

Minutes of Meetings of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 5th December 1977 in Milton Primary School.

Present: R.T. Summerfield (in the Chair), M. Waggett, G. Patten, Mrs. M.E. Jones
Mrs. B.C. Waterson, S.B. Poulter, H. Easy, Councillor W.H. Crossman,
Councillor K.P. Humphries, and the Clerk B.K. Connor.

Apologies: P. Kiddle and D.J. Cook.

I. PLANNING COMMITTEE

1. 3435 The minutes of the Planning Committee of 7th November had been circulated and were confirmed and signed.

2. Matters Arising

3436 Conservation Area. Councillor K.P. Humphries provided a copy of the (3406) Cambridge Study Area Development Plan Review 1971 in which a provisional list of conservation areas had been formulated. Fen Road from its junction with Church Lane to Shirley Lodge had been included in the list. The Clerk was therefore instructed to reply to the County Planning Officer's letter of 19 October pointing out these facts and asking for possible reconsideration to be given.

3. New Applications

3437 S/00734/74 - C. Middleton & Co., Winship Industrial Estate, permission (2497) requested to extend outline planning for a further 3 months
- no comments.

There being no further planning matters the Chairman closed this stage of the meeting.

Signed.....*R. Summerfield*.....Chairman.....*9/1/78*.....Date

II. COUNCIL BUSINESS

1. 3438 The minutes of the meeting of 7th November had been circulated and were confirmed and signed.

2. Matters Arising

3439 Christmas Lighting. The Chairman, S.B.P. and B.K.C. had met on site on (3423) 28th November and selected a location for the Christmas tree socket adjacent to the horse chestnut tree on the village green. S.B.P. hoped that the concreting work would be carried out on 6th December after which time the Clerk would contact Mr. R. Stanley regarding delivery of the tree. Mr. L. Sandford had volunteered to make arrangements with the Salvation Army regarding a carol service. B.C.W. mentioned that this should not coincide with the children carol singing in the village on Tuesday evening 20th December.

3440 Proposed Closure of Milton Library. Councillor Crossman attended the (3434) meeting and gave a resumé of the situation to date from which it was hoped that no further action on the closure would take place. M.E.J. thanked Councillor Crossman for all his efforts on our behalf.

3441 Tennis Court on Recreation Ground. The Clerk confirmed that an order has (3425) been placed with Doe Contracts and a deposit of £500 as requested had been paid. The only item which required confirmation was the selection of the site which is in the hands of the Village Hall Management Sub-Committee.

3442 Milton By-Pass Butt Lane Crossing. The Chairman reported that the meeting (3426) held on 8th November at the E.R.C.U. Office was very successful. The feeling of the meeting was that all those present fully supported the Council's objectives in asking for a bridge as a first priority with the second alternative being a pelican crossing, whilst the third option a patrolled crossing was not really considered as being practicable. Mr. H. Lawrence of the E.R.C.U. had undertaken to write to the Treasury and K.P.H. had sent a report to Mr. Pym who in turn would write to the Minister himself. It was felt that there was little chance of sufficient finance being available for a bridge but the pelican crossing appeared to be a very satisfactory alternative.

3443 Silver Jubilee Commemorative Seats. The Secretary of the S.J.C., Mr. F. (3427) Burling, had written to confirm the final sites for the two seats namely one at the entrance to Walkling Way, and the other on the green opposite the baker's shop. The Council were asked if the cost of providing the material for laying concrete aprons in front of the seats would be financed by the Parish Council, and on a proposition by G.P., seconded by M.W., this was unanimously agreed.

3444 Drainage. The Clerk read to the meeting a letter dated 17th November from (3431) the E.R.C.U. detailing the progress to date which appeared to be virtually none apart from negotiations taking place with the Milton Charities which K.P.H. confirmed, and a commutation payment has to be settled to enable the charities to maintain ditches in the future.

The Chairman then asked the Clerk to reply to the E.R.C.U. asking for exact details of what works it is proposed to carry out and where since no further news has been forthcoming following the joint meeting which was held on 29th March.

3. 3445 Rate Precept for 1978/79. The present Council's balances amount to approximately £8,000 having paid £500 deposit for the tennis court leaving approx. £3,400 as a final settlement. B.C.W. proposed that a figure of £3,000 should be precepted, this was seconded by G.P. and agreed unanimously.

4. 3446 Closure of Butt Lane. The County Secretary provided the notice covering the Prohibition of Driving Order 1977 scheduled to come into operation on 19th December 1977. It was noted however that the present rate of progress indicated that the by-pass would not be opened until February/March and Butt Lane will not be closed until this is ready.

5. 3447 County Structure Plan - Draft Proposals. The Chairman had extracted (3433) copies of pages 142, 144, 145, 148, 151, 152, 159 and 160 which mentioned Milton specifically. Councillor Crossman was then invited to advise the Council of his feelings regarding the situation. Firstly it was hoped that there will be a public meeting in Milton early next year. Councillor Crossman disagrees entirely with the figures and projections used since he can see no reason for the basic concept which is being used regarding the extent of population and industrial growth. The population has not increased at the predicted rate of 2.4% since the actual figure was 1.9% - the birth rate has shown a significant decline.

The plan is in fact a death warrant for the smaller villages which have, particularly in Milton's case, historical interest and Councillor Crossman wants to preserve this. On the question of schools, if growth is allowed or happens on a large scale then another secondary school will be needed in the "area" as would be the case with all facilities through to the social services in the community. Councillor Crossman felt that if development is to take place it should not be in Milton but it would be perfectly reasonable and acceptable to permit natural growth.

G.P. suggested a referendum whereby every household in the village should be asked for their views which would give the Parish Council formal backing for any comments they wish to submit. Councillor Crossman felt that such an operation should be carried out after the public meeting which would give everyone the opportunity of examining the facts as presented. The Chairman suggested that he would join the planning sub-committee at a special meeting to prepare the referendum/circular for distribution.

Councillor Crossman suggested that the Clerk should contact Mr. Purdy the County Planning Officer to arrange a date for the public meeting and it was felt that week beginning Monday 9th January would be most convenient since Councillor Crossman will not be available from the 15th onwards. The Chairman then thanked Councillor Crossman for his time and a very helpful discussion.

6. Bills for Payment

3448 It was proposed by H.E., seconded by B.C.W. and agreed that the following bills be paid.

1. Cash for Mr. R. Buck - cleaning duties 11/9/77-10/12/77		£13-00
2. Mrs. J.R. Connor - secretarial duties		
November 14 hrs @ £1.00	£14-00	
postages & telephone	1.97	£15-97
3. Mr. B.K. Connor - Clerk's salary for November	37-50	
heating, lighting allowance		
Oct/Nov/Dec	62-50	£100-00
4. S-Print - photocopying agenda & minutues		
November		£5-37

7. Any Other Business

3449 Tree Stakes & Ties. M.W. requested permission to buy new stakes and ties as required and authorisation was given.

3450 Parish Banks. K.P.H. as Clerk of the Milton Parochial Charities advised (3366) the meeting that the Council will have to apply to the Charities Commission for a scheme to complete the handover of land. It was agreed that K.P.H. would provide the Clerk with the requisite information for the application to be made.

3451 Allotments. The Clerk reported that Mr. E. Waterson of 13 Butt Lane has been allocated a new holding.

3452 Bulk Refuse Bins. The Clerk had received a letter from S.C.D.C. to advise that the Council are responsible for ensuring that all large bins are in good condition to avoid the possibility of any injury being caused to the collectors. The Clerk had forwarded a copy of the letter to the M.V.H.M.C. Sub-Committee requesting that a check be carried out on the Village Hall bin.

3453 Cambridge and District Citizens Advice Bureau. The Clerk distributed handbills outlining the services available with the address, telephone number and opening hours of the Bureau. A copy of this information would be displayed in the Council's noticeboard.

3454 High Street Name Plate Cherry Close Junction. The Clerk has reported the damaged condition of the sign and posts to the Environmental Health Department, S.C.D.C., who have agreed to put the work in hand at the earliest opportunity.

8. Date for next meeting.

3455 The date for the next meeting will be set following finalisation of the arrangements for the Structure Plan Public Meeting. 1978 Meetings will continue to be held on the first Monday in the month where possible.

Signed.....*Dummeville*.....Chairman.....*9/1/78*.....Date