

**MINUTES OF THE KILMINGTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD AT THE STOURTON &
KILMINGTON HOME GUARD CLUB ON MONDAY 23RD MAY 2022 AT 19.30 HRS.**

Present: Cllr G Cotton (Chairman), Cllrs. Flower, Mrs Hames, C Reeves, G Hunt, A Reeves, C Webster.
In attendance: Mrs Ruth Burrows (Parish Clerk) and 3 members of the public (two arrived at 19.40 hrs).

Apologies Cllr G Jeans.

1. WELCOME

Cllr Cotton welcomed all present and opened the meeting at 19.35 hrs.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST APM

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 20 May 2021, previously circulated as well as displayed on our website, were taken as read and approved without amendment on a proposal from Cllr C Reeves, seconded by Cllr Mrs E Hames and agreed by all who had been present at last year's meeting. The Chairman signed the Minutes.

3. PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public present wished to say anything during this session.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Cllr Cotton gave a summary of Parish Council activities during the past year:

Roads: We have had regular meetings with the Parish Steward at the start of his monthly visits. The purpose is to brief him on work to be done which is limited to pot-holes of a certain size, clearing vegetation from grips, signs and junction visibility splays and clearing surface water drains.

Liaising with Wiltshire Highways regarding the state of the roads in Kilmington. This has included walking the top section of the Street with the senior Highways Engineer to establish that the quality of the re-surfacing is sub-standard and that improvements are needed. Submitting regular requests to work to be done in the dip in Butts Lane.

Parking at Brookside: We have had a number of contacts (Zoom meetings, emails and phone calls) with the National Trust regarding this subject because there they have a covenant on the playing field, which the PC purchased from them in 2002, which requires their permission for any part of it to be used for a non-leisure activity. These negotiations have dragged on for many months but I am pleased to say that we now have a possible solution which we will be detailing when this matter is discussed at the Annual Parish Council (APC) meeting later this evening.

Kilmington School: We have spent time discussing the current status and future action with the Diocese of Salisbury Academy Trust (DSAT), Nick Hoare and the Outcomes First Group who are interested in purchasing the school and playing field and re-opening the school for children with special needs. My understanding is that negotiations are taking place between DSAT and Wiltshire Council and that DSAT's objective is to offer, for sale, the school building and the playing field as one unit. This is apparently a complex and lengthy process and DSAT expects it may take a year from now. I will be updating the meeting with the latest information at tonight's PC meeting.

Rights of Way: We have spent time in discussion with the RoW department of Wiltshire Council regarding various matters concerned with Row's in Kilmington.

Planning: The PC considered a total of 6 applications during the year. Two of these concerned the same site – the conversion of a part redundant barn to form a one bed dwelling and formation of a

new vehicle access. There are a couple of straight forward extensions which have been approved; another for 5 glamping pods which was withdrawn and there is one for a new build holiday accommodation which is still outstanding and yet to be decided.

Broadband & Mobile Phone: Cllr Webster has shown huge patience and brilliant use of his contacts in both Openreach and BT during the year and he will be providing the latest update when this item is discussed at our APC meeting this evening.

Flood Plan: Cllr Andrew Reeves had spent many hours producing the Flood Plan and it is an excellent document. Although major flooding in Kilmingdon has rarely occurred in the past the prediction of more and more extreme weather makes a Flood Plan a necessary requirement.

Many people make a contribution to life in Kilmingdon and I would like to thank the following for their continuing efforts:

- Ian Cameron, as coordinator for the Public Access Defibrillator.
- Peter Samson & Georgina Muir for their work on the area around the village pump and War Memorial.
- Gillian Bowles, Darren Davis, Cllr Chris Reeves and Cllr Mrs Elizabeth Hames for their contributions to the smooth running of the playing field.
- Tony Chubb for his prompt attention to the various maintenance needs of the village.
- Cllr Roy Flower who manages the SID for the village.
- Cllr George Jeans for his unfailing support on so many village matters.

Finally, I would like to thank Ruth Burrows, our Clerk for her very hard work and coping so well with the ever-increasing workload.

5. ANNUAL REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR G JEANS, WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

Cllr Jeans had provided his annual report which covers the whole of the Mere Division which he represents and this is available to view on our website. The Clerk was asked to read out the two sections which were of particular interest to Kilmingdon:

Highways: I would like to see a B3092 Acceleration Lane at Coombe Barn Farm junction – the Clerk of Kilmingdon Parish Council has written to Paul Shaddock at CATG (Community Action Transport Group, that is soon to become the Local Highways & Footways Improvement Group – LHFIG) and is the Traffic Engineer of the Salisbury Transportation Team asking if there would be any funds available from WC for improvements at this junction. Any monies would most likely have to be awarded on a substantive bid application. Kilmingdon Parish Council resolved that they would support me on this issue.

Broadband: Non-commercial intervention aid for broadband in our area has finished, the Mere area has benefited from this program, it is now down to individuals and commercial forces to provide what fibre broadband is provided. I and others in Mere have received request for Gigaclear to cross land, to expand a Full Fibre, Ultrafast Broadband network throughout the local community. I have been informed by a Kilmingdon PC councillor that if procurement has started between Wiltshire Council and BDUK local voucher schemes such as Stourhead have implemented will not be able to go ahead until any such Wiltshire intervention Ultrafast Broadband plan is implemented. I have been informed by a Wiltshire Council officer that this is correct.

6. REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE FOLLOWING PARISH ORGANISATIONS:

Kilmingdon Amenity Fund: Cllr Mrs Hames reported that the numbers in the draw each month have increased from 176 to 188 which is very pleasing as all the new people she had called on that had moved into the village joined at our big collection time in January 2022. The online collection stayed

about the same at 20, most subscriptions still come into the fund by cash which is required to pay out the prize money.

The prize money each month has stayed the same as the previous year at £50 split as 1st £25, 2nd £15 and 3rd £10.

Expenditure this year has been the Firework Display in November £478.00 with the help of the VAT from the Parish Council.

Another larger gazebo in March costing £679.97

Photographs of the Murder Most Foul event for the village Album in March £24.59

A donation towards the new posts around the Village Pump area in March £160.00

At the end of the financial year the bank statement was £1575.56. The fund is run by Elizabeth Hames and Elizabeth Reed.

John Hooper Charity: The Parish Clerk had contacted Neville Meeker who had provided the following statement of accounts to 31 December 2021:

Income £9.82

Distribution: -£6.00

Kilminster LCC -£4.00

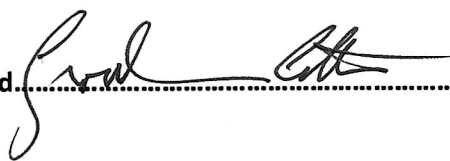
Balance in hand £42.30

Kilminster News – Cllr Mrs Hames's report is attached and shows an income of £340.57 and expenditure of £36.77. These figures did not include the printing costs for 01.04.21 to 31.03.22.

On behalf of all the Parish Councillors, Elizabeth Hames thanked Graham Cotton for his commitment and contribution to the village over the past year.

7. The Chairman closed the meeting at 19.50 hrs

Signed.....



Date: 22/05/23

The minutes will be reviewed and formally ratified by the PC at the next Annual Parish Meeting in May 2023

KILMINGTON NEWS ACCOUNTS: 1st APRIL 2021 – 31st MARCH 2022

INCOME

2021 April	Cash in hand	36.77
2021 MAY	Kilminster Parish Council	70.00
	BACS Donation	
2021 AUG	M Booth	
	BACS (subs Collection)	40.50
2021 OCT	Antique Fair Advert	5.00
	BACS	
2021 NOV	SUBSCRIPTION MONIES	
	Cash	157.30
2021 NOV	SUBS: BACS	1.00
2022 MARCH	Subs and Donations	30.00

Total Income: £340.57

EXPENSES

2021 April	Viking via E Reed (cash) for Pink Paper	36.77
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TOTAL EXPENDITURE: £36.77

PRINTING COST HAS NOT BE TAKE OUT TO DATE:

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Kilmington Amenity Fund Report 2021-2022

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The Prize money each month stayed the same at £50.00
First: £25.00, Second: £15.00 and Third: £10.00

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THE JOHN HOOPER CHARITY AT 31.01.2021

Income. £9.82

Distribution. - £6.00

Kilmington LCC - £4.00

Balance in hand. £42.30

N. Meeker

2022 Annual Report – Cllr George Jeans, Wiltshire Council, Mere Division

The Mere division for which I am elected, includes Mere, Stourton with Gasper, West Knoyle, Zeals and Kilminster. The committees and task groups I sit on at present are Audit, The Financial Task Group, LEP (Local Enterprise Partnership) task group, Southern Planning, The South West Area Board, Licensing and Full Council. The task groups are part of Wiltshire Council scrutiny. The Broadband project board which now only intervenes in the north of Wiltshire, this board is an officer led board.

Wiltshire Council business for me is busy at present. The Wiltshire Climate Strategy was approved at Full Council, which I attended on Tuesday 15th February, it was a marathon, from leaving home to returning was 13 hours. The agenda was nearly 600 pages.

Hazzards Hill, Mere I get complaints regarding parking on the hill plus blockage to vehicle access on Burton Path White Road entrance. Highways have agreed a sign to help the householders access saying Private Road with footpath only across. It is hoped then if the police are called to a disturbance caused by an access blockage, the situation will be clear to the police.

Shreen Harmony Choir and other individuals complained regarding the reduced light on the steps at the rear of the Salisbury Street Car Park, when sodium was replaced with LED Light, I was pleased Mere Town Council paid for enhanced lighting.

I have tried with the Area Board and Mere Town Council to establish a Car club and EV points in Mere Salisbury Street Car park, at present this may go ahead.

I have helped the Mere platinum jubilee committee all I can, helping achieve area board grants and third party funds plus supporting a grant for the villages around Mere, which although a small grant will help kick start some functions.

I help with practical functions when possible, for instance I cleaned the "Welcome to Mere" Chamber of Trade sign on the B3092 coming from Frome to Mere. I attend local functions and forwarded pictures and text to the media to help publicize Mere. I lay a wreath on behalf of Wiltshire Council on Remembrance Sunday in Mere each year. I have done my best to make all aware of any road works in the Mere area. I run a site called comparethemere.com to promote business, community groups and The Mere Chamber of Trade. I support many local clubs, I belong to many however often I have no time to join in. Mere and West Knoyle Christmas Light display awards, were organized by their Town or Parish Councils, I help organize the awards.

Wiltshire Council are enlarging the premises of Mere School. As part of the expansion project will be significantly more parking spaces. I managed to achieve increased lighting in parts of the car parking area for safety reasons, Mere Town Council also are aware of lighting and safety issues.

£180 million is available for new council housing construction, some ex-council houses are being bought back by Wiltshire Council in Mere and around. Lynch

Close, after an initial meeting a lot of the residents who are elderly went away under the impression that they would be removed from Lynch Close to a new development in Angel Lane, too which many were upset and worried. It will be at least three years before Lynch Close sees improvement or redevelopment. The Mere Day Centre at Lynch Close will have its Wiltshire Council funding removed. A new scheme is available to bid for, at Full Council it was agreed to let this new scheme go before scrutiny so as providers amongst others can have some input to its implementation, it appears to me the funding may be a challenge to obtain.

Fives Court in Angel Lane is being considered for development and one of the options is to build flats aimed at older people. I have pointed out an adequate footway is required and the buildings need to be low in height and respect the conservation area. I would like to see somewhere on the site some provision for medical use, even if it is only for visiting medical persons.

I would like to see a B3092 Acceleration Lane at Coombe Barn Farm junction – the Clerk of Kilminster Parish Council has written to Paul Shaddock at CATG (Community Action Transport Group, that is soon to become the Local Highways & Footways Improvement Group – LHFIG) and is the Traffic Engineer of the Salisbury Transportation Team asking if there would be any funds available from WC for improvements at this junction. Any monies would most likely have to be awarded on a substantive bid application. Kilminster Parish Council resolved that they would support me on this issue.

Area Board funding for community grant funding is reduced and the South West Wiltshire Area Board will be finding it more difficult to satisfy applications.

In adverse weather conditions and power cuts some over three nights as we have seen recently, note for a few more years many have a traditional land line, these work with a basic non battery powered phone. I had to explain this to several as the household internet fails when there is no power, eventually I lost my O2 data on my mobile phone, therefore the only communication left was the traditional phone line.

I understand and hope the mechanism of reporting highway and other issues will be revisited; officers seem aware of the problems. The My Wilts App for instance in my opinion needs improvement.

Non-commercial intervention aid for broadband in our area has finished, the Mere area has benefited from this program, it is now down to individuals and commercial forces to provide what fibre broadband is provided. I and others in Mere have received request for Gigaclear to cross land, to expand a Full Fibre, Ultrafast Broadband network throughout the local community. I have been informed by a Kilminster PC councillor that if procurement has started between Wiltshire Council and BDUK local voucher schemes such as Stourhead have implemented will not be able to go ahead until any such Wiltshire intervention Ultrafast Broadband plan is implemented. I have been informed by a Wiltshire Council officer that this is correct.

Wiltshire Council are now cutting verges from September. I have received a number of complaints regarding the verges in some areas. I wish to see wildlife however I consider safety at junctions and other situations paramount. I have reported junctions as I have noticed problems as others have, in the main they have been cut back. The coming season I understand the cutting will be further considered to allow for situations some dangerous in my opinion that have occurred last year.

I sit on the Southern Area planning Committee, Kilmington Parish Council achieved their wish to have overturned a planners report to refuse planning permission to a young couple, to live in a converted small barn/garage in Kilmington.

The new Wiltshire Council require all new councillors when appropriate to receive training. During our training we were informed planning was not a means for a councillor to become popular. I take issue with this; councillors are popular if they try and do what the majority want, I considered that is what we are elected for, we cannot always achieve the majority view. We have the ability on occasion to take applications to an elected committee, yes the committee has to balance the issues however localism comes into play and is considered.

Along the southern side of the A303T by-pass trees have grown up in places since around 1973 when it was opened. In places the trees cover a high percentage of neighbour's property and they are losing sun from their gardens. I met with Highways England and the trees have been thinned in areas.

"Waltons Footpath" after considerable input by many who wanted this route, the inspectors did not support. For pedestrians using the Manor Road route I am sure the issue of conflict for pedestrians with motorist still needs addressing.

Wiltshire's policy of not allowing application forms to be printed from their web site or in some cases not providing any, for amongst other applications, blue badge applications, tree works in conservation area applications etc., has caused complaint to me. Please note if you phone customer services on 03004560100, should you have no access to IT equipment, they will phone you back for a verbal application.

The issue of Dog fouling and the depositing of plastic bags with excrement in public places is a problem, some local people do what they can to improve the situation and I support where I can.

The lorry parking site next to Leaping Frogs Nursey at Zeals have been the subject of planning applications, I have supported the wishes of Zeals parish councils.
