**MILTON BRYAN PARISH MEETING**

**Minutes of the Milton Bryan Parish Meeting**

**held on Wednesday 6th March 2024**

**in the Village Hall**

Present*:*  19 members of the public, Peter Horrocks – Chairman,

Karen Barker – Clerk, CBC Cllr John Baker

725 **Apologies**:

There were no apologies given.

The Chairman spoke about the sad passing of two residents, Barbara Wickens and Hazel Clarke. Parish Meeting members expressed their thanks to both residents for their contribution to the village over the years.

726 **Minutes of previous meeting**:

The Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 1st November 2023 were approved and agreed by all those present. The minutes were signed by the Chairman as a true record of events.

727 **Matters Arising**:

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

728 **Reports and Representations:**

728.1 CBC Cllr J Baker gave a report:

* Charges – Council Tax will increase by 5%. A new garden waste collection charge will be introduced from 1st April of £55 per bin per household. Further details to be sent out and residents will need to subscribe to the scheme.
* Highways – CBC will be spending a significant sum on making road improvements. There are still some repairs to be done in Milton Bryan.
* East/West Rail – funding has been agreed for the line from Bletchley to Bedford. A statutory consultation will be released later in the year.

729 **Open Forum:**

729.1 Residents spoke about efficiencies that CBC can make including dimming of street lights, reducing borrowing and spending less on major projects.

729.2 Village Hall

Upcoming events include the Big Breakfast and Race Night.

730 **Village Matters:**

730.1 St Peter’s Church – Church Treasurer Alan White

Mr White gave an update since the last meeting. The Vicar should be back working full time from April. The tower roof repair work has been undertaken to reduce leaks. The special meeting was held on 17th January to discuss the future of the Church. He said responses for volunteers to help with fundraising has been disappointing and it is hoped that more people will come forward. Fundraising events to be held include a Church fete, Ploughmans Lunch, Harvest Supper and Christmas Tree Festival. The events will be advertised locally including leafleting, posters, the website and whatsapp group. Mr White thanked the Village Hall Trustees as they have agreed to raise the hall rental charge to help with fundraising. Mr White suggested that some of the money raised could be used to repair the Church Clock. He said that he will get a quote for the repair and report back to the meeting.

730.2 Village projects/highways

There was nothing to report.

730.3 Charity – re-election of Trustee

Robin Friend proposed the re-election of Terry McCann as Trustee of Milton Bryan Charity. This was seconded by the Chairman and agreed by all present.

730.4 Parish Meeting policies for annual review

The Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Risk Assessment and Asset Register were reviewed and agreed with no changes.

731 **Finance:**

731.1 Accounts to 31st January 2024:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | £ |
| Barclays Current Account | 3,161.94 |
| Barclays Savings Account | 2,355.37 |
| Less unpresented chqs 755, 756, 757, 758, 759 | 238.92 |
| **TOTAL** | 5,278.39 |
|  |  |
| B/F 2022/23 | 4,619.21 |
| Receipts to 31st January 2024 | 2,894.31 |
| Payments to 31st January 2024 | 2,235.13 |
| **TOTAL** | 5,278.39 |

731.2 Other finance matters:

731.2.1 Budget/Precept 2024/25

The Clerk confirmed that the precept was not increased and remained at £2,710. She said that as the precept has not increased for a number of years, it is very likely that this will need to increase in 2025/26 but that any increase will be kept to a minimum.

732 **Planning:**

There were no planning matters to be raised. The Clerk to continue to forward

any planning applications received from CBC via the Village circulation list.

733 **Correspondence:**

There was no correspondence.

734 **Date of next meeting:**

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

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 29th May 2024 starting at 7.30pm.

The Meeting closed at 8.16pm

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