

**Minutes of the Maintenance Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on
Monday 19 June 2023 at 7:30pm held in the Bowls Pavilion**

Present: P Ellwood (PE)(Chairman), HM Smith (HMS), D Wildman (DW), J Coston (JEC),

In Attendance: J Barrett (Deputy Clerk), A Horne (Non-voting Member), P Adams (Village Maintenance Person)

1 Election of Committee Chairman

DW proposed PE for Chairman, and this was agreed unanimously by members

2 Apologies for absence

None – Full committee in attendance

3 To APPROVE the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 20 March 2023

DW Proposed to approve the Minutes of the meeting of Monday 20 March 2023 as a true record, HMS Seconded. **All AGREED**

4 Declarations of interest and dispensation:

To receive declarations of interest from councillors for items on agenda: None

To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any); None

To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate; None

5 Public Participation

No public in attendance

6 Allotments

PE reported that the temporary signs (designed by PE and the Clerk) are currently working

PE reported that the security fencing/hedges will be looked into further once the 15 trees have been removed.

JB reported that there were 2 vacant plots, and a check on the condition of the allotments had been carried out. Four require maintenance and the tenants had been written to.

PA reported that the water pumps require maintenance and replacement parts would need to be ordered.

AH asked when the allotment charges should be reviewed. JB was asked to prepare some details of charges levied by other Parish Councils and report to the next meeting.

7 Paddock Wood

JB reported that the tree saplings had taken well and most showed good growth

8 Cemetery

Members had received the report listing the Cemetery charges levied by other Parish Councils. PE said it was clear that the Milton charges were well below the costs levied by others. The main difference was that Milton did not currently make any charge for Interments. Members discussed the charges relating to double plots, for interment, and charges for a double ashes plot as well as the review of current charges. Members agreed that a further meeting of Maintenance Committee with proposed charges based on up to a 20% increase and an interment charge to be added of around £200.

JEC asked what policy would apply to a burial where the successors had no financial means to support the costs. HMS reported that in these cases the successors should approach the District Council to arrange a burial.

Members noted that bird and bug boxes as well as hedgehog houses had been placed in the cemetery

9 Play Areas

PE reported that a village resident had drawn attention to the mess due to pigeons on the children’s swings. It was suggested that spikes could be fixed to the cross bars to prevent birds landing above the swing seats. JB was asked to obtain comment from the Play Area Inspection company ensure this proposal did not conflict with general safety advice.

PE reported that the Play Area Inspection Reports did not contain any adverse comments that required actions.

To consider replacement of dog bin on Fromet Way

Costs from SCDC: £518.68 + VAT for red bin or £417.75 + VAT for topsy dual use green bin

Members discussed new waste bins and it was noted that the District Council had confirmed that the new bins were dual use and would take general waste as well as dog faeces. They were moving away from separate dog bins.

ALL AGREED for replacement with a topsy dual use green bin

Faulker Close Play Area – Members asked if Buchans had been asked to provide options with cost estimates to revamp the grassed areas. Options for improvements could include a wildflower grassed area and new fence surround. **Clerk/Deputy Clerk to follow up**

The Village Sign – Pond Green

PE reported that the cost estimate from Cambridge Renovation was still awaited.

Repton Gate:

DW and PE reported that the Repton Gate had been installed at North Lodge Pavillion and dates would be proposed to invite Parish Councillors and village residents to view the historic gate. PE would prepare an information script explaining its history.

10 Dates of Next Meeting

Monday 18 September 2023 – 7:45pm

Note : an earlier meeting would be called to discuss the Cemetery charges.

Meeting closed at 9pm Signed: Date:

DRAFT