

MICHELMERSH & TIMSBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 22nd November 2006 at 7.30 p.m. in the Jubilee Hall, Timsbury.

Present: Parish Councillors, Mr. R. Vie (Chairman), Mr. D. Cowling, Mr. R. Fitzgerald, Mr. A. Jones, Dr. M. Subramanyam, and TVBC Cllr. David Bidwell, Hants CC Cllr. Michael Woodhall, Parish Clerk, Mr. P. Buist, and 18 members of the public.

Action

1. Apologies

Received from Mr. N. Cooper, Mr. P. Pritchett- Brown.

2. Open Period

John Glasspool made a statement about the Sports Club, recreation ground and proposed vote of no confidence in Chairman and Vice Chairman.

Corrine Bennett expressed concern on the vote of no confidence in the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

Jill Glasspool asked questions on Sports Club and vote of no confidence.

John Chambers expressed confidence in the Chairman and Vice. He asked that steps were taken to protect trees and hedges on the site at Haccups Lane.

Robin Goodland asked for a right to reply to John Glasspool's statement.

Roger Wilson spoke on Sports Club actions and vote of no confidence.

Michael Wigley spoke on no confidence agenda item.

Bob Davis spoke on support for Chairman and Vice Chairman.

Peter Clarke spoke on support for Chairman and Vice Chairman and the grant of £6,500 agreed by the Council for the Jubilee Hall extension.

John Hunt expressed his support for the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

Bob Tyler expressed his support for the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

Cllr. Bidwell spoke on mediation between the Club and Council and the vote of no confidence.

Cllr. Woodhall spoke on the old rent dispute and vote of no confidence.

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Jones declared an interest in the planning application for Gable End, Timsbury Manor. He was a neighbour of the applicant.

The Clerk pointed out that he was the applicant in a planning application for Silverlea, New Road. He had taken advice from Head of Legal, TVBC and Cllrs. were not required to declare an interest in this instance as there was no social relationship between Clerk and Cllrs. present.

4. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 24 October 2006.

The minutes of the meeting were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

5. To consider a vote of no confidence in the Chairman and Vice Chairman of Michelmersh & Timsbury Parish Council to be moved by Cllr. Cooper supported by Cllrs. Fitzgerald, Jones and Subramanyam.

Cllr. Cowling asked that this matter was reconsidered as Cllrs. Cooper and Pritchett-Brown were not in attendance. The main item to be considered was the 2007 budget and this matter was a real distraction. Cllrs. needed to stop bickering and get on with the job. He invited Cllrs. to withdraw the proposal. Cllr. Fitzgerald said that he may be able to withdraw the item. He had been slandered by members of the parish, he was not on the Council on behalf of the Sports Club. He wanted to know where the Chairman stood on the allegations against him. The Chairman said that he had made a confidential statement to the enquiry team and could not comment further. Cllr. Fitzgerald also was concerned that four Councillors could not attend that last meeting of the Council when the date was changed. All Cllrs. had been asked to say if they were available for a changed date meeting. Four had confirmed that they were, one confirmed that he could not and two had not responded within the required time frame. One Cllr. later informed the Clerk that he could not attend. The meeting was quorate and went ahead. At that meeting a motion had been passed not to progress items related to the recreation ground or its licensees until the Standards Board had completed their investigation. That motion appeared to pre-judge the outcome of the enquiry. He resented it and asked why that was necessary.

The Chairman said that he could not discuss the enquiry. The resolution passed stopped all Cllrs. from making decisions on Sports Club and Recreation Ground matters. The concerns of the villages should be noted and the question asked if a vote of no confidence was an appropriate response. The deed of dedication was not affected by the resolution (Minutes of meeting 24 October, item 8.2). He had supported the proposal because it seemed sensible.

Cllr. Cowling said that he was not sure that the Standards Board enquiry should be discussed. It was confidential. Cllr. Fitzgerald said that he resented the motion and wanted it overturned. Cllr. Jones was concerned that the motion prevented any action in the event of an emergency. It was confirmed that the Clerk had powers to act in any case of urgency. Cllr. Jones said that he was concerned that the Parish might lose the playing field and had moved the resolution to protect it as a matter of importance to the villages. He had also suggested that the RGASC should look at the relationship between Club and Council. He was of the view that the ground would be better run with a joint committee. A budget of £5,000 to run the facility was considered for proposal to the Council. He wanted the resolution (Minutes of meeting 24 October, item 8.2) rescinded.

The Chairman said that there was no reason that the RGASC could not continue its work. To rescind a resolution required the written support of four Councillors. If this was forthcoming the resolution would be rescinded.

Cllr. Subramanyam said that he could not attend the re-arranged meeting. The letter asking for his views had arrived late. He did not wish to see friction between Club and Council and had voted against the Council taking court action (in the matter of the rent dispute) and tax payers money had been squandered. He was also concerned that the Chairman had responded to a letter from Dr. Thomas without consulting the Council.

Cllr. Fitzgerald confirmed that he did not have confidence in the Chairman. He **proposed** a vote of no confidence in the Chairman. This was seconded by Cllr. Subramanyam. It was put to the vote. The proposal was **carried** by three votes to one.

Cllr. Vie immediately resigned as Chairman. In the absence of the Vice Chairman, the meeting required a Councillor to take the Chair for the remainder of the meeting. Cllr. Vie asked for nominations. Cllr. Jones **proposed** Cllr. Subramanyam and this was seconded by Cllr. Fitzgerald. It was **carried** by two votes to one.

Cllrs. Vie and Cowling withdrew from the meeting at this point. Cllr. Woodhall and sixteen of the eighteen members of the public left the meeting.

6. Matters Arising from meeting of 24 October 2006.

6.1 Bank Mandate

This needed further action and evidence.

RF / AJ

6.2 South East Plan Review – Provision for Gypsy & Traveller Caravan Sites

To be carried forward.

RF

6.3 Minerals and Waste Development Framework, potential local sites meeting.

To be carried forward.

RV

6.4 Review of Freedom of Information Act Requirements.

To be carried forward.

RV

6.5 Review of Risk Assessment

To be carried forward.

RV /
PBu

All other actions from the last meeting were completed or were on the agenda.

7. Planning

7.1 Applications

Alterations and extension to Gable End, Timsbury Manor.

Cllr. Jones had declared an interest in this matter. He remained in the room, but took no part in the discussion.

No objection.

Demolition of garage and erection of single storey side extension, Silverlea, New Road. No objection.

7.2 Determinations

Demolition of existing hall, construction of new hall and extensions, Willow Cottage, Rudd Lane. Permission subject to conditions and notes.

Erection of two bedroom bungalow and new access, Burwood, New Road. Refusal.

7.3 Test Valley Local Development Framework – Core Strategy Issues and Options Consultation Paper.

Cllr. Subramanyan would consider the paper and respond.

MS

7.4 Access to land between Hilltop Cottages and Hillside Cottages, Haccups Lane.

The access had been legally created. It was thought that the land was being cleared to plant vines. It was noted the John Chambers had expressed concern about the loss of trees and hedges. The Council expressed concern about heavy traffic accessing the site and asked the Clerk to write to TVBC.

PBu

8. Financial Matters

8.1 Current Financial Situation

The financial report circulated earlier was **noted**.

8.2 Invoices for Payment

The following invoices were **approved** for payment:

ADT Fire & Security (Fire alarm Mte.)	£100.45
Audit Commission (External Audit)	£141.00
P. Buist (Clerk's salary & expenses)	£293.58
M&T Jubilee Hall (Hall hire)	£27.65
M&T Jubilee Hall (Hall hire)	£33.03

8.3 Result of External Audit by Audit Commission

It was **noted** that the audit had been completed and the accounts accepted without qualification or comment.

The Chairman **proposed** that the meeting was adjourned and reconvened on 5 December 2006 to complete the rest of the business. This was seconded by Cllr Jones and **carried unanimously**.

The meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened on 5 December 2006 at 7.30 p.m.

In attendance were: Parish Councillors, Mr. N. Cooper, Mr. R. Fitzgerald, Mr. A. Jones, Mr. P. Pritchett- Brown Dr. M. Subramanyam, and Mr. R. Vie. TVBC Cllr. David Bidwell, Parish Clerk, Mr. P. Buist, and 10 members of the public.

Dr. Subramanyam took the Chair and opened the meeting.

The Chairman **proposed** that all business remaining on the agenda was deferred to later meetings. This was seconded by Cllr Cooper and carried on a vote of 4 for and 2 against. Cllrs Pritchett-Brown and Vie objected.

The meeting closed at 7.32 p.m.

Peter Buist
Parish Clerk
26 January 2007