

Merriott Parish Council

**Minutes of the October Meeting of the Parish Council
held on Monday 14th October 2019 at 7pm in The Blake Room, Merriott Village Hall.**

Cllr Iain Hall (Chair)
Cllr Steve Ashton
Cllr Michael Burnham
Cllr Dave Aslett
Cllr C Paine
Cllr N Rochford
Cllr J Graham

In attendance

Julie Chant (Clerk) and 8 members of the public

19/116 Public Open Session

Cllr Hall welcomed everyone present to the meeting. Those present to speak about items other than those on the agenda were invited to address the Council.
There were no comments from members of the public.

19/117 Apologies for absence

Cllr Paul Maxwell (conference), Cllr A Dance (holiday), Cllr Grant Wright, Cllr J Shorting (holiday)

19/118 Code of Conduct and Declarations of Interests

Cllr I Hall declared an interest in two invoices on the payment list minute 19/126 a) and Cllr S Ashton declared an interest in 19/127 d) solar panels at pavilion.

19/119 Minutes of the last meeting:

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th September 2019 were agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

19/120 Matters arising for the minutes;

The Clerk has not yet written to Highways with regard to A 356

19/121 Report from County Councillor

Cllr Adam Dance was absent, but had spoken to the Clerk prior to the meeting regarding the SIS

19/122 Report from District Councillor

Cllr Paul Maxwell was not present.

19/123 Planning including applications currently in circulation:

19/01021/FUL – Land at Pye Corner, Merriott -Demolition of existing steel open sided barn, and change of use of site to residential. Conversion and extension of existing stone barn to a single storey dwelling with new detached garage and the construction of three two storey detached houses and garages, with associated courtyard, parking and garden areas. Development to provide a total of four dwelling units. - Councillors discussed the application and listened to the concerns raised by a neighbour, noting that the double garages had now been repositioned and the dwellings were now closer to her boundary.

It was proposed that a site meeting be held and the response be delegated to the Clerk. – All agreed.

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19/02229/LBC -69B Lower Street Merriott – the repainting of 2 windows and 1 door on rear elevation. – Councillors felt that painting the windows would match the neighbour’s property and it was an improvement to the rear of the dwelling. – The Working party recommended approval, - all agreed.

Action: Clerk to send responses to SSDC Planning department

b) Planning determinations:

19/02071/FUL – Mrs. Collin – Land and building at Beadon Lane Merriott -The erection of new dwelling with associated parking - permitted with conditions

19/02279/HOU – Mr. M Chard,5 Higher Street, Merriott – Demolition of an outbuilding and single storey elements attached to main house, Erection of single and two storey extension – Alterations to existing dormers and erection of a conservatory and detached garage/store (revised 19/00439/HOU)– permitted with conditions

19/02129/HOU- Mr. McPherson, 4 Higher Beadon, Merriott- erection of a single storey rear garden room extension to dwelling - permitted with conditions.

19/02415/PDE- 27 Manor Drive, Merriott -proposed rear extension beyond rear wall of 6m, the maximum height is 3.30m at the eaves of the extension is 2.20m – permitted with conditions

19/02061/FUL – Popular Motors Broadway, Merriott – redevelopment of car sales/workshop premises including the construction of 2 dwellings and the erection of a replacement workshop building – permitted with conditions

Determinations were noted.

c)To determine MPC response to Crewkerne TC Neighbourhood Plan

Councillors agreed to decline the offer of joining Crewkerne Town Council in forming a combined Neighbourhood Plan.

d) to approve the response to application 18/01917/FUL- land off Shiremoor, Merriott

As several members of the public wished to discuss the Village Hall item, it was agreed to move this item and bring Agenda item 14 forwards:

19/124 Village Hall – to determine initial view of Councillors on Village Hall Solar array and batteries project.

The Village Hall committee had sent a copy of the proposal to Councillors and requested a contribution from Merriott Parish Council as SSDC would not consider their funding request without an indication from the Parish Council that they were in support of the Village Hall’s scheme. There was a discussion around the costings and the problems faced due to the asbestos and movement of the tiles on the roof. The Village Hall committee felt that if the scheme could reduce running costs and allow people to recharge electric cars, it would be a benefit for the village. Councillors discussed the contribution already given to the village hall with regard to the costs of the car park refurbishment, but it was felt this would not be accepted by SSDC as grounds for support. The committee confirmed that they had undertaken a structural survey and load bearing test on the roof.

Councillors agreed to send a letter of support suggesting a nominal contribution would be made under S137, and expressing their continued support for Merriott Village Hall – unanimously agreed.

Action: Clerk to write letter of support as agreed.

Councillors returned to set Agenda.

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19/125 To approve response to application 18/01917/FUL land off Shiremoor Merriott.

The Chair updated Councillors that the Regulation Committee hearing would be held the following morning Tuesday 15th October at 10.00 a.m. in the Council Chambers at Yeovil. 3 Councillors and the Clerk were due to attend. The areas for objection were discussed and it was confirmed that car parking, housing mix, green issues, the culvert, footpath and need for one-bedroom dwellings would be given as reasons for refusal. There was a discussion around the concerns for adequate drainage and the need to understand the Hydrology report for the site in more depth. Councillors also discussed their concerns around attenuation tanks and the risk of flooding, especially as the proposed Church Street development would also flow into the stream. A Local resident confirmed he would be attending the Regulation Committee meeting to express his concerns regarding flooding of his property.

Councillors were happy with the suggested replies.

19/126 Finance and procedure:

a) To agree invoices for payment

<u>Voucher</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>VAT</u>		<u>Total Payment incl VAT</u>	<u>Budget Line</u>	<u>Cheque Number/BACS</u>
464	ARB garden services	Burial ground trees			£ 380.00	Burial ground	bacs
465	Mr P Armstrong	Gardening			£ 24.00	recreation ground	bacs
466	Hamdon First Aid	CPR and defib training			£ 50.00	Amenities	
467	Martin Paull	mowing			£ 100.00	Burial ground	bacs
468	Yarcombe woodland	timber	£	4.04	£ 24.24	Play maintenance	bacs
469	JH Swaffield	fuel	£	1.20	£ 25.14	mower fuel	bacs
470	Huck nets	parts for play equip	£	3.66	£ 21.94	Play maintenance	bacs
471	Wicksteed	parts for play equip	£	22.79	£ 136.72	Play maintenance	bacs
472	AMS home services	pavilion cleaning			£ 66.00	pavilion maintenance	bacs
473	J Chant	Salary & expenses			£ 506.96	salary & pavilion	bacs
474	N Witcombe	digger hire & work	£	29.00	£ 174.00	rec/pavilion project	bacs
475	EDF	electricity			£ 67.79	pavilion utility	bacs
476	Richard Keylock	account fees	£	2.50	£ 15.00	accounts & audit	bacs
477	ARB garden services	strimming			£ 150.00	Recreation ground	bacs
478	Yarcombe Timber	sawn timber etc	£	2.52	£ 15.14	recreation ground	bacs
479	UTC - Sam Hall	Labour costs			£ 1,890.00	rec/pavilion/play equip	bacs
480	Cllr Hall	rec materials	£	217.49	£ 1,369.08	rec/pavilion main	bacs
481	Aitkens	pitch line	£	9.19	£ 55.14	pitch exps	bacs
482	Mr P Armstrong	gardening			£ 18.00	rec maintenance	bacs
		Total VAT to reclaim	£	292.39			
		TOTAL			£ 5,089.15		

Councillors confirmed that they had previously inspected the works to the pavilion veranda and frontage, the dug out for the pitch and the repairs to the play equipment. They also noted that Cllr I Hall's expenses included materials essential for this work as the Parish Council had no credit agreement with the companies involved.

Payments were noted and approved

Proposed by Cllr D.Aslett seconded by Cllr S.Ashton – all agreed payments approved.

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Councillor Aslett suggested that a transfer from Nat West to Barclays should be made to keep a good working balance in the current account. It was suggested a figure of £ 10,000 be transferred. – **Proposed Cllr D Aslett seconded Cllr S Ashton. – all agreed - transfer approved.** The Clerk wrote a cheque for £ 10,000.00 which was signed at the meeting.

b) To note payments received

RECEIPTS 1st to 23rd September 2019

Receipt no	Date	Name	Payment for	Amount	Budget line	Ref
243	01.09.19	Cllr M Burnham	Donation	£ 50.00	misc	cheque
244	01.09.19	Merriott Cricket club	pitch and pavilion	£ 300.00	Pitch/pavilion	bacs
245	01.09.19	North Perrott cricket	pitch and pavilion	£ 100.00	Pitch/pavilion	bacs
246	09.09.19	North Perrott cricket	pitch and pavilion	£ 150.00	Pitch/pavilion	bacs
247	09.09.19	Merriott Rovers	pitch and pavilion	£ 50.00	Pitch/pavilion	bacs
248	19.09.19	Mr I Killick	pavilion hire	£ 20.00	pavilion	bacs
249	19.09.19	Preston dancers	pavilion hire	£ 30.00	pavilion	bacs
250	23.09.19	Merriott Youth FC	pitch and pavilion	£ 385.00	Pitch/pavilion	cheque
251	11.09.19	SSDC	106 award	£ 4,672.51	106	bacs
TOTAL				£ 5,757.51		

Receipts were noted.

c) To note bank reconciliation and revised budget.

The bank reconciliation was noted

d) To note any updates to the risk register and inspection reports

In the absence of Cllr J Shorting the Clerk confirmed there were no updates.

19/127 Recreation Ground/Pavilion

a) To receive the September inspection report.

Cllr D Aslett gave the report and confirmed he had fitted the replacement lock to the defibrillator cabinet.

b) To receive update on repairs to the paly equipment and work on dug outs.

Councillors had viewed the work and noted that the items listed in the ROSPA report had been dealt with. The larger “ NO DOGS” signs had been erected and the dug outs were complete. The less able access to the pavilion had been addressed and the veranda extended.

c) To consider quote for children’s out door gym.

The Chair noted that despite signs indicating the minimum height requirement for the outdoor gym, parents continued to allow younger children to use the equipment. It was felt that providing some child appropriate outdoor gym items may help to address the issue. Councillor Aslett felt it would be useful to place an article in Merriott Messenger to see what people would like to see next in the recreation ground. It was also suggested the nursery, pre school and school be contacted for their ideas.

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Action: Clerk to place article in Merriott Messenger and contact school, pre-school and nursery with regard to children's outdoor gym and other play equipment.

d) To consider Solar panels at rear of pavilion.

Councillors had previously discussed mounting solar panels on the pavilion roof, but the risk from cricket balls damaging the panels had been considered to be costly. Cllr Ashton had looked into the option of a ground mounted array to the rear of the pavilion which would hopefully generate sufficient power to support the 5 immersion heaters in the pavilion. There may be also be some export to the national grid. The quotes would not include the necessary ground works, which could be done by local contractors.

Councillors agreed unanimously to explore the option and asked for quotes to be provided.

Action: Quotes for ground array solar panels to be requested by the Clerk

19/128: Highways and Footpaths;

a) Update on SIS.

Councillors had been informed prior to the meeting that the SIS bid had not been successful due to costing, but that smaller works were still under consideration. It was agreed to write to express their disappointment and enquire what might be considered.

Action: Clerk to write to express disappointment and request an update.

b) To note footpath closure and diversion to CH20/9 and CH20/10.

Councillors noted the closure.

19/129 Amenities:

a) Update on CPR Training session

The Clerk confirmed the session was going ahead, but numbers were still quite low. It was suggested that the sports club be invited to attend again.

Action: Clerk to advertise the training session and write to sports clubs

b) To consider first aid training

A resident had enquired if first aid training could be offered. It was agreed to ask the CPR instructor at the forthcoming session.

c) To discuss tree planting around the village.

This was deferred as the resident was not at the meeting

19/130 Clapperhay Community Land.

Cllr S Ashton confirmed the trees for the Heritage Orchard would be arriving December, and there was a brief discussion about preparation of the ground prior to planting.

19/131 Correspondence received:

Councillors had been given correspondence during the month relating to Sherlands Pavements, parking at Sandy Hole/Church Street, SCC updated advice on SIDs and Somerset Rivers Authority Annual report.

19/132 Items for next meeting: none

19/133 Next meeting: Monday 11th November 2019 at 7.00 p.m. in the Blake Room Merriott Village Hall.

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There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

Signeddate.....