MINUTES of the Full Council of Melksham Without Parish Council held on Monday 8th December 2014 at Crown Chambers, Melksham at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Cllr. Richard Wood (Chair); Cllrs. John Glover, Alan Baines, Rolf Brindle, Mike Mills, Paul Carter, Pat Nicol, Jan Chivers, Ian Tait, Terry Chivers, Mike Sankey.

Apologies: Cllrs. Gregory Coombes, Steve Petty.

Housekeeping: The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and explained the evacuation procedures in the event of a fire.

300/14 **Declarations of Interest:** The Clerk declared an interest in agenda items 10b), 10c) and 10d) as her husband as a contractor had quoted for repair work and stated that she would leave the room when the Council discussed these items. Cllr Nicol declared an interest in agenda item 10a) as there was a cheque made out to her for approval for expenses.

The Council agreed to suspend Standing Orders for a period of public participation

301/14 **Public Participation:**

David Tyrer, Project Manager, and David Merrills, Winvic Site Manager for the Herman Miller development, were in attendance to collect the signed and sealed works licence and to answer any questions the Council might have.

The <u>Clerk</u> reported that she had received reports from residents that crossed the Sports Field from Portal Way to Westinghouse Way (behind the existing pavilion) that it was very muddy and there were concerns that the conditions would worsen with continued use over the winter months. This was due to the closure of the footpath as now part of the Herman Miller building site. Additionally the contractors that maintained the sports field had concerns with regard to the steep access for their vehicles onto the field. <u>Mr Merrills</u> replied that it was very difficult to put hard core down on that area as the ground here was a very boggy area and any hard surface here that was not a permanent path would be liable to flood and become as boggy and muddy as the grass. He also had concerns that putting down rubber matting or pontoons could cause an element of danger to pedestrians as potentially slippery. He stated that he would look into what action could be taken to prevent further deterioration and also how they could facilitate a vehicular access point for the Council's maintenance contractor and any emergency vehicles.

With regard to the New Pavilion, the <u>Clerk</u> asked how an access point could be maintained for the Council contractors as the pavilion and car park were to be road height and thus any vehicular access point to the sports field would be quite steep. Additionally the proposed access point would be from the south east corner of the car park, and therefore something needed to be put in place to ensure that parked cars did not block this access point. <u>Mr Tyrer</u> said that they needed to find a solution to this and <u>Mr Merrills</u> said that this could be worked into the design. The Council discussed the options available to prevent unlawful vehicular access to the Sports Field. One option would be to re-use the existing gates at the Westinghouse Way entrance, but these would need to be reconfigured to work with the change of height of the Pavilion access point, again something that <u>Mr Merrills</u> said could be approached when the landscaping commenced. <u>The Clerk</u> asked whether an external tap and gulley or drain could be

installed in the boot cleaning area, so that boots could be cleaned and the water could drain away without going onto the Sports Field. The old Pavilion had been subjected to acts of vandalism and the Council had concerns over the safety of the proposed patio windows and kitchen windows in the new pavilion design and discussed the possibility of have grilles erected. Mr Tyrer stated that the architects had gone to great lengths to ensure that the Pavilion was an attractive building and felt that it would be beneficial not to add anything that would detract from the design or suggest that the building was vulnerable, adding that the glass in these windows was toughened, unlike that of the old pavilion. He suggested that a roller shutter over the patio doors would be a more favourable solution, as this could be rolled out of the way when the Pavilion was in use. Additionally the Pavilion will be fully alarmed. The Council also queried the proposed fence design as this appeared to differ from the original plans. Mr Tyrer replied that they would check the specifications and report back to the Council.

The Council re-convened and brought forward agenda item 12.

302/14 **Bowerhill Sports Field & Pavilion:**

i) Outstanding Specification and Design for New Pavilion: Resolved: The Council request from Wiltshire Council that a roller shutter is installed over the patio doors of the new Pavilion and that an external tap and gulley be supplied in the boot cleaning area.

<u>Cllr Carter</u> extended his thanks to Mr Merrills, Mr Tyrer and the developers who had done everything in their power to facilitate the Council's requests.

- ii) Approval, Signing and Seal of Works Licence between Herman Miller & Melksham Wilthout Parish Council: The Clerk reported that under the "Fields in Trust" agreement the Council had a legal obligation to inform them that a new structure was being put up on the land, although they were aware when the Agreement was signed that the old Pavilion was due to be replaced.. Resolved: 1. The Council formally approved the Works Licence to allow work to commence on the Bowerhill Sports Field for construction of a New Sports Pavilion, this was sealed and signed by the Chairman, the Vice Chairman and the Clerk and witnessed by the Full Council. 2. The Council write to Fields in Trust to formally inform them of the building of the New Pavilion.

 iii) The 24 hour use of the Pavilion toilets by the public: The Council discussed the positive and negative impact of allowing the toilets at the New Pavilion to be open to
- positive and negative impact of allowing the toilets at the New Pavilion to be open to the public 24 hours a day. *Resolved:* The Council do not allow the New Pavilion toilets to be open to the public 24 hours a day, rather that they are only open whilst the Pavilion is in use.
- i) Minutes, Public Meeting to discuss Flood Issues in Shaw & Whitley 6th October 2014: Resolved: The Minutes of the Public Meeting to discuss Flood Issues in Shaw & Whitley held 6th October 2014 be formally approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
 - **ii) Minutes, Full Council Meeting 13th October 2014:** Resolved: The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held 13th October 2014 be formally approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman as a correct record with the following amendment min 247/14iv) should read "2 benches" not "3 benches".
 - **iii) Minutes, Short Council Meeting 20th October 2014:** *Resolved: The Minutes of the Short Council Meeting held 20th October 2014 be formally approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.*

- **iv) Minutes, Play Area Working Party 20th October 2014:** *Resolved: The Minutes of the Play Area Working Party held 20th October 2014 be formally approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.*
- v) Minutes, Planning Committee Meeting 3rd November 2014: Resolved: The Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held 3rd November 2014 be formally approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
- vi) Minutes, Play Area Working Party 3rd November 2014: Resolved: The Minutes of the Play Area Working Party held 3rd November 2014 be formally approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
- vii) Minutes, Finance Committee Meeting 10th November 2014: Resolved: The Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held 10th November 2014 be formally approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman as a correct record with the following amendments Cllr Mills was in attendance and thus he did not make apologies and he declared an interest in items relating to BRAG, and min 285/14k) should read "Caretaker Salary/Parish Enhancement" not "Council Office".
- viii) Minutes, Planning Committee Meeting 24th November 2014: Resolved: The Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held 24th November 2014 be formally approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman as a correct record with the following amendment min 295/14bi) should have the word "similar" inserted between "bund" and "to" in order to read "this takes the form of the planted bund similar to the Western side of the Spa Road roundabout".

304/14 i) Play Area Working Party Recommendations:

Resolved: The Recommendations detailed in Mins.256/14, 257/14, and 258/14 of the Play Area Working Party held 20th October 2014 were formally approved.

ii) Planning Committee Meeting Recommendations:

Resolved: The Recommendations detailed in Mins.263/14 and 265/14 of the Planning Committee Meeting held 3rd November 2014 were formally approved.

iii) Play Area Working Party Recommendations:

Resolved: The Recommendations detailed in Mins.272/14(1), 272/14(2), 272/14(4) and 272/14(5) of the Play Area Working Party held 3rd November 2014 were formally approved.

ii) Planning Committee Meeting Recommendations:

Resolved: The Recommendations detailed in Mins.296/14 and 297/14 of the Planning Committee Meeting held 24th November 2014 were formally approved. It was noted that any recommendations from the Finance meeting with regard to the budget and precept would be approved at the Full Council Meeting in January as Wiltshire Council do not confirm the final tax base number until 16th December.

Joint Neighbourhood Plan:

<u>The Chair</u> reported that work was continuing for the launch event for the early part of 2015.

306/14 **Bowerhill and Hampton Park Business Initiative:** Cllr Carter reported on the meeting held on Thursday 4th December and the main issues discussed. The Chamber of Commerce gave a report with regard to the availability of all agencies that assisted with business grants and finance issues. Road resurfacing, a potential lorry park and the weak broadband signal in the area continue to be important issues for discussion. Work on the Herman Miller site and the new road was about to commence and tenders for the new campus were now out. Provision and cost of security on the Industrial Estate were

discussed along with the suggestion of solar panels on the roofs of buildings. The date of the next meeting is yet to be set, but will be end of February, beginning of March. The Council discussed the issue of security on the Industrial Estate and the location of the Security 2000 hut. The Business Initiative meeting had discussed the possibility of security cameras around the Industrial Estate that could be controlled from a central point.

Resolved: The Parish Council representatives put forward at the next Business Initiative meeting their support for the installation of security cameras on the Industrial Estate.

Flood Warden Training:

The Clerk reported that 25 people from Shaw, Whitley, Purlpit, Shurnhold and Beanacre attended the training session which was very successful. Two main action points arose; residents are still cross with regard to the lack of gulley cleaning and maintenance by Wiltshire Council and their suggestion is that Wiltshire Council commit to cleaning gulleys once a year and for areas that are vulnerable and prone to frequent flooding that this is increased to twice a year. Secondly the residents of Shaw and Whitley would like to put an insert into the Connect magazine in the form of a leaflet containing flooding information. It was considered to be good practice for the Flood Wardens to have identification badges and hi-viz vests.

Resolved: 1. The Council write to Wiltshire Council requesting gulley clearance yearly and vulnerable gulleys bi-annually. 2. A list of vulnerable gulleys is generated from information gained from the Atkins model and local knowledge from the Flood Wardens. 3. The Council to give delegated powers to the Clerk to spend up to £150 to put inserts into Connect magazine, to produce identification badges for Flood Wardens and to provide additional Hi-viz yests.

308/14 Council Meetings Structure and Schedule:

<u>The Clerk</u> had been sending the Councillors weekly information sheets by e-mail in order that the information they received was current and to reduce the length of the agendas. Additionally the Clerk recommended the following:

OBJECTIVE 1: To change approach to agendas to give more definition and clarity to meetings

- 1. To continue with email newsletters being emailed to Councillors as and when received (e.g. from "Our community matters", Rural Services Network, Police Community Messaging service, Wiltshire Council's Parish Newsletter etc) and will NOT appear on agendas.
- 2. To continue with weekly information sheets containing information on matters arising from decisions made in previous meetings; correspondence with residents, Wiltshire Council etc; project updates etc, proposed road closures, diary dates for the forthcoming week. Cllrs to contact the Clerk if they wish any items on these information sheets to be raised as an agenda item at a future Committee or Full Council meeting. Otherwise this information to note will NOT appear on agendas.
- 3. To continue with weekly email (usually Thursday) of new planning applications and planning decisions. Information on decisions will therefore NOT appear on agendas, planning applications will only appear on Planning Committee agendas.
- 3. To remove "items to note" from agenda unless they need to be in the public arena and reported in the Minutes. For example, reports of delegated decisions by officers, audit reports, correspondence for action will remain on agendas.

4. Public Consultations to be sent via email to Councillors for their own individual response to be made, unless a Council response is requested or considered appropriate.

OBJECTIVE 2: To review pattern of Council meetings with a view to achieving shorter, more focused meetings

- 5. To hold Planning Committee meetings every 21 days (in line with consultation period from Wiltshire Council)
- 6. To NOT consider Planning applications at Full Council meetings, but to be reviewed at separate Planning Committee meetings.
- 7. To hold more Full Council meetings in the Council year. 11 Full Council meetings, 1 per month except August.
- 8. To approve new meeting schedule for remainder of Council year 2014/15 in light of recommendation 5 & 6.

Monday 5th January Planning Committee

Staffing Committee

Monday 19th January Full Council

Monday 26th January Planning Committee

Monday 16th February Planning Committee

Monday 23rd February Full Council

Monday 9th March Planning Committee

Monday 16th March Annual Parish meeting

Monday 23rd March Full Council

Monday 30th March Planning Committee

Monday 6th April Bank Holiday

Monday 20th April Planning Committee

Monday 27th April Full Council

Monday 4th May Bank Holiday

Monday 11th May Annual Council

Monday 18th May Planning Committee

Monday 25th May Bank Holiday

<u>Cllr Baines</u> requested that planning decisions and appeals were included in planning agendas.

Resolved: The Council adopt the Clerk's recommendations as detailed above.

309/14 Staffing:

The following items (Min. 309/14a, Min. 309/14b), Min. 309/14c) and 309/14d), were held in committee in view of the confidential nature of the items under the reason Standing Order 62(a) engagement and terms of services of employees.

a) The Council considered the NJC and SLCC joint recommendation on the 2014 – 2016 National Salary Award.

Resolved: 1. The Council adopt the joint recommendation for new pay scales for 2014-2016 to be implemented from January 2015. 2. A non-consolidated (one off) payment is made for employees on SCPs 5-49 in December 2014 and employees on SCPs 26-49 in April 2015.

- b) The Council noted that the Clerk had successfully completed her 6 month probation and had a set of objectives for the coming year agreed with the Chair and Vice Chair at her review held on the 17th October 2014. Additionally the Clerk was accepted as a member of the ILCM (Institute of Local Council Management) on 25th November 2014.
- c) The Council noted that after 12 years service with the Parish Council, the Parish Assistant, Mrs Margaret Mylchreest, had tendered her resignation and her last working day will be Monday 22nd December 2014. <u>Cllr Mills</u> wished to formally thank Margaret for all her support during his term as Chair and the <u>Chair</u> seconded this.

Resolved: The Council write to Margaret thanking her for her 12 years of service.

- d) The Council noted that a member of staff had been signed off "not fit for work" for 4 weeks after a minor operation.
- e) <u>Cllr T Chivers</u> proposed that in recognition of their hard work the Staff be given Christmas Eve as a days holiday.

Resolved: The Office to close on Tuesday 23^{rd} December at 2.45pm and re-open on Monday 5^{th} January at 9.15am.

310/14 **Finance:**

a) Council Receipts:

The following amounts have been received since the last meeting:

Paying in		
reference	Income Details	Amount £
	Interest on 30 day account	0.14
BACS	Allotment rent: BFY	20.00
BACS	Allotment rent: BFY	20.00
BACS	Allotment rent: BSF	20.00
BACS	Allotment rent: BSF	20.00
	Wiltshire Council Payment for Hornchurch Rd MUGA	32,776.25
500076	Allotment rent: BFY £60.00 & BSF £30.00	90.00
500077	Shaw VH annual rent (£10) + Allotment rent BFY £20	30.00
500078	Staff photocopying & Allotment rent BYF	28.08
Total	Interest from Fixed Term deposit	15.98 £ 32,960.31

b) Accounts for payment:

Resolved: The following accounts be checked and formally approved for payment:

Cheque no	Payee	Payment Details	Net £	VAT £	Gross £
4785	Total Equipment Ltd	Crown Chambers rent 1/1 - 31/3 & electricity 8/10 - 7/11	1,629.46	£4.14	£1,633.60
4786	HAGs-SMP Ltd	Line markings (£850 + VAT) less credit for welfare facilities (£144 + VAT)	706.00	£141.20	£847.20
4787	JH Jones & Sons	Grass cutting for allotments, play area & B'hill sports field + bin collections at B'hill	593.50	£118.69	£712.19
4788	Wiltshire Publications Ltd	Melksham News Autumn newsletter	142.50	£28.50	£171.00
4789	The Society of Local Council Clerks	SLCC Membership	167.00		£167.00
4790	J Beaven	Weekly cleaning of Bowerhill Pavillion 13/10 - 17/11	145.50		£145.50
4791	JK Mobility Stairlifts Ltd	Annual service of stair lift	80.00		£80.00
4792	Melksham United Church	Room hire for planning meeting 24/11/14	60.00		£60.00
Salaries:					
4793	Mrs T Strange	December salary, add hours (7.75), non consolidated payment (67.57), expenses (cleaning mats and grafitti spray) £11.21 + VAT & mileage (50 miles) for training in Swindon			
4794	Mrs J Eccleston	December salary, add hours (7.5), & non consolidated payment (54.05)			
4795	Mr T Cole	Pay for w/c 14/11 - w/c 6/12, non consolidated payment (45.95) & mileage (172 miles)			
4796	Mrs L Key	December salary, add hours (3.5), non consolidated payment (40.54), expenses (cleaning mats and toilet roll) £6.39 + VAT			
4797	Mrs M Mylchreest	December salary & non consolidated payment (16.22)			
4798	Mrs E Cranton	November office cleaning & non consolidated payment (17.57)			
Total Salar	Total Salaries		3,595.23		3,596.58
4799	HMRC	PAYE, tax and NI for December	640.60		£640.60
4800	Wiltshire Council - Wiltshire Pension Fund	Superannuation for December	820.45		£820.45
4801	Mrs P Nichols	Mince pies for December meeting (from Chairs Allowance)	15.00		£15.00

4802	Whitley Methodist Church	Room hire for flood warden training	35.00		£35.00
Grand total		8,630.24	293.88	8,924.12	

The Clerk left the room whilst Min. 310/14c, Min. 310/14d and Min.310/14e were discussed.

c) Repair Works in the Parish:

The Council noted that under the Clerk's and Finance Assistant's delegated powers in conjunction with the Chair and Vice Chair as per Min.281/14b, Andy Strange had been instructed under quotation number 775 to carry out repair work in the Parish, namely replacing all timber work on a bench (Wellington Drive) and re-seating coping on a bus shelter (Shaw).

d) Quotation for Repair Works for Bus Shelters:

- i) The <u>Assistant Parish Officer</u> reported on a quote obtained by the Finance Assistant to repair the bus shelter roof in Sandridge. Despite asking several contractors for quotes to repair two bus shelters in the parish, only Andy Strange had responded giving quotes for 3 options for the bus shelter in Sandridge:
 - Option A Repair bus shelter roof with cedar singles, replacing rotten timber battens at a cost of £470.
 - Option B Repair bus shelter roof with felt shingles on top of solid roof board, replacing all battens at a cost of £555.
 - Option C Repair bus shelter roof with solid sheet felt roof on top of solid sheet roof board, replacing all battens at a cost of £353.

Resolved: The Parish Council instruct Andy Strange to repair the bus shelter roof in Sandridge as per his quote for Option A.

ii) The <u>Assistant Parish Officer</u> reported that Andy Strange was unable to quote for repairs to the bus shelter in Semington Road until it had been established whether the roof on that shelter contained asbestos.

<u>Cllr. Petty</u> reported that whilst looking at legal documents with the solicitors he discovered that the Parish Council owned the land that the brick shelter in Semington Road was built on and that there was a legal covenant stating that this land could only ever be used for a bus shelter and as such the parish council had a responsibility to maintain it.

Resolved: The Council defer this item until further information and costs are available.

e) Approved Contractor & Supplier List:

The <u>Assistant Parish Officer</u> reported that the Finance Officer had obtained quotes for hourly rates from local contractors to carry out mirror repair jobs in the Parish under delegated powers as per Min. 281/14b. <u>Cllr.Petty</u> declared an interest as one of the contractors, C & G Building Services had carried out repair work for Berryfield Village Hall.

Resolved: The Council approved the Contractor and Supplier list (Andy Strange & C&G Building Services) and their hourly rates.

The Chairman asked the Clerk to rejoin the meeting.

311/14 Shaw and Whitley Action Group (SWAG):

The Clerk reported that residents of Shaw & Whitley were currently really active with flood wardens, play area consultations, setting up petitions etc., and had set up their own Facebook page. There used to be a SWAG (Shaw & Whitley Action Group), and when this group ceased they gave all their paperwork to the Parish Council. The Clerk still held this and felt that the active residents currently in Shaw & Whitley might wish to formalise their work and form an action group, which would enable them to apply for grants. The Clerk asked if the Council wished to support this and facilitate their first meeting by advertising in the next edition of the Connect magazine and asking BRAG and BASRAG if they would like to give some advice and pointers.

Resolved: The Council support the facilitation of the start up of SWAG.

312/14 Future Office Accommodation:

<u>The Clerk</u> reported that she had received the rent invoice for January, February and March for Total, and that the landlord had addressed most of the outstanding issues raised from the fire safety inspection. The landlord had reported that the lease would be renewed for 5 years either by himself or the Total group and that he was happy for the Council to remain as tenants.

Resolved: The Council send a written response to the Landlord thanking him for addressing the fire safety issues and for the forthcoming 5 year tenancy.

313/14 Allotment Site Meeting:

<u>Cllr. Glover</u> declared an interest as an allotment holder. <u>The Clerk</u> reported that a site meeting with the contractor was necessary to identify where the water troughs were to be located. A proposed time of 10am on 15th December was set pending confirmation from the contractor.

Resolved: The Council give delegated powers to those councillors attending the site meeting to make a decision on the siting of the new water troughs.

314/14 Highways, Footpaths and Rights of Way:

a) To consider further response to resident re: request for bollards at Goldfinch Road:

<u>Cllr. Baines</u> reported that this style of road layout is what developers were providing as it is considered to be safer and a recommendation of the traffic engineers. It was noted that Goldfinch Road was a 20mph limit and currently unadopted by Wiltshire Council. <u>Cllr. Carter</u> commented that residents would have been aware from the plans, when buying their properties from the developers, that their individual properties were sited right next to the road and as such could not really ask for amendments to the layout retrospectively.

Resolved: The Council write to the resident explaining that they are unable to support the request for bollards at Goldfinch road, but will review this should there be any change of legislation in the future.

b) To consider resident request for street lights from Sandridge Common to East of Melksham housing estate:

<u>Cllr Brindle</u> reported that this stretch of road was extremely dark.

Resolved: The Council request this on behalf of the resident to the Area Board.

c) To consider resident concerns over speed bumps in Cranesbill Road:

It was noted that Cranesbill Road had not been adopted by Wiltshire Council. There was now a Wiltshire Council Task Group looking into the issue of unadopted roads. Cllr. Chivers reported that the resident was now happy with the outcome.

d) To identify major maintenance requirements for 2015/16:

<u>Cllr. Brindle</u> suggested that any issues were given to the Clerk and fed back to Andy Cadwallader as they arise. Areas identified were:

- Footpath in Holebrook Vale
- Resurfacing of Corsham Road in Shaw and Whitley
- Pot holes in Halifax Road by the school speed bumps
- The orange gateways on Corsham Road need refreshing

e) To consider recommendations of Wiltshire Council Task Group on 20mph policy:

<u>Cllr. Brindle</u> reported that this had been discussed at the CATG meetings, it was a good policy however there was no money to implement it. <u>Cllr. Carter</u> asked how the requirement for a 20mph zone was identified. <u>The Clerk</u> reported that the Parish Council had put forward potential areas, based on local knowledge. <u>Cllr. T Chivers</u> reported that this policy could go back to the Scrutiny Committee, so was not set in stone yet.

f) To consider proposed traffic regulation order consultation:

<u>The Clerk</u> reported that there were only two in the parish; at the bottom of First Lane, Whitley and on Corsham Road to stop parking on that junction as it prevented a clear view for vehicles. <u>Cllr. T Chivers</u> reported that he had asked for the remarking of double yellows and the zig zag lines outside of Shaw School.

Resolved: The Council write in support of this consultation with regard to First Lane.

315/14 **Public Consultations:**

a) "Community & Ancillary Sellers Notice" Consultation:

The council noted this consultation which was proposed to give a light touch approach to community groups wishing to sell or give away alcohol as part of a wider service. **Resolved:** The Council forward this consultation to all the village halls in the parish.

b) Wiltshire Council Flooding Response Consultation:

The Council completed the flooding questionnaire.

c) The Council noted a consultation from BT about possible payphone removal, however no phones in the parish form part of this consultation.

Meeting closed at 9.18 pm

Chairman, 19th January 2015