



MOUNTNESSING VILLAGE COUNCIL
Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of the Village Council
held at St Johns Hall, Monday 10th February 2025 at 7pm

- 25/131 Welcome and apologies for absence**
Cllr Slevin opened the meeting and noted apologies from BBClrs Wagland and Sankey.
- 25/132 Declaration of interests**
Cllr Dale declared an ongoing interest in the Taylor Wimpey development.
- 25/133 Approval of minutes from 13th January Ordinary Meeting of Council**
Minutes were unanimously approved by show of hands. Proposed by Cllr Cloke and seconded by Cllr Dale.
- 25/134 Public Question Time (5 minutes per question)**
9 Members of public were in attendance, all with concerns regarding the proposed Hillway development by Taylor Wimpey. Councillors encouraged the public to attend the forthcoming exhibition in the Village Hall on Thursday 20th February which is being hosted by Taylor Wimpey where more detailed plans and designs will be available for viewing. Cllr Cloke explained that until a formal planning application has been submitted to Brentwood Planning Team, then as a village council we cannot comment until we have seen the formal application. Cllr Cloke explained further that even though the site had previously been classed as greenbelt land, under the new planning legislation passed by central government, the land is now classed as greybelt land. Residents concerns regarding drainage at the site, access to utilities, proposed entrances and current wildlife habitation were all noted by councillors and residents were advised to bring these concerns to the exhibition on 20th February.
- 25/135 Taylor Wimpey Development – Hillway**
Discussion held under 25/134
- 25/136 County & Borough Councillor Updates**

BBClr Gorton advised that a balanced budget had been set by Brentwood Borough Council for 2025/26 yr.

Cllr Gorton advised that under the “Love Your Bus” scheme being run by Essex County Council, Ingatestone Parish Council were in the process of applying for a grant to enable the 351-bus service to increase services throughout the off peak time table. Cllr Gorton sought support from this from Mountnessing Councillors, which was duly given.

Cllr Cloke raised an issue from a local resident regarding the state of the pedestrian footpaths from the Elms up to the school entrance. Cllr Cloke explained that the debris on the the footpath needs clearing to make the pavements wider. Cllr Cloke asked Clerk to include this on the March agenda for discussion with Borough Councillors.

25/137

Thoby Priory Update (JC)

Full planning application is still progressing.

Cllr Cloke noted that Alex Burghart MP is visiting the site with Historic England at the end of March.

25/138

Finger Post Update (JC)

Cllr Slevin noted the delays in locating the grant that has been given to BBC in trust for Mountnessing to replace the 4 broken finger posts in the village. Cllr Cloke confirmed he had raised the issue with SEPP and will continue to pursue. Cllr Slevin noted that action will need to be taken by March if the funds cannot be located.

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25/139

Clerks update to include –

Finance – Approval of January payments

Precirculated accounts for January were unanimously agreed. Proposed by Cllr Dale and seconded by Cllr Slevin.

Hope Close/Watermeadow Trees

Clerk confirmed an email response had been sent to BBC regarding their offer of replacement trees and 50% of costs incurred. A response from BBC is awaited.

Council Email Addresses

Clerk reminded all councillors that only the designated email addresses should be used for council business.

Defib for St Giles

Clerk confirmed that she had contacted Tim Lee at St Giles with the proposal of installing a defib on the brick extension at St Giles.

Clerk also confirmed that she had received contact from residents regarding the unprecedented amount of litter on the rural grass verges around the village. Clerk confirmed that we had been in contact with BBC

regarding the possibility of extra litter picks of the rural lanes by BBC.
Clerk to advise at March meeting.

25/140 Planning Applications

a) 23/01052/FUL – Thoby Priory – Pending

b) 24/00831/FUL – Hepburns – Pending

e) 24/01386/FUL – Chelmwood – pending

f) 24/01263/FUL – Solar Farm – Pending

g) 24/01237/HHA – 1, The Hamlet – Pending

- 25/141 Village Risk Assessments:**
- a) Coronation Field/Children's Play area/Village Hall Car Park (JC)** Slight damage to the play surface in the play area had been fixed and had now stabilized. Potholes in the village hall car park are awaiting better weather to then be investigated and fixed. Prohibiting electric bike and scooter signs have now been installed around Coronation Field.
- b) Watermeadows (KD)** Nothing to report
- c) Bus Shelters (PM)** Cllr McKinney had inspected all bus shelters; no urgent problems were reported. General tidying of the shelters would be welcomed. Owing to Cllr McKinney's retirement, it was agreed that Cllr Barnabas would be responsible for bus shelter checks from March 2025.
- d) Village Green (SH)** Nothing to report.
- e) Mountney Close/Burnthouse Lane (NHC)** It noted that the ongoing concerns with the play area in Mountney Close remain the responsibility of BBC. Cllr Hones Cloke to continue the process of applying for the Monkey Climbing Wall for the village.
- f) St Johns & Village Hall (Clerk)** Clerk confirmed that she was now Chairman of the Village Hall Trustee's.

Following the risk assessments, Cllr Slevin took the opportunity to put on record the Council's thanks to Cllr Peter McKinney who is retiring from the Village Council. Cllr Slevin thanked Peter for his work and commitment to village causes and wished him all the best for the future.

25/142 Items for next month's agenda

Pedestrian pavements between The Elms and the school.
Taylor Wimpey Development
Documents for Audit

25/143 Date of next meeting – Monday 10th March 2025

Meeting closed 8.30pm

