**MILTON BRYAN PARISH MEETING**

**Minutes of the Milton Bryan Parish Meeting**

**held on Wednesday 26th February 2020**

**in The Village Hall, Milton Bryan**

Present*:*  18 residents, John Harris – Chairman,

Karen Barker – Clerk, CBC Cllr John Baker

John Harris confirmed that this is his last meeting as Chairman of the Parish Meeting and that he will not be standing again in May 2020. He said that another resident will be required to take on the role from the May 2020 meeting. The Clerk said that she has been in contact with CBC regarding the filling of the vacancy. If no Chairman is appointed then it would appear that the Parish Meeting may appoint a person in attendance at the meeting to take the Chair, and that person shall have, for the purposes of that meeting, the powers and authority of the Chairman. This will be reliant on someone stepping forward to cover that meeting. The Clerk said that this would allow the May meeting to go ahead but would not be an ideal way forward for future meetings. She urged residents to give it some thought.

David Peel said that he has stepped down from the Meeting Support Committee and as an Observer for the MIM Trustee Meetings with immediate effect.

614 **Apologies**:

Apologies were received from Deborah Barker and Gill East

615 **Minutes of previous meeting**:

It was resolved to accept that the Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 30th October 2019 be signed as a true record of events.

616 **Matters Arising**:

There were no matters arising.

617 **Reports and Representations:**

617.1 CBC Cllr J Baker

CBC Cllr Baker thanked the Chairman for his support and that he will give his full support to the future Chairman.

Annual budget:

CBC budget: there is a 3.95% increase in the annual budget. CBC Cllr Baker said he has queried the large salaries paid to senior officers.

Ofsted: CBC received a very unsatisfactory Ofsted report with regards to special educational needs. This will now be considered by a committee.

Boundary changes: CBC Cllr Baker said that there has been a consultation regarding changing the ward boundaries. He said that no other wards wanted to join with the Aspley and Woburn Ward and it has therefore been decided that there will be no change to the ward boundary. There will be some changes elsewhere.

Expressway: there is no news but there is talk that it will be cancelled but this is not confirmed.

Road warning sign/village sign: improvements to the warning sign that is in place on the road between Eversholt and Milton Bryan has been requested. The road signs at the top of the village have been defaced and will be reported.

618 **Open Forum**:

There were no comments by members of the public.

619 **Milton Bryan Charity:**

619.1 Re-election of Trustees

Mr Robin Friend and Mrs Claire Francis were re-elected as Charity Trustees. This was proposed by Steve Harris and seconded by David Peel and agreed by all.

620 **Village Matters:**

620.1 Military Intelligence Museum

John Harris said that following the MIM meeting held in January, David Peel and Robin Friend have stepped down as Observers. Steve Harris and John Hinton agreed to take on the role.

620.2 Website

The Clerk reported that the website is up and running with many thanks to Jed Gibson who did a great job setting up the website. The website address is: www.miltonbryan.org

621 **Finance:**

621.1 Accounts to 31st January 2020

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | £ |
| Barclays Current Account | 1,263.68 |
| Barclays Savings Account | 2,328.83 |
| Less unpresented chqs | 77.50  19.00  19.20 |
| **TOTAL** | 3,476.81 |
|  |  |
| B/F 2018/19 | 3,391.46 |
| Receipts to 31st January 2020 | 2,888.48 |
| Payments to 31st January 2020 | 2,803.13 |
| **TOTAL** | 3,476.81 |

621.2 February payments were noted by the Parish Meeting:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Chq No | Payee | £ |
| 100616 | K Barker – salary and expenses | 97.36 |
| 100617 | HMRC – Clerks Tax | 19.20 |
| 100618 | BATPC – subscription | 45.00 |
|  | TOTAL | 161.56 |

* 1. Accounts to 31st January 2020

The opening balance of the year was £3,391.46. The biggest project cost in the current financial year was the refurbishment of the signs at £455.00 plus £400 to the Village Hall, this annual cost was agreed by the meeting. The accounts balance at 31st January was £3,476.81 less remaining expenditure of £302.53 leaves a total of £3,174.28 at the year-end in the reserves. The bank mandate needs amending to include Deborah Barker and Robin Friend as previously agreed and remove David Peel. This will be done shortly.

* 1. Budget/Precept 2020/21

The Clerk reported that the precept was not increased and remains at £2,710 for 2020/21 and was submitted in January.

* 1. Cemetery Maintenance - funding

The Clerk said that as mentioned at the October meeting, the Church have made an application for a maintenance grant. The Parish meeting decided to delay the decision until the February meeting pending the outcome of the precept increase. As the precept has not increased, the meeting will need to decide whether to make a one off or an annual contribution of £250.

John Harris said that he has been approached by some residents to offer their help in the cemetery. He said that the area used to be full of wildflowers, not just grassed. Residents agreed that they would like the area to be more natural with perhaps wildflowers. Residents voted 1 in favour of making a contribution, 8 against, 10 abstained. The motion was carried to refuse the request . The Clerk to inform the Church Warden. (**Action Clerk**)

622 **Planning:**

622.1 CB/20/00317/FULL – Orchards, South End – construction of detached house and detached double car port. The Parish Meeting agreed that they have no objection to the application providing that the plans are adhered to and the mature trees remain in place. Conditions should be put in place to protect the trees.

623 **Correspondence:**

Bedfordshire Matters

624 **Date of next meeting:**

Meetings will be held in October, February and May each year.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 27th May 2020 starting at 7.30pm. The Meeting closed at 8.17pm

Signed: ……………………………………. (Chairman) Date: ………………………….