

MILTON ERNEST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a virtual Extraordinary Meeting of Milton Ernest Parish Council held on Thursday 10th December 2020 at 8.00pm

Present: Cllrs Whiteside, D Snowball, H Snowball, P Cain, R Winter, 2 members of the public and the Clerk (Mrs S Bottoms).

Cllr Whiteside agreed to Chair the meeting.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Newman.
2. **Declarations of interest in items on the agenda:**
 - i) **To receive any written or other requests for a dispensation:** None.
3. **To consider co-option to fill the vacancy on the Parish Council:** Two candidates presented themselves for consideration by the Parish Council. One decided to withdraw from consideration. He was thanked for expressing an interest and asked to keep in touch with the Parish Council and to hopefully ask to be considered again should a future vacancy arise. New people with new ideas are always welcome on the council. **It was agreed** that Steve Dilley should be co-opted onto the Parish Council and he could take office once he had signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. His register of interests would also need to be forwarded to Bedford Borough Council. **Action: The Clerk and Cllr Dilley**
4. **To consider and agree action re: the bottle bank located at Milton Ernest Garden Centre:** There was concern that with the continuing closure of the facility at Sainsbury's there are not enough collection points in the North of the parish. **It was agreed** that the Clerk should contact her fellow parish clerks to establish if this was a problem elsewhere. It was noted that Turvey, Riseley and Sharnbrook have similar issues. Bromham had removed their bottle banks following anti-social behaviour. Following the responses from neighbouring parishes, the possibility of a joint approach to the Borough Council might be an option. **It was agreed** that the letter should go directly to the Major asking that the Borough Council produce and agree a workable strategy to facilitate bottle recycling. Cllr Whiteside agreed to draft the letter and to circulate it to fellow parish councillors. Most people are in support of recycling. If increased collection points are not feasible, then alternative solutions must be found e.g. collection from homes.

Action: Cllr Whiteside and the Clerk

..... The Chairman
14th January 2021