V.C. The Jubilee sports were a success and thanks are due to Mr. Whitton for handing this over.

Although money cut-backs are not affecting staff the decorative order is deteriorating not having been touched for 4½ years and the fabrics are in the worst state ever - grateful thanks to Mr. Whitton and his members of staff for all their efforts over the year.

3892 5. Report on Impington Village College by Mr. R. Waters.

There have been cut-backs in 1977 finance - a cut in cleaning staff and decorations and building improvements plans have been shelved. John Brackenbury has retired and thanks should be publicly recorded for his services - welcome to his successor Mr. Kenneth Dunning who started in January 1978.

The Taylor Report has come into effect on the running of schools and since the scheme was instituted by Mr. Brackenbury the College is already carrying this out - governors, parents and the local authority advise the warden on problems - curriculum advisory group carried out by Mr. Dunning. The warden and governors are wholly behind Milton in the problems associated with the by-pass crossing.

3892 6. Village Hall and Recreation Ground Management Committee Report by Mr. L. Sandford, Chairman.

The year had been a good one involving hard work resulting in the raising of £1,000. Thanks to Parish Council for increased grant of £800. The Committee are paying money into a reserve fund for ultimate replacement of the Hall which is rapidly falling into disrepair through excessive wear and tear. Mr. Sandford felt that more support is needed and that a "them and us" situation had grown over recent years between the representative members on the Committee and the elected members. Thanks are due to the Parish Council for the tennis court and it is hoped the Tennis Club will be successful.

3892 7. Report of the District Councillor Mr. K.P. Humphries.

The District Council has continued its policy of not expanding with staff and cutting down on grants to voluntary bodies. Parish rate is not high, about average for all parishes and the district rate is the 5th lowest of 334 districts in the country. Housing problem in south Cambs. not so acute as a few years ago and on programme for 1977/8 allowed money for 160 houses. In Walkling Way the 12 2-bedroom units are up to schedule and hopefully will be available for autumn allocation.

Planning applications have shown a 20% increase so far this year across the board possibly due to the improvement in road and rail services. In view of this the planning staff are doing a good job since they are 20% under staffed.

There have been serious drainage problems in the parish caused largely by the building of the by-passes, but constant surveillance and contact with the Road Construction Unit will hopefully ensure rectification. On the question of the Milton by-pass Butt Lane crossing support has been given to the Council and Mr. John Lapham's petition in an effort to secure safety measures.

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The District Council have spent much time and been very involved with the Structure Plan and the outlook is much brighter than 12 months ago. The District and Parish Councils can only comment at this stage but hopefully the final plan can be influenced as have some of the first proposals originally published i.e. first plan showed 8-9,000 people and the Waterbeach corridor scheme which has been dropped. The inter-Council negotiations will continue on the distribution of 4,000 people within Milton and the City and it is hoped to limit Milton village to a maximum of 1500 within the by-pass boundaries.

Thanks are due to the Parish Council for their close cooperation.

3892 8. The summary of the accounts for 1977/78 were accepted provisionally.

3892 9. The Parochial Charity Accounts for 1976 were received by the meeting.

3892 10. Question and Answer Session

- a) Damaged footpath areas in Coles Road were reported following recent work carried out by the Gas Board - this would be investigated.
- b) Complaints were expressed about the poor street lighting - this is already the subject of investigation.
- c) The infilling of the pit alongside the recreation ground was queried and the Chairman confirmed that the situation is being monitored by the Parish Council.
- d) On the question of the Country Park Scheme the Chairman reported that the land owned by Nicholas has just been purchased by the County Council.
- e) The by-pass completion date was queried and K.P.H. has spoken to the local E.R.C.U. engineer earlier in the day and opening in August was forecasted.
- f) It was felt that the by-pass crossing with the Landbeach Road was potentially dangerous particularly coming from the Milton side where the road appeared to be very narrow - this would be investigated.
- g) The number of horse riding along the A10 verge/footpath was discussed since it was felt to be dangerous. Mr. Waters stated that the situation is best dealt with by complaint since the legislation is very old.
- h) Dr. Booth queried the village hall life span which was answered by Mr. Sandford as 10 years - since it may cost up to £30,000 for a replacement Dr. Booth felt that the population should be made aware of the situation and a long term replacement should be considered.

Mr. D. Jones proposed a vote of thanks to the Parish Council on behalf of the residents for which the Chairman expressed his thanks and also his gratitude to the Clerk for his work over the 12 months.

The meeting was then closed at 9.45 p.m.

Signed R. SumnerChairman..... 3.4.79Date