

MOUNTNESSING VILLAGE COUNCIL
An Ordinary Meeting of the Village Council
St. John's Hall, Monday 14 November 2022 at 7.00pm

In attendance: Cllr Slevin, Cllr Broughton, Cllr Cloke, Cllr Harries, Cllr King, Cllr McKinney,
BCllr Hones, D Bull, Clerk and L Smith, Asst Clerk

22/141. To receive and agree apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Read.

22/142. Announcement and Declaration of Interests by Village Councillors

There were no announcements nor Declaration of Interests.

22/143. To approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 10 October 2022

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 11 July were approved as being correct with the following amendments: -

22/121. Cllr Wagland advised that this ward will have the highest number of votes per councillor. *The word votes should read residents.*

22/127. Cllr Cloke to speak to Tracey about cars being cleared to allow NATS/Rangers to carry out the work. The word Tracey should read SEPP

22/132. MVC is a leaseholder of MVH and were the charitable trust to be disbanded ownership would revert to MVC. *The word leaseholder should read Lessor or Landlord.*

22/144. Finance

The accounts for June, July and August were approved as being correct.

22/145. Public Question Time

Cllr Slevin welcomed five members of the public and invited them to address the meeting. Issues raised were concerning road safety and speeding in Roman Road and Church Road and road safety in respect of the new Thoby Lane road layout. Cllr Cloke advised he would investigate funding for signage of "No Entry" at Thoby Lane junction. It was agreed that a period of transition will be needed for all road users to adjust to the new junction layout. Cllr Slevin was keen to reassure members of the public that speeding remains of high concern and we are keen to promote road safety within our village. Regarding speed issues in Church Road, a resident requested support to establish a Community Speedwatch campaign. BCllr Hones advised she would liaise with Dan Cannon and support for this initiative could be gauged and the forthcoming speeding meeting in early 2023.

A resident brought to attention the matter regarding the hedge on the boundary of St Johns, enquiring as to who was responsible for the upkeep. It was agreed that Cllr Harries would revert to the resident confirming the necessary details.

A resident from the Roman Road area (near to the Garden Centre development) raised the issue of speeding within Roman Road, between the Ingatestone Junction and the A12 slip road. Signage is very misleading in terms of speed limits and the resident thought that it was seen as a neglected area with regards to traffic issues which will only increase with the construction of Blossom Park.

Cllr Cloke confirmed that he was happy to endorse this concern and he would speak with Cllr Poston at IFPC who is also responsible for highways at IFPC.

Cllr Slevin welcomed Kirsty Dale to the meeting and thanked her for her interest in becoming a councillor and joining Mountnessing Village Council.

22/146. To receive reports by Borough and County Councillors

BCllr Hones advised she will be attending a housing meeting tomorrow. However, the issue regarding Ingleton House has been deferred until the December meeting and that the NHS will decide the actual site for the surgery, but it was deemed very unlikely to be Ingatestone.

BCllr Sankey was unable to attend the meeting and had asked for his update, as follows, to be shared with the meeting: -

- *The Brentwood Bus Users Association AGM is on Saturday 26th November, 10am - 12pm at the Town Hall, BBC, all welcome*
- *Have contacted First Bus concerning the timeliness and consistency of service, based on comments I received from talking to commuters at bus stops. Have suggested trialling return to half hourly service to see take up. Pointed out Mountnessing residents have no other public transport option.*
- *NATS cleared Lower Road, next visit will be in February 2023.*
- *Contract for 'tip' still unsigned.*
- *The Hallmark Care home application is to be presented to BBC Planning on Thursday 22nd November. The Planning Officer will be briefing the Ingatestone & Fryerning Planning & Highways Committee on Thursday 17th November, sometime between 9.30am and 11am. This is an open meeting at the I&F Council Chambers.*

22/147. Introduction of Liz Smith as Assistant Clerk.

22/148. Extensive discussion was had regarding the speeding issue within the Village as a whole, under public question time. A meeting will be arranged in early 2023 for residents to attend to discuss this matter further and agree on actions to take forward. To include discussion regarding "20 is Plenty" scheme.

22/149. **Village Hall** – Cllr Slevin and DB advised they attended the EALC village hall course and discussion followed around the future use of the village hall. It was decided that the residents would be approached for their opinion via online survey or door to door. It was agreed that Cllr Slevin would present to the Village Hall Trustee's, proposals for the village hall use.

22/150. **Finger Posts** – Cllr Harries advised that there were a couple of funding possibilities to enable this issue to be resolved. Cllr Cloke advised that he may be able to obtain further funding.

22/152. **Leases at Mountnessing Tennis Club** – Leases commenced on 18th October 2023. These were duly signed by Cllr Slevin and DB. Cllr Harries to revert on the length of the lease.

22/153. **Training** – It was agreed that bespoke training be held in Mountnessing for all current and proposed councillors (min 10 required). DB to confirm potential dates for training with Pearl and EALC. Cllr Cloke to arrange a planning course with Clare Mayhew.

22/154. **Planning** – No issues raised.

22/155. **To receive Risk Assessments on Village Assets and discuss any works needed or on-going on the following:**

- a) Childrens play area and bus shelters (JC&SK)** – Cllr Cloke raised the issue regarding the H&S matter concerning the footpaths surrounding the play area on Coronation Field. He had received a quote of approx. £16k but he agreed to obtain 2 further quote to compare with the £16k. It was agreed going forward that MVC needs to ensure funds are built up to enable potential future costs for footpaths. £2000 a year should be allocated for this. Cllr Cloke went on to report regarding the play equipment, and as per H&S requirements the play equipment will need to be replaced. We will look to approach various sources for quotes to assist with funding such projects. Nothing to report on the village bus shelters.
- b) Village Hall car park, Millenium Gardens, and old recycling area (KB)** – Nothing to report.
- c) Recreation Ground (KB)** – Nothing to report but to note the issues regarding the hanging branches. DB advised that we are awaiting the tree survey report.
- d) Water Meadows (IH)** – Nothing to report.
- e) Village Hall (AS)** – Replaced doors and locks for emergency exit and it was noted with concern that Andrew Stephenson and Ian Harries are stepping down from the MVH Trust in May 2023. It was noted with thanks to

Cllr Cloke for fixing and sealing the back board needed for the defibrillator. It was also noted and agreed that new Christmas lights could be purchased for the Christmas trees. DB to purchase.

- f) **St Johns Hall (IH)** – Noting to report
- g) **Mountnessing Village School (AS)** – The recent road safety incident regarding a pupil had caused concern amongst parents and staff. The HT had emailed Cllr Slevin to advise there may be future possibility regarding hire of office space for meetings etc. The Headteacher was to revert with costings etc. Cllr Slevin to chase.

22/156. Any other business –

- a) Village Newsletter – It was agreed that a regular newsletter should be produced and circulated and the possibility of a future online version.
- b) Cllr Slevin advised that the Police were going to approach the suspects of the vandalism to attend an informal interview and that they would update us in due course.

22/157. Items for inclusion in the next Ordinary Meeting Agenda:

- a) Police Update regarding vandalism prosecution.
- b) Speeding and Speedwatch – BCllr Hones to speak with Dan Cannon.
- c) Residents meeting to be arranged for Early 2023.
- d) Grants – Cllr Cloke to research funds that may be available. DB and LS will also seek funding sources including the Brentwood Community Fund.
- e) Cllr Harries to revert to resident re St Johns boundary.
- f) Cllr Cloke to research funding for No Entry sign at Thoby Lane junction.
- g) DB to obtain recent Tree Survey Report.
- h) Village Hall update.
- i) Mountnessing School office space, Cllr Slevin to follow up.
- j) Cllr Cloke to write to Cabinet Member Lee Scott at ECC (cc CCllr Wagland, Phil Drain and Cllr Poston) to lobby support for excessive speeding on Roman Road.

22/158. Date of Next Meeting Monday 9th January 2023