

MOUNTNESSING VILLAGE COUNCIL
Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of the Village Council
held at St Johns Hall, Monday 11th September 2023 at 7pm

23/136 Welcome by the Chairman and apologies for absence (AS)

Apologies were noted from ECllr Wagland, BBCllr Gorton

Chair confirmed to council members that Cllr Payne had resigned from the council over the summer period. Cllr Slevin thanked Cllr Payne for her contribution and her help at the summer fayre in June.

23/137 Declaration of interests by councillors (ALL)

No declarations were received.

23/138 To agree and sign minutes of ordinary meeting of council held on Monday 10th July (ALL)

Cllr Cloke noted 3 typo errors on within the minutes. These were noted and amended. Chair and Clerk signed and dated the minutes as unanimously approved by all councillors via show of hands.

23/139 Public Question Time

One member of the public attended the meeting – Noelle Hones. She wished to thank the council for providing the Defibrillator training for residents.

23/140 Updates from Borough and County Councillors, to include NATS update on works in Mountnessing and Elms road safety proposals.

BBCllr Sankey provided the following update to councillors:

- NATS resources at BBC are limited due to team members being drafted into Depot departments. There is currently no update available on the NATS tasks that were due to be completed in Mountnessing in July (clearance and tidy of the garage area behind Prince of Wales, tidy of the subway entrance areas and tidy of the play area in Mountney Close)
- Various meetings at BBC are taking place this September. These include Clean and Green Committee, F.A.I.R, Housing Committee, Licensing and Planning, Scrutiny, and a meeting of the Ordinary Council.
- BBCllr Sankey advised council that he is now the area representative on the SEPP committee. There are several TRO's in Mountnessing for consideration and consultation and these will be discussed/agreed at the SEPP meeting in December. The yellow lining proposed for Roman Close is one of these and Cllr Cloke confirmed that he would be attending the meeting for this proposal.
- BBCllr referred to the resident query on road safety which had been received to the village council from residents on Roman Road. Cllr Sankey advised that despite the very positive meeting of residents in January 2023, requests for speed survey evidence and community speed watch equipment from EFCC are

yet to be provided to assistance in road safety planning. Cllr Sankey will follow this up again with EFCC.

- LHP plans have been submitted to ECCllr Wagland for Roman Road slip road approach and The Elms in Mountnessing. These are awaiting Cllr Waglands agreement.
- Cllr Cloke enquired as to whether equipment could be borrowed from another community speedwatch team in the area until equipment is provided to Mountnessing. Clerk to investigate and refer.
- BBCllr Sankey advised there is a school parking safety initiative from SEPP. Clerk agreed to contact the school to make them aware of this project.
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23/141

Clerk Update - to include financial update, AGAR, Defibrillator, co-option of councillors and community speed watch.

AGAR – queries from the external auditor PKF had been received and currently being responded to.

Defibrillator training had taken place on Monday 11th September for residents. The Defib machine is fully functioning, and clerk checks the system weekly, and records checks on a report in the Defib box. Following training on 11th September, Clerk to enquire about availability for a second defibrillator in the village. Possibly in the St Johns Hall area.

Forms have been requested from Lloyd's bank to add another signatory to the bank account following councillor's retirements in May.

Back dated council records – minutes/plans etc are to be stored at the Essex Record office. These will be deposited before the next meeting in October.

Co-Option of New Councillors – We currently have 3 spaces for new councillors. We can Co-Opt new members after 18th September. Co-Option will be listed as an agenda item for October meeting.

Community Speedwatch – Continue to chase for MVC's equipment from EFCC. Clerk will enquire if we could loan equipment from another village in the meantime.

The security barrier at the Village Hall entrance was severely damaged over the summer and required significant costly repairs. Potential CCTV is being investigated for this area.

23/142

Locality Fund Application (Clerk)

Clerk had received correspondence from ECCllr Waglands office regarding 2023 Locality Fund Applications. This is for projects that aren't subject to normal village council expense. Clerk suggest councillors may wish to consider renovation of the "Memorial" area adjacent to the back of the windmill area. The area is currently requiring renovation for residents to be able to use the area. Clerk confirmed that a quote had been acquired for this work from our maintenance contractors. The quote for £2640 was proposed by Cllr Cloke and Seconded by Cllr Hyde and was unanimously voted in favour for by show of hands. The application for

funding (to be match funded by MVC) will be submitted to ECllr Waglands office by the Clerk.

23/143 Self Defence Field Hire renewal (Dec 2023) (Clerk)

The contract with the Self Defence Training Company who hire an area of Coronation field weekly, is due for renewal in November and the company wish to renew. It was proposed and seconded by Cllrs Slevin and Cloke that the fee be raised to £250.00. This was unanimously approved by council by show of hands. Clerk will issue a new invoice for the annual fee.

23/144 Planning Applications

- a) **23/006541/S192 – Hunts Farm – permitted.**
- b) **23/00588/HHA – Hollins - approved**
- c) **23/00551/FUL – 281a Roman Road - pending.**
- d) **23/00550/HHA – 6 Burnthouse Lane - Refused**
- e) **23/00913/HHA – 6 Burnthouse Lane – Resubmitted – pending.**
- f) **23/00947/HHA – 15 Church Close – Pending**

Cllr Cloke, Chair of Highway and Planning Committee confirmed that all comments relating to pending cases had been submitted to the Brentwood Planning Portal. Clerk to arrange a regular scheduled meeting for H&P Committee though this is subject to when planning applications will be received. Clerk to contact the school regarding the previously agreed use of one of the school buildings for the meetings.

23/145 Village Risk Assessments

- a) **Coronation Field/Childrens Play Area/Village Hall Car Park (JC)** Cllr Cloke confirmed that the slide had been fixed, the new paths laid, and tree work completed. The security lights had been raised as a concern via a resident. Cllr Cloke and Hyde to meet with Village Hall Chair to discuss.
Barrier/Post to be put into a gap in the hedge to prevent vehicular access to Coronation Field. Clerk to arrange.
- b) **Water Meadows (KD)** No Update. Cllrs to investigate clearance/tidy of the area.
- c) **Bus Stops (PM)** Facia on the bus stop at Lower Road is beginning to rot and will require attention. Clerk to investigate. Bus stop in front of the Plough will be monitored as vegetation is covering the bus stop sign.
- d) **Village Green (SH)** Tree work completed and over hanging branches have been removed. Brambles in the shrubbery area. Clerk to request tidy up by contracted maintenance team. Cllrs discussed the use of the notice board. Is it used to its full potential. It also requires re-staining and structural attention. Clerk to investigate.
- e) **Burnthouse Lane/Mountney Close area (Clerk)** Following investigations by BBCllrs, the hoardings and boards have been removed by Network Rail. The notice board on the green in Mountney Close is currently broken and requires attention. Clerk to arrange.
- f) **St Johns Hall/Village Hall (Clerk)** Trust meeting scheduled for September.
- g) **Mountnessing School (AS)** Cllr Slevin to meeting with Holly Obank before October meeting.

23/146 **Mountnessing Gaol – (JC/AS/Clerk)** Cllr Slevin advised council that the Victorian village wheeled Lock up which is listed with Historic England is currently stored at Drurys Farm and has been for many years. Cllr Cloke and the Clerk agreed to visit the Essex Record office to obtain confirmation of village ownership to restore the lock up to the village vicinity.

23/147 **Items for inclusion in next meeting**

Co-Option of Councillors

Village Handyman

Christmas

Cricket Club

23/148 **Date of meeting Monday 9th October 7pm St Johns Hall**

The meeting closed at 8.18pm