

Milcombe Parish Council
4 May 2021
www.milcombepc.co.uk
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Chairman and Vice-Chairman 2021/2022 – Councillor Marlene Cowell was appointed as Chairman and Mandie McCullagh was appointed as Vice-Chairman.

Councillor Michael Haynes – Michael Haynes has resigned from the Parish Council.

HRH, The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh – As a mark of respect, the village flag was lowered to half-mast and although there was not a physical Book of Condolence due to Covid-19 restrictions, this had been available on-line.

Milcombe Senior Citizen's Club – The Club has recently closed and the organisers Tony and Joan Stickings were thanked for all their work over many years, running the Club.

Footpaths in Bloxham - Walkers going over Hobb Hill will notice posts and string at the gates and on the footpath. The farmer is using these to guide users to the location of the Public Right of Way. The farmer will be making hay in the field this year. If the ground becomes compacted it becomes unusable. Walkers should try to keep to the right, close to the hedge on the way up from Courtington Lane and at the top, walk straight down to the kissing gate at the bottom on Ells Lane. Please keep to the paths and enjoy your walks up Hobb Hill...a good pair of wellies / boots always helps.

Elections – Local elections are being held on 6 May 2021. Parish Council elections were scheduled for May 2022.

Horse and Groom PH – The pub was scheduled to re-open on 17 May 2021 and residents are encouraged to support the pub where they can.

Wheelie Bins – Residents are kindly requested not to block the footpaths with their wheelie bins, where possible. If they could also be collected back in as soon as they had been emptied, this would avoid the footpaths being blocked for those pedestrians with pushchairs or wheelchair users.

Snow Warden/Grit Bins – If anyone in the village would to volunteer to be a Snow Warden to help clear the footpaths in adverse weather conditions, please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council. Grit bins are all full and grit may be used on slippery public footpaths and roads only. It should not be used for private property use.

Litter Pick – The annual village litter pick will be held at the end of May 2021. More details to follow in due course.

Planning

21/01238/F, 15 Heath Close, Milcombe
Extend current driveway and drop kerb to fall in line with the full width of the house.
No objections

21/00890/F, 1 Heath Close, Milcombe
First floor extension over the existing ground floor and demolition of garage and rebuilding of ground floor extension (re-submission of 20/03421/F).
No objections

21/00474/F, Star Pubs & Bars limited, Horse and Groom Inn, Main Road, Milcombe
Replacement kitchen extract system on rear single storey extension - re-submission of 20/02050/F
Observations

21/01071/F, Lessor Grange, Milcombe
Variation of condition 2 (plans) of 20/03194/F - proposed position of dwelling moved
No objections

Highways – Repairs which were required to potholes should be reported to the County Council's Fix My Street web site. <https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/> New road markings had been painted on the road by the junction at the Horse and Groom.

Trees/Bushes/Hedges - Residents were reminded that trees/bushes/hedges should not be causing an obstruction because they were overhanging a boundary onto a footpath or road. If an obstruction was occurring in the village, it should be reported to <https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/>

Covid-19 - The latest guidance on the Covid-19 lockdown restrictions can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home>

Adverse Weather:

Oxfordshire County Council works closely with all its partners to monitor the weather and as a reminder there are some numbers that you can call to report weather related issues if you become aware of them:

- To report fallen trees or other debris which pose a risk to your safety or the safety of others, please call 999
- To report fallen trees or other debris which doesn't pose such a high risk but still needs to be dealt with, please call 101
- If you lose power or can see that a power line has come down please report it by calling 105
- If you are concerned about flooding, you should visit the Oxfordshire Flood Toolkit online - <https://www.oxfordshirefloodtoolkit.com> – and I will summarise the key numbers to call below:
- If you have a flooding emergency which is a threat to someone's life, contact Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service on 999
- To report flooding relating to a highway such as blocked ditches, blocked drains or flooding on a road call Oxfordshire County Council Floodline on 0345 310 1111
- To report flooding from a main river contact the Environment Agency through the Floodline (Tel: 0345 988 1188 or 0800 80 70 60) or visit their website
- If your property is at immediate risk of surface water flooding please contact Thames Valley Police on 101

Planning applications and comments could be viewed on Cherwell District Council's web site at: <https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/info/115/planning/443/see-or-comment-on-a-planning-application23as>

Meeting Dates - Future meetings, all starting at 8.00pm would be held on Zoom, until further notice. Please contact the Clerk for the details to join the Parish Council meetings.

- Tuesday 6 July 2021
- Tuesday 7 September 2021
- Tuesday 2 November 2021

All welcome to attend!

Agendas and minutes are available on www.milcombe.com or please contact the Clerk, Theresa Goss, at milcombecp@gmail.com or ring 01295 710965 during normal office hours.

Reminders:

Roads (including potholes)/footpaths/street lighting/overhanging trees/hedges: Report to Oxfordshire County Council <https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/>

Faulty Street Lights: Report on freephone 0800 317802 giving exact destination and pole number if possible.

Dog Bags: These are available from New Road Stores and in the Church porch. Please clear up after your dog - it is an offence not to.

Electricity: SSE 0800 294 3259 or text phone 0800 316 5457, UK Power Networks – 0800 169 9970, Western Power Distribution – 0800 096 3080

Water: Thames Water 0800 009 3652 or text phone 0800 316 6899, Anglian Water 03457 91 91 55

Power failure: If there's a power cut call the free number 105 to check what's happening with your local provider

URGENT APPEAL FOR PARISH COUNCILLORS

The Parish Council is urgently appealing for new Councillors. The PC is functioning on the bare minimum of three Councillors - there should be seven.

If one more Councillor steps down, there won't be a Parish Council and Cherwell District Council will take over.

In this scenario, there won't be any local representatives to comment on planning applications, to cut the grass, to arrange for footpaths to be tidied, liaising with the County Council over highway matters, pay for the servicing of the Church clock, pay for the village newsletter, supporting the project for a new play area, accessing developer funding for village improvements, maintaining the current play area, assist residents with queries. At the moment all this and more, is falling to three people, which is not fair.

So if the Milcombe community does not want this good work to stop, we need four new Councillors ASAP.

This is a turning point and unless the community steps up, the Parish Council will be no more as the current three Councillors cannot carry on as they are.

Please email milcombecpc@gmail.com for details on becoming a Councillor.