**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 5th September 2023 at 7pm in Millington Village Hall.**

Present: Cllrs Cawood, Smith, Willoughby and Morgan. Ward Cllr Hammond and two ERYC representatives were also in attendance.

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**OPEN FORUM**

Nothing was discussed here.

**Meeting started at 19:00**

2023.87 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Cllr Burley had informed the clerk that she might be late to the meeting.

2023.88 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST– None.

2023.89 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN JULY

It was agreed that that these were a true and accurate record and were signed by Cllr Cawood.

2023.90 WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT

Patrick Wareham and Josh from the ERYC Countryside Access Team updated the PC on their plans for Millington woods. They have been removing the trees with ash die-back near walkways but leaving the other diseased ash trees to naturally decay. ERYC are carrying out this work with the Forestry Commission and Natural England.

Natural England assessed the woods last year and found it to be in a poor SSSI state. ERYC have since conducted a botanical survey and the rare plants and fauna are still present.

In two areas they are proposing to fell the ash trees that will not mature due to the disease and will leave the area for two years before planting different species with the aim to diversify the areas. In one area in particular, removal of the ash trees is too dangerous so these will be left to decay naturally.

Cllr Cawood thanked them for their time.

**19:20 Cllr Burley arrived at the meeting.**

Ward Cllr Hammond stated that ERYC have secured Government funding to improve the bus services offered. Millington is one of the villages that will benefit. Details are yet to be finalised.

The ERYC Design Code is out for consultation in September. This is a community-led document on new developments.

Cllr Cawood noted that she had not heard anything further regarding the cow ties in the pastures. Ward Cllr Hammond will chase this.

Cllr Cawood reported that a private contractor had split oil on the road in Givendale and had erected warning signs. These were placed along verges and on her private property. These signs have now been taken down but left in the hedgerow. Ward Cllr Hammond will report this.

Cllr Smith reported the poor state of The Bence. Several potholes have been filled in, but the road surface remains poor. ACTION: Clerk to raise this with relevant department.

2023.91 MATTERS ARISING (topics not covered elsewhere on the agenda)

Outstanding Register of Interest Forms

Cllrs Smith, Burley and Swanborough handed the clerk their outstanding forms.

Potholes, loose kerbstones and grass verges

The clerk had reported all potholes, loose kerb stones and the grass verges to ERYC in June. Cllrs confirmed some work had been carried out. ACTION: Clerk to forward outstanding jobs to Ward Cllr Hammond to progress.

2023.92 ACCOUNTS

The clerk had sent the accounts reconciliation, schedule of payments and bank statements, prior to the meeting.

Samantha O’Connor – Clerk expenses - £5.63 (July)

Samantha O’Connor – Clerk salary (July)

Samantha O’Connor – Clerk expenses - £5.63 (August)

Cllrs Cawood and Burley reviewed and signed the invoices and schedule of payments.

Cllr Swanborough reviewed and signed the bank statement and accounts reconciliation.

2023.93 D-DAY EVENT

It was discussed to keep this on as a rolling item until any grant information is received.

2023.94 DEFIBIRLLATOR FOR GIVENDALE

An enquiry was received from a neighbouring parishioner regarding the status of the defibrillator as it was showing as ‘not available’ on The Circuit. Cllr Cawood confirmed that this was an admin error on their database and has been reported.

The PC were asked to consider purchasing a defibrillator for Givendale. A discussion was held, and it was agreed that the PC would have no objections to the neighbouring parishioner purchasing a defibrillator and installing it themselves but the PC do not feel that given the number of residents and the small distance to surrounding defibrillators, that this is something they could realistically raise the precept for. In addition, there is no public building in Givendale so the machine would have to be placed and connected to a private property.

2023.95 BONFIRE AND CHIRSTMAS EVENTS PLANNING (Including Risk Assessment for Bonfire)

Cllr Willoughby asked the PC to consider lowering the proposed new prices of the bonfire tickets given the surplus in the account. A discussion was held, and it was agreed that the price would be lowered to £8 per adult and £4 per child.

It was agreed to finalise details for both events at a social meeting to take place on Monday 11th at 7pm.

2023.96 PARISH MATTERS

Cllr Cawood read out the list of subjects for Parish Matters, all were happy with the content.

2023.97 CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNITY ISSUES

Cllr Cawood noted that the resident who currently is in a residential home and could not attend the coronation event had written to the PC, thanking them for the delivery of a commemorative mug.

2023.98 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

3rd October at 7pm in the Village Hall. Cllr Willoughby gave her apologies in advance.

**Meeting closed at 20:20**

Signed as a true and accurate record of the minutes.