

Minutes of Meetings of Milton Parish Council held on 5th June 1978 at 7.30 p.m.  
In Milton Primary School.

Present: R.T. Summerfield (in the Chair), G. Patten, P. Kiddle, Mrs. M.E. Jones, Mrs. B.C. Waterson, H.W.H. Easy, D.J. Cook, Councillor K.P. Humphries and the Clerk B.K. Connor.

Apologies for absence received from S.B. Poulter and M. Waggett.

1. PLANNING COMMITTEE

1. 3593 The minutes of the Planning Committee of 8th May had been circulated and were confirmed and signed.

2. Matters Arising

- 3594 Middleton's Pit. Mr. Middleton had replied to the Clerk's letter (3581) regarding the future of the infilled pit with the statement to the effect that the company prefer to reserve their position in this matter.

The Clerk had been approached by Mr. R. Day regarding the rubbish which has been left at the edge of the former pit adjacent to the Tomkins Mead Ditch. H.E. also mentioned that a quantity of hardcore had been deposited at the other edge of the area. The Clerk was therefore instructed to write to the Planning Officer regarding this contravention of the original permission and send a copy to Middleton for information.

3. New Applications

- 3595 S/0908/78 - R.G. Lewcock, 60 Coles Road - house extension, rear ground floor - no comments.  
3596 S/0909/78 - N.E. Asplin, Stanton Farm, Ely Road - erection of agricultural building - no comments.  
3597 S/0917/78 - C.J. Hanson, land rear of Pryor Close/Old School Lane - outline permission 2 bungalows - the Chairman reminded the Council that the land in question had been the subject of an earlier application by the original owner but the Clerk had been unable to trace this. The Clerk was asked to draw the Planning Officer's attention to the original application which was refused and to place on record the Council's objection on the grounds that the area is designated as part of the Country Park Scheme and also that it is undesirable back-filling.  
3598 S/0910/78 - P.R. Garner, 106 High Street, Landbeach - proposed change of use of existing storage building into bungalow and garage - no comments.

4. Decisions Received

- 3599 S/0420/78/F - J. Farrow, Coles Road - erection of screen wall to front of yard - approved, but with conditions relating to visibility splays required on either side of the access and the gates should be of solid construction not of wrought iron.  
3600 S/0428/78/F - M. Gray, 7 Coles Road - addition of porch - approved.  
3601 S/0959/77 - ASDA Superstore at Benet Farm - appeal withdrawn.

Signed R. Summerfield ..... Chairman ..... 3rd July 1978 ..... Date

## 11. COUNCIL BUSINESS

1. 3602 The minutes of the Council meeting held on 8th May had been circulated and were confirmed and signed.

### 2. Matters Arising

- 3603 Footpath Repairs. The Clerk received a reply from the Divisional (3561 & 7) Surveyor concerning the requested work which will receive attention in the coming months with the exception of the Coles Road footway since action was not considered to be justified.
- 3604 Removal of Slacker Board at Johnson's Sluice. The Chairman had carried (3563) out a site visit and reported that the board had been dislodged.
- 3605 Allotment Holdings. The Clerk read the letter of reply from George Comins (3572) following the Council's wish to pursue their policy of not handing over the 4.4 acres presently farmed by H.W.H.E. In his letter Mr. Legge felt that the C.C. might be able to offer alternative land if the Council should voluntarily give up the existing area, and asked if the Council would like this particular avenue pursued on an informal basis. The Council expressed approval at this suggestion but would wish to know what alternative land can be offered.

Mr. Legge had also heard from the Department of Environment who have now received the duly signed compensation agreement from Few & Kester so that the actual compensation should be paid in the near future.

- 3606 Tennis Court. Following a complaint from the Tennis Club regarding (3573) surface damage which has occurred on the court during a recent warm spell the Clerk had reported the matter to Doe Contracts and a subsequent site inspection had been carried out. The Contractor's representative claimed that when the court was handed over it was mentioned that the softening of the surface could extend over a year which is in contradiction of the statement which accompanied the original quotation which mentioned a period of 4-5 weeks.

The Clerk had written to Doe Contracts who have agreed to check the situation later in the summer 'without prejudice'.

- 3607 Tree Damage. The Clerk had forwarded the copy invoice to Mr. Teeboon (3575) and a postal order in full payment had been received from Mrs. Teeboon.
- 3608 Milton By Pass - Butt Lane Crossing. Since no further news has been (3576) forthcoming the Clerk was instructed to write to Mr. Pym again to chase for progress expressing our concern since the latest news is that the by-pass will be open in July.
- 3609 Tomkins Mead. The circular had been distributed to neighbouring residents (3577) as requested.

Mr. Hanson replied to the Clerk's third letter and confirmed that he does not wish to sell his area of land adjacent to Tomkins Mead.

D.J.C. had received an enquiry from Coles Road residents next to the Marshalls Hostel who have expressed interest in extending their rear gardens to take up a triangle of Tomkins Mead land which lies between the edge of their properties and the tree border of the area.

The Council felt that the matter should be referred to Mr. Day for comments and that such a suggestion is really unacceptable in view of the hard work which has been carried out to preserve the area in its natural state.

- 3610 Bus Shelter Damage. The Clerk reported that the bus shelter opposite the (3578) Waggon & Horses has been reroofed but the repairs to the Cambridge Road shelter have not yet been started. The Clerk would chase Mr. Haird for action

3. 3611 Auditors Report. The Clerk had duly collected the Council's books and accounts for the periods ended 31/3/77 and 31/3/78 and the following comments were made. 1. The auditor felt that the precept should be reduced greatly in order to reduce the Council's balances. 2. The old uncrossed cheques in an earlier book should be destroyed in the presence of a witness and this was duly carried out at the meeting. 3. The auditor specified that the purchase of the mugs by the Council for the Silver Jubilee celebrations were made against the free 2<sup>nd</sup> section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 and this was agreed. 4. The fidelity guarantee cover must be increased to a minimum of £4,000, and the Clerk had duly obtained and completed the appropriate application form. The Council agreed that the level of cover would be acceptable. 5. All presented cheques should be retrieved from the bank and presented at future audits and the Clerk had written to the Council's bank with the appropriate request.
4. 3612 Landbeach/Milton Parish Boundary. Landbeach Parish Council had written to suggest that the 14 houses in Landbeach Road (i.e. Mr. J. Bull's house and those up to the white railings which mark the commencement of Landbeach High Street) should be transferred from Milton to Landbeach Parish. G.P. proposed that subject to the agreement of all those tenants involved that the Council should agree to this. The proposal was seconded by M.E.J. and following a vote was carried with 4 in favour and 2 against.
- An invitation had been extended to members of the Council to attend Landbeach Parish meeting on 9th June in the Village Hall to discuss this proposal before its submission to the C.C. P.K., G.P., D.J.C. and K.P.H. will attend and the Clerk was asked to present the Council's feelings in writing before this meeting.
5. 3613 Joint Meeting with Village Hall Management Committee. A meeting had been arranged for Tuesday 13th June at 8 p.m. in the Village Hall and it was suggested that the following items should be included on the agenda. (a) Replacement of the Village Hall; (b) Tennis Club, (c) Infilling of Middleton's Pit, (d) The use of golf balls on the recreation ground.
- 3614 Todd's Pit R.T.S. had spoken to Robert Arnold & Partners following a recent sale notice in respect of the 12.29 acres known as Todd's Pit which is offered as a fishing lake. The Clerk was asked to draw this to the attention of Mr. P. While of the County Planning Department and to ascertain if any action can be taken in an attempt to acquire this area as it was designated for the Country Park Scheme. The Clerk would also mention the Council's interest in obtaining Middleton's ground for possible use as an extension to the recreation ground again in connection with the Country Park Scheme. Mr. While's attention should also be drawn to the Joint Meeting which took place in 1974 to discuss this very subject.
6. 3615 Clerk's Salary and Payment to Assistant Clerk. The Clerk left the meeting at this stage. It was proposed by M.E.J., seconded by G.P. and agreed unanimously that the Clerk's salary and payment to the Clerk's assistant should be increased by 10% with effect from 1 April 1978. The allowance for expenses to remain unaltered.
7. 3616 V.H.M.C. Liquor Licence. The Clerk had received and acknowledged the notice served on the Council regarding the transfer of the former secretary's name on the licence (Mr. B.K. Connor) to the new secretary Mr. B. Brooklyn of 36 Coles Road. The initial protection order was heard on the 26th May in the County Court and the actual transfer will take place at the licensing sessions on 28th July 1978.

8. 3617 Annual Accounts from the V.H.M.C. The Council received a copy of the annual accounts for the year ended 31/3/78.
9. 3618 A10 Verge - Grass Cutting. The Divisional Surveyor had written to the Council regarding a request received from Mr. E. Deer of 3 Knights Way that the grass verge between his boundary fence and the A10 should not be cut so as to preserve the wild flowers and grasses which existed. The Council felt that in view of the safety aspect the verge should be cut. The Clerk would confirm this to the Divisional Surveyor mentioning that a large preservation project exists in the form of Tomkins Mead and in an effort to assure Mr. Deer that the request is not being refused 'just for the sake of it'.
10. 3619 Bills for Payment and Monies Received.

Monies Received:-

Mrs. Teeboon, Histon - payment for damaged tree (3575) £10-50

It was proposed by G.P., seconded by P.K. and agreed that the following bills be paid:-

(1) E.F.G. (Nurseries) Ltd. - replacement tree (3575)		£12-42
(2) Dept. of the Environment - audit fees for years ending 31/3/77 & 31/3/78		£82-08
(3) Cash for R. Buck - cleaning duties 12/3/78-10/6/78		£13-00
(4) Mrs. J.R. Connor - secretarial duties		
14 hrs @ £1.00	14-00	
posts & telephone for May	<u>3-16</u>	£17-16
(5) Mr. B.K. Connor - clerk's salary for May	37-50	
rental/heating/lighting allowance April/May June	<u>62-50</u>	£100-00
(6) Scitech Publications - photocopying agenda/minutes for May		£5-08

11. Any Other Business

- 3620 Flats at the South End of Coles Road. Mr. J. Confrey of 73 Coles Road had approached G.P. to make a complaint regarding the disgusting condition of the grass around the flats. The Clerk was instructed to attempt to discover the present owner(s) of the blocks concerned and to request that immediate clearance action should be taken. Mr. Confrey should be kept informed.
- 3621 Golf Balls on the Recreation Ground. K.P.H. had mentioned the problem of people practising golf on the recreation ground with the District Council's newly appointed barrister. It was confirmed that the Management Committee are in law reasonably entitled to see that all such hazards are removed and to that end notices should be located at each entrance. H.E. confirmed that he had raised the question of the possible dangers from golf balls on the recreation ground with the V.H.M.C. who had decided not to take any action. In view however of the latest information and advice to hand H.E. will arrange to raise the matter again.
- 3622 Retirement of Dr. H.B. Whitmore. P.K. felt that the services of Dr. Whitmore in the village had been most valuable and proposed that the Parish Council should make a contribution to the collection which is being arranged by Mrs. J. Briggs of Church Lane, and be represented if necessary at any presentation which may be organised. After discussion this was seconded by B.C.W. and then put to the vote 3 being in favour with 3 against. The Chairman then voted in favour of the proposal which was carried.

H.E. volunteered to contact Mrs. Briggs to seek details of any help that the Council could provide with regard to organisation or the presentation and would report to R.T.S. D.J.C. proposed that a ceiling of £10 should be imposed on the donation which should be at the Chairman's discretion. This was seconded by P.K. and carried unanimously. It was further agreed that a letter of thanks would be forwarded to Dr. Whitmore at a later stage.

3623 Roadside Seat near the Level Crossing, Fen Road. H.E. reported that the seat base is damaged and repairs are required. The Clerk would advise Mr. D. Haird accordingly.

3624 Moss Development, Shirley Close. K.P.H. advised the Council that Moss (3536) had lodged an appeal against the refusal of the application to build 40 houses.

3625 Registration of V.H.M.C. as Charity. The Treasurer of the V.H.M.C. Mr. D. Jones had written to the Clerk regarding the completion of the application form to become a registered charity. It was felt that the Management Committee should complete the application form since they are the body wishing to become a registered charity.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.30 p.m.

Signed [Signature] .....Chairman..... 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1978 .....Signed