

Parish Council Web Site

Currently the Parish Council web site makes the following copyright declaration:

Copyright Information

Except where stated below all photographs and images on this web site are copyright © 1997–2003 Paul Oldham and all text is copyright © 1997–2003 Milton Parish Council.

The exceptions to the above are as follows:

- All photographs and text on the Milton Village View pages are copyright © 1997–2001 Jane Coston.
- All photographs and text on the Friends of Milton Country Park pages are copyright © 1996–2003 Friends of Milton Country Park or South Cambridgeshire District Council unless otherwise stated.
- [longish list of other exceptions]

Please ask before reproducing any photographs or text on these pages.

It seems to me that as a public body we are probably perfectly happy to let people use items on our web site which are our copyright for non-commercial purposes and when people have been polite enough to ask (some don't) I've given them permission.

However it's occurred to me recently that I have no right to do this as I don't own copyright the text, the parish council do. (This is a slight over simplification, although the parish council holds copyright on the text of minutes and agendas I write the other web pages so arguably those remain my copyright, but I've always implicitly ceded those to the parish council.)

So I'm asking the parish council to agree a policy on our copyright material. I've looked at the County Council web site and the text from their web page on copyright material is attached. In relation to copyright they give permission for any use to be made for non commercial purposes without permission from the council. However commercial use may only be made with the "express, prior, written permission" of the council.

This seems like good sense: it allows free use while ensuring that if any commercial use is made of the material (which could bring the council some income) the council retains control and hence a chance to make some money.

I would also highlight the "Disclaimer" section on the County Council's page. It seems like a valid thing to put on our site too.

Therefore my proposal is that we adopt the County Council's copyright and disclaimer statement, replacing "Cambridgeshire County Council" by "Milton Parish Council" throughout, dropping the section on "Mapping", and incorporating our list of exceptions into the text. I've attached the text re-worked on this basis.

Cambridgeshire County Council

– Copyright and Disclaimer Statement

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Milton Parish Council

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