



Minutes from the meeting of Miserden Parish Council
Held Tuesday, July 30 at 6 pm in Miserden Village Hall

Present: Chairman Cllr Kevin Allin, Vice-Chairman Cllr Tim Shields, Cllr Martin Ractliffe, Cllr Vanessa Price.

Apologies: Cllr Laura Cobb

In attendance: Gwen Durland (as Clerk and RFO), Volunteer Warden Nicholas Mann, one member of the public.

23/24 The Chairman welcomed everyone and accepted apologies from Cllr Cobb.

24/24 No declarations of interest were made.

The council found this a source of **assurance**.

25/24 Minutes from June 2024 were approved as written.

The council found this a source of **assurance**.

Action: GD to post signed minutes to website.

26/24 **Chairman's remarks**

Chairman Allin gave an update on the commemorative tree donated by the Miserden Village Hall Trust to be planted in recognition of 22 years of dedicated and faithful service by Martin Ractliffe as Chairman of Miserden Parish Council.

The 10-year-old rowan tree is to be planted in the upcoming days in the NW corner of the Village Hall property.

Chairman Allin also noted his access to the online banking function of the MPC accounts has been rectified by Cooperative Bank.

The council took this as a source of information an **assurance**.

27/24 No members of the public came forward with comments or questions.

The council took this as a source of **assurance**.

28/24 GCC Cllr Sue Williams was not in attendance. Cotswold National Landscape Volunteer Warden Nicholas Mann gave an update. He met with Highways PROW officer Frank Dorrington-Ward who provided him with a spreadsheet of all the public footpaths in the Miserden Parish which need repair and/or maintenance. Warden Mann was able to go through the list and update many PROWs which had already been cleared either by the volunteers from National Landscape, MPC, or the Miserden Estate.

Warden Mann provided Mr Dorrington-Ward with photos of footpaths 43 and 44 as requested.

Warden Mann also spoke to landowner Mr C Ashmead regarding the footpath crossing his land in which crops have overgrown the footpath. Mr Ashmead has subsequently cut suitable walking space around the crop this year, and stated next year he would maintain the footpath. This was found acceptable by Warden Mann and by MPC.

Bridleway 12 leading to Dillay Farm has many fallen and felled trees preventing any horses from using the bridleway. It was uncertain how many trees had fallen on their own and how many had been

purposely felled to block the path. PROW officer Dorrington-Ward has updated the report and teams will be allocated to clear the bridleway for use by horse riders.

A missing stile was noted on footpath 47 (Honeycombe to Througham).

The council thanked VW Mann and found the report to be a source of information.

Action: TS to make sure FP 47 is reported via FixMyStreet.com

GD to contact clerk at Bisley-With-Lypiatt to ensure the council is aware of Bridleway 12 and Footpath 47 status.

29/24 Finance Report

Account balances as of 30 July 2024:

Current Account £9217.20

Reserves Account £5178.89

Petty Cash £137.00

Income for July £0.00

| | | | | |
|--------------|----|--------------|---------------|----------------------------|
| Expenditures | £ | | Cheque 500870 | G Durland / Clerk's Salary |
| | £5 | Direct Debit | | CPRE monthly membership |

Budget amendments:

The council approved the amended 2024-25 budget subject to working group meeting with Parish Post editor for cost saving strategies.

The council found this a source of information and **assurance**.

Actions: GD to meet with TS for forecasting strategies

GD to coordinate working group with MR, LC, VP and Parish Post editor

GD to recruit council member to tailor new 2024 NALC Financial Regulations policy to meet the needs of MPC.

30/24 Clerk's Report

Clerk Gwen Durland alerted council and those in attendance of correspondence from Stroud & District Motor Club Ltd. of the Mechanics Classic Trial to take place October 27, 2024.

The event will travel along CR 5114 at approximately 10:45am to 12:45pm. The group has assured MPC that as it is not a rally, but a 'Road Reliability Trial', local speed limits will be maintained. All drivers are under strict instruction to minimise noise, and any residents in the area likely to be directly affected will be personally contacted by the organisation prior to the event.

GD also reminded councillors and those present that there is no regular council meeting held in August.

Actions: GD to update website with Classic Trial and meeting information.

31/24 Community Open Day results

The council received a list of all comments left by those who came to the Open Day held in May at Whiteway Colony Hall. Cllr Allin went through the list and was pleased to report that most of the concerns had already been either resolved or dealt with via the appropriate authority. Of those remaining, speeding throughout the parish, the recurrent flooding on 'the clay piece' at the NW end of Whiteway, and the rare wildflowers growing along the road edges in danger of being cut down by Highways verge maintenance crews.

The council found this a source of information and **assurance**.

Actions: KA to source and obtain speed guns for MPC and parish volunteers to record speeds at key times. GD to ask Bisley-With-Lypiatt clerk where they borrowed theirs from in 2022.

TS to contact SDC and environment agency to discuss runoff from the clay piece and to work with landowner for a resolution.

MR to obtain wildflower markers and contact parishioners interested in preservation to arrange marking certain species

MPC and staff to take photos of remaining potholes and submit additional reports to Highways.

32/24 **Road Safety Survey results**

Results from the survey were collated and distributed to council for discussion. Highways manager Yakub Mulla had previously recommended speed surveys be performed in several hot spots within the parish. As the surveys would cost MPC £180 + VAT each, funding will have to be found before this can occur. In the meantime, community speed watch (speed guns and reporting) crews to be organised.

Other ideas brought forth by the residents of the parish will be taken on board and funding will be pursued via grant(s) and government funding.

The council found this a source of information and concern but **assurance** that the council is working on the issues diligently.

Actions: KA to source equipment for speed watch crews
Council to seek funding advice from GCC Cllr Sue Williams
GD to post survey results on website.

33/24 **Hit-and-run incident at Miserden Stores**

PSCO Nicky Wood is chasing up a report from the officer in charge of the case. No further information provided to date.

The council found this of great concern and the issue will be **brought forward** to the next meeting.

Action: Vice-Chairman Shields will be contacting the Police and Crime Commissioner regarding this incident due to the seriousness of the crime to hasten police action.

34/24 **Dog waste bin – Whiteway**

The broken pole holding the dog waste bin to the SE end of the colony has been reported to the council and will be repaired as soon as possible.

The council found this a source of information and **assurance**.

Action: MR to purchase replacement timber and VP to replace post.

Chairman Allin closed meeting at 19:12

Next full council meeting scheduled for 24 September at 6pm to be held at Whiteway Colony Hall.

Minutes approved: _____

Date: _____