



MOUNTNESSING VILLAGE COUNCIL
Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of the Village Council
held at St Johns Hall, Tuesday 12th March 2024 at 7pm

- 24/209** **Welcome by the Chairman and receive apologies for absence.**
Apologies for absence received from Hugh Gorton and Lesley Wagland
- 24/210** **Declaration of interests by councillors**
No interests were declared.
- 24/211** **To approve minutes of previous meeting.**
The minutes were unanimously approved. Proposed by Cllr Cloke and Seconded by Cllr Hyde.
- 24/212** **Public Question Time**
(5 mins per member of public)
No members of the public were in attendance.
- 24/213** **Update from Borough and County Councillors**
Cllr Sankey confirmed that the 24/25 BBC budget had been agreed.
Cllr Sankey confirmed that 4 new trees had been allocated to Mountnessing.
Clerk confirmed these would be planted on Coronation Field.
- 24/214** **Thoby Priory Brief Update – Cllr Cloke & Cllr Hones-Cloke**
Cllr Cloke confirmed that residents at Thoby were meeting with Cllr Wagland on 13th Feb. Clerk also advised that Alex Burghart MP was visiting the site in April to meet with residents involved.
- 24/215** **Clerk Update –**
1) to review and or approve BCP for Council – Discussion regarding pre-circulated draft plan. Clerk to revert in April regarding safe storage of documents.
2) to approve February Accounts – Accounts agreed and Cllrs Hyde and Hones-Cloke to review and approve reports up to and including Feb 2024
3) Update on Handyman tasks – Noticeboard in Mountney Close has been repaired. The pavilion door frames are being repaired in April.
4) Update and or approve Notice Board quotes for replacement notice board – As requested in March by council, clerk sought another quote to

compare the favoured replacement notice board with. Discussion took place and council unanimously approved the replacement board from Geviews. Proposed by Cllr Slevin and seconded by Cllr Dale.

5) NATS tasks for w/c 18th March – Confirmed tasks assigned to NATS team are clearance of rubbish at Hope Close garage area, removal of debris on pavement between The Elms and the school, cut back of greenery around the bus stop by Roman Close and a litter collection.

6) D Day Commemorations – Discussion took place. It was unanimously agreed to utilise one of the new trees and mark with a plaque to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of D Day this year. Proposed by Cllr Dale and Seconded by Cllr Cloke.

7) Village Newsletter – Compilation of the latest newsletter is under way. Cllr Slevin suggested the creation of a village booklet, as used in previous years. Clerk to investigate costings for this and revert to council.

24/216 Village Litter pick date to be approved and details agreed (Cllr Dale)

It was agreed by councillors to hold a village litter pick. Sunday 7th April was agreed and clerk to confirm equipment loan from BBC.

24/217 Fingerpost Update – Cllr Cloke

Cllr Cloke confirmed that Essex Highways have sent the licensing papers to BBC for agreement for replacement of 4 wooden finger posts in the village. Cllr Cloke to chase BBC for agreement.

24/218 Grass Verge Parking – Clerk

Clerk confirmed that residents have raised concerns regarding verge parking on Roman Road, councillors confirmed agreement that this is a significant issue. Cllr Cloke confirmed that the verges opposite the shop and adjacent to the school belong to Essex Highways. Cllrs agreed unanimously to purchase some bollards with reflectors to be installed on the verges. Clerk to arrange. Proposed by Cllr Cloke and Seconded by Cllr Slevin.

24/219 Prince of Wales Update – Cllr Cloke/Cllr Slevin

Cllr Cloke confirmed that at a meeting of BBC on 11th March, the POW had been granted a Community Asset Status following a petition campaign and backing from MVC.

24/220 Planning Applications

Applications were noted by councillors.

23/01052/FUL – Thoby Priory – pending.

23/01421/HHA – 8 Roman Close – approved.

24/00078/AGR – Hunts Farm - Refused

24/00024/HHA – 326 Roman Road – pending.

24/221

Village Risk Assessments

- a) **Coronation Field/Childrens Play Area/Village Hall Car Park (JC) to include CCTV proposals.** – Cllr Cloke confirmed the play area continues to be inspected weekly by BBC and any safety issues are immediately notified. CCTV camera siting's in the car park to be discussed with clerk. 4 new trees to be planted on Coronation Field.
- b) **Water Meadows (KD) to include update on site clearance and community use.** Cllr Dale confirmed that the site had been cleared and that the Forget Me Not Club had been approached and the site made available for their use in the spring/summer months.
- c) **Bus Stops (PM)** Cllr McKinney confirmed that overgrown vegetation continues to be a sight issue at Roman Close bus stop. Clerk has added to NATS list. Litter bins are needed at The Elms bus stop and at the Plough bus stop. BBCllr Sankey has requested these. Cllr McKinney confirmed an issue with the island crossing by the Plough. Clerk to investigate and report to Essex Highways.
- d) **Village Green (SH)** Cllr Hyde confirmed that the green area had been tidied and cut back. Discussion had taken place under item 214 above regarding the replacement notice board.
- e) **Burnthouse Lane/Mountney Close area (NHC) to include discussion on Mountney Close play area.** Cllr Hones-Cloke confirmed that MVC were keen to resolve issues surrounding the outdated park equipment in Mountney Close and to get the park re-sited to a more central area in Heybridge Road. Cllr Cloke reminded council that the play area and the equipment is owned by BBC and therefore currently their responsibility to maintain. Cllr Sankey confirmed he had been in contact with residents in the area and shared their agreement that the park needed to be updated. Cllr Hones-Cloke to investigate grant funding for a "Monkey Business" climbing apparatus for the park and revert to council in April.
- f) **St Johns Hall/Village Hall (Clerk)** – Nothing to report. Committee meeting for MVH later in March.
- g) **Mountnessing School (AS)** – Nothing to report.

24/222

Items for inclusion in next meeting

Village Fayre/Cricket Match

Village Newsletter

Traffic Issues – VAS sign update from BBC.

24/223

Date of Next Meeting – Monday 8th April 2024 7pm St Johns Hall

Meeting closed at 8.29pm