

MONKTON COMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in the Village Hall on 24th August 2009 at 7.30 pm.

Present:

Chairman: Kevin Murphy (KLM)
 Councillors: Lyn Alvis (LA), Alison Bossom (AB)
 Clerk: Rachel Willcox (RW)
 Visitors: Cllr Neil Butters (NB) for the full meeting and Richard Backhouse (RB) (Principal Monkton School) for part of the meeting

Apologies: Simon Ling, Ray Franks (RF)

BT Phone Box:

Correspondence has been received from BT encouraging the Parish Council to 'adopt' the phone box and allowing BT to disconnect the phone line. Cllr. Neil Butters is encouraging the Parish Council to raise the profile by publicity. Cllr Butters will organise a photo shoot at the box with a photographer from the local press. Parish Councillors are to find out which parishioners regularly use the phone box and invite them to the photograph. The deadline for putting our case to B&NES Council is 31st October.

Richard Backhouse entered the meeting at 8.10pm

Monkton Combe School – Summer Camps

Richard Backhouse was invited to attend tonight's meeting to discuss the recent events during a summer camp on the school grounds in the village. The camp organised by 'One World' generated a significant number of complaints from parishioners both written and verbal to the Parish Council regarding noise and general inconsiderate behaviour. An article was also published in the Bath Chronicle. Richard Backhouse explained that a letter had been sent to all parishioners apologising for the disturbance caused and stating that One World will not be returning to the school property again. To ensure a similar situation does not occur again, the school are taking legal advice with regards to their contract to ensure there are adequate provisions included to provide greater control. This will include break clauses to enable to them to ask groups to leave should they flout the contract conditions, such as breaking the curfew. Richard Backhouse explained that the other groups that use the school during the holidays have a very different ethos from One World. In future the School will be more rigorous in taking up references from organisations wishing to hire the schools' facilities. The Parish Council proposed that a duty mobile number for a responsible member of staff be provided throughout the holidays and published widely so villagers would know who to call should problems arise. Richard Backhouse agreed to consider this.

Footpath & road leading to Monkton Combe Prep School: resurfacing works have begun on road. KLM understood the footpath belonged to the school and suggested that the footpath be resurfaced at the same time as the road. RB advised that the contractors working on the hockey pitch were obliged to make good the road only but agreed to look into this request.

Rubbish on Junior School land alongside footpath on Mount Pleasant:

RB confirmed that B&NES Council are sending their cleansing team periodically as they have agreed the rubbish is originating from footpath users. The school also 'loans' out students as part of a voluntary programme – in future maybe they could help clear the area.

Signed:

Kevin Murphy
 Cllr Kevin Murphy

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It was agreed that continuing liaison would be beneficial.

Richard Backhouse left the meeting at 8.40pm

Minutes: The minutes of Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting held on 27th May were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Resignation of Cllr Simon Ling:

A letter has been received from Cllr Ling by KLM. Cllr Ling was thanked for his work with the Parish Council. Councillors will consider possible replacements. The Clerk was asked to confirm the process for selection.

Matters Arising: From minutes of 13th July 2009 meeting.

▪ RISK ASSESSMENT

Assets:

LA	a	Playground: i) Village hall fencing – has the purchase of this been instructed by Mike Newton? LA to find out. ii) Playground Grant application – no grants available for repair of equipment – just new installations.
KLM		KLM to investigate option of new set of swings for playground.
KLM / LA	b	Gate onto playground: KLM has sourced a manufacturer, and has provided them with the ROSPA guidelines and awaiting confirmation of compliance. Hard standing in front of gate may need to be created after gate installed for access. LA to speak to Des Whiton for contact details for contractor. Top Access from car park, gate may need to be installed. To be reviewed once bottom gate is installed.
RW	c	Signage for Car Park and Playground: RW still sourcing quotes for A5 size warning sign to be screwed into stone entrance for car park, and to gate for playground.

▪ HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

RW	1.	a. <u>Mill Leat</u> still awaiting results of Land Registry search. b. Re Sewage Works, Wessex Water have started investigative works in parishioner's garden. RW to email Wessex Water and find out details.
AB	2.	<u>Brassknocker Hill</u> – BANES policy has changed, they are no longer painting warnings on the roads, so sign on the Right handside of road warning of crossroad will be installed in August. AB to chase
LA	3.	<u>Barbed wire fencing on Summer Lane</u> Grit bin has been relocated in front of barbed wire on Summer Lane, Nick Sperring (B&NES) is contacting Mr Horler to ask for total removal of wire. LA to chase
	4.	Second Bridge - Works to be carried out in September. Bridleway will be

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		closed during works.
	5.	Drung by Mount Pleasant – Wall fully collapsed since previous meeting and drung was temporarily shut. However, has now been completely rebuilt by Mark Womersley (landowner) and is now safe and passable.

▪ SCHOOL:

KLM		KLM to email Amanda Cracknell, Bursar regarding consultation feedback/response summary. Nothing has been received to date. KLM to chase
AB		Peter Bossom to email Amanda Cracknell re info for newsletter re festivals/events on school grounds. Reply received, to be made a regular feature of magazine.
KLM		KLM to ask Di Franks to put link on MC website to school website.

▪ PLANNING

▪ CLUSTER / LIAISON MEETINGS

▪ ANY OTHER BUSINESS from previous meetings:

TO BE MONITORED:

	a	Rubbish collecting at bottom of Church Drung
	b	Pendragon House – Warminster Rd
	c	Code of Conduct
	d	Speeding in village
	e	Cutting of hedgerows
	f	Erosion of road edges in Village – especially Tucking Mill Lane.
	g	Combe Grove Hotel noise
	h	Barn on Tucking Mill Lane – usage

RF	a.	Weir Fundraising. Check progress with SL.
RW	b.	New Councillors – RW to speak to Vernon Hitchin at BANES re increasing number of councillors from 5 to 7.
	c.	Village Truncheon – letter sent to Wheelwrights to clarify truncheon on loan. No response as yet.
	d.	Village Notice board – broken bolts fixed. The Parish Council thanked Peter Bossom for his assistance.
KLM	e.	Mount Pleasant Notice Board – Replacement size to be determined. Consider relocation.
KLM	f.	Bat Sump – email from Mines Team received by KLM stating that landscaping works should be commencing 17 th September. They are encouraging Mr Frayling to put his fencing up. KLM to chase, copy in NB.
LA	g.	Litter on Mount Pleasant Quarry footpath – LA to encourage John Snow to get someone to clear it.
	g.	Red Box 2 new boxes purchased and one now in circulation. Old contents to be reviewed at next meeting.
	h.	Lock-up – metal hasp and hinge viewed by metalworker and opinion is

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		that no work is needed.
KLM	i.	Drungs – top of Innox is next project on B&NES Council list. However, no date has yet been given by BANES. KLM to email Cllr Butters regarding general condition of Drungs

Planning:

The following planning applications have been received:			
09/02174/FUL	Church Farm Barn Church Lane Monkton Combe	Erection of stable and tack in paddock	Comments only box ticked and forms returned. "We question citing a prefabricated building next to a listed building in a conservation area. We note that no commercial activity is proposed.
09/0207/FUL	The Orchard, Trollopes Hill. Monkton Combe	Alterations to roof (Retrospective)	RW to email planning to request previous application floor plans and drawings.

Rugby Club Extension – permitted. KLM to contact Planning Officer requesting confirmation of the dates considered by B&NES Council to be included in the 'season'.

Monkton Combe Garage – removal of condition 8 – refused.

1. Highways and Footpaths:

- Mr Hubbard – ongoing issue re footpath clearance – BANES are aware.

2. Correspondence: (including email)

- Received by Email
 - Community Cash back – no projects suitable in Monkton Combe
 - Mobile Library service – plans for cutbacks threatening village service have been dropped.
 - Tucking Mill – Green Lane – concerns changing the type of road from normal highway to green lane thus reducing speed limit on known rat run.

3. Cluster/Liaison Meetings:

- *Parish Police Forum 15th July*
 - Community speed watch – issues with speed guns interfering with radio signals, Police attempting to resolve
 - Distraction burglaries – posters put up by RF on notice boards to warn of rogue engineers calling re digital switchover
 - PACT meetings – huge amount of work generated by these meetings particularly for environmental services and highways, review underway into whole process by BANES and Police

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- Police Contact Vehicle – review underway into effectiveness of the initiative given it is very expensive in terms of typing up vehicles and personnel. villages *may* be asked when we would like one to call.

4. Bills & Accounts:

- Audit papers returned from Mazars for slight adjustment. Amended and signed by KLM and RW. To be returned.
- LA to look at different options for reinvestment of Barclays Bond that has now expired.

Payments

Date			To	For	Amount
28/07/2009	724	b	Clerk	Salary	£83.33
01/08/2009	724	d	BANES	Car Parking Rates	£21.00
01/08/2009	724	c	Ian Croker	Village Cleaning	£241.31

Receipts - None since previous meeting

Account balances as of 31/7/09

Current Account	100.00
Reserve Account (Miss Davis Garden)	2326.56
Reserve Account (MCPC)	6493.62

5. Any other Business

- Combe Down Councillors email newsletter – AB does not receive this, RW to forward the next newsletter so AB can register.
- Cardboard collections – continuing problems – village collections are split over the two different weeks. Cllr Butters advised the Parish Council to bring up the issue at the next Cluster meeting and keep contacting BANES.
- Summer Lane closure on Friday 7th August 2009 – this was an unauthorised closure. BANES have suggested it may have been a delivery to Tumblers Batch, but this has not been confirmed.

The meeting closed at 10.45pm

6. Date of Next meeting: 7th October 7.30pm

Signed:

Kevin Murphy
Cllr Kevin Murphy

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