



MOUNTNESSING VILLAGE COUNCIL

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of the Village Council

held at St Johns Hall, Tuesday 18th November 2025 at 6.30pm

Present: Cllr Dale, Cllr Cloke, Cllr Hyde, Cllr Hones-Cloke, ECllr Wagland, BCllr Gorton, Clerk – L Fajimolu

- 25/92 Welcome by Chair and apologies for absence received by the Clerk**
Apologies received from Cllr Barnabas and BCllr Sankey
- 25/93 Declaration of interests**
Cllr Dale declared an interest in planning application 25/00981/FUL
- 25/94 Approval of minutes from 13th October 2025 Ordinary Meeting**
Unanimously approved. P. Cllr Dale, S. Cllr Cloke
- 25/95 Public Question Time (3 minutes per question)**
No public in attendance
- 25/96 County and Borough Councillor Updates to include:**
MVC S106 Monies & Mountney Playarea (Cllrs Gorton & Sankey)
Essex Highways Verge Licences (Cllr Wagland)
ECllr Wagland: Pavement improvements made to Burnthouse Lane area, under members requests at ECC. Cala Homes (though not Ingatestone, affects Mountnessing residents) have been reported to HSE for construction traffic and parking. Junction of Old Church Road and Mountnessing Road has been put forward for surface repairs. Network Rail work at Burnthouse Lane is being heavily monitored by ECC given the disruption to residents due to the constant road closure requirements by the contractors. Locality Fund – grant application successful for MVC to install new fencing around the pond area on Thoby Lane/Coronation Field. A further grant application has been submitted for a defib to be installed at St Giles Church.
BCllr Gorton: 269 Roman Road planning appeal was heard at BBC Planning Meeting and has now been approved. BBC are proposing to introduce changes to voluntary litter picking including extra insurance and collected rubbish to be taken to a specific site for pick up by BBC. This policy will go out to the parishes for consultation. NATs teams are due in Mountnessing w/c 24th November. Clerk requested the following works: Removal of leaves on pedestrian pavements on Roman Road, a tidy up of Church Cres garage area and Mountney

*Close carpark, cut back of vegetation surrounding road signs on Arnolds Lane, removal of weeds on A12 bridge and a full litter pick of Roman Road.
Mountney Close Playarea: BBC have agreed to refurbish the park area and add new equipment to Coronation Field, using £91k of money due to the area following various developments. Clerk to meet Adam Alridge from BBC to discuss design, equipment needed and timescales and update at January meeting.*

25/97 Cricket Hire Update

Clerk and Chair to formulate a response to HCC latest response to the changes of hire for 2026.

Clerk confirmed that the outstanding water bill is being paid by HCC.

25/98 Tree Update – Annual Tree Survey report and quote for recommended works

Annual tree survey and quote for recommended works precirculated. Cllrs agreed to prioritise the works for the Watermeadows and then complete the works to Coronation Field in 4Q. P. Cllr Dale, S. Cllr Hyde

25/99 Grounds Maintenance contract agreement

6 companies visited the village to quote for the ground's maintenance contract 2026-2029, only one quote received back, and this was precirculated to the meeting. Cllrs unanimously agreed the quote, agreeing that the tasks included must be regularly monitored by MVC. P. Cllr Cloke, S. Cllr Hyde. Clerk to advise contractor.

25/100 Clerks Update – to include:

Agreement of October Financials- *Pre circulated. Unanimously agreed. P. Cllr Hyde S Cllr Dale*

Rural Police Engagement – *Clerk has contacted RPE regarding ASB behaviour on Coronation Field and Village Hall Carpark.*

3PR Parking – *SEPP are in communication with the school to add them as members to the 3PR parking scheme to encourage safer parking around the school.*

Network Rail (including Church Road Bridge) *Severe dip developing on the railway bridge on Church Road has been reported to Network Rail.*

Defib St Giles *Grant application made via ECCLr Wagland, for a defib to be installed in the porch at St Giles.*

Locality Fund – Pond fence – *Locality Fund grant application was successful. Work to install a new fence around the perimeter of the pond on Thoby Lane/Coronation Field will be completed before Christmas. Clerk was authorised to purchase signage for the new fence.*

Budget – *Budget proposals to be discussed in January. Cllrs asked to email Clerk any project suggestions for 2026/27 budget by 1st December.*

Christmas – *Council will be closed between 24th December and 2nd January inclusive.*

Newsletter – Clerk to draw up a brief newsletter for residents to be delivered before Christmas

- 25/101 Planning:**
- a) 23/01052/FUL – Thoby Priory - pending
 - b) 24/00831/FUL – 269 Roman Road – pending
 - c) 25/00178/FUL – Holbrooks Stables – pending
 - d) 25/011281/FUL – 97 Roman Road - pending
 - e) 25/00849/HHA – 3 Thoby Lane - refused
 - f) 25/01014/FUL – 36 Church Road - pending
 - g) 25/00813/FUL, Fitwalters Farm (Solar) - pending
 - h) 25/00981/FUL – Hillway Development - pending

Points of discussion to note:

- Essex Highways have resubmitted comments in relation to 23/01052/FUL
- 269 Roman Road – MVC appeal was rejected, and the plans were passed for approval.
- 25/00981/FUL – well attended MVC public consultation meeting. MVC have acquired an independent highways report on behalf of residents and will be using this evidence in comments to BBC Planning Team in objection to the planning application. P. Cllr Cloke S. Cllr Dale. Unanimously agreed.

25/102 Village Risk Assessments:

- a) **Coronation Field/Children's Play area/Village Hall Car Park (JC)**
- **To include – ROSPA Inspection works update, BBC Inspections, Fireworks, Bollards**- Dean McDermid successfully completed the play equipment inspection exams on behalf of MVC and is now able to undertake play equipment inspections. Cllr Cloke proposed to begin this in January 2026. S. by Cllr Hyde and unanimously approved. Clerk to inform BBC that we will no longer require inspections from January 2026.
Various incidents of ASB in last 4 weeks, including fireworks, escooters, ebikes and drugs within MVH carpark. Clerk notified police and enforcement teams at Brentwood however neither can guarantee to be able to attend site when needed. Clerk enquired with a security company who MVC has previously used and obtained a quote for patrols of the area etc. This was discussed by councillors and agreed one visit a day, at varied times was required. P. Cllr Cloke, S.Cllr Dale. Clerk to arrange.
Signage for verge outside Tennis Club. Cllrs agreed to purchase NO parking signs for MVC owned verge outside the tennis club. Budget of £375.00 agreed. P Cllr Dale S Cllr Hones Cloke. Cllr Cloke to arrange
Cllr Cloke to arrange installation of drop bollards adjacent to the cricket pavilion. As discussed and authorised in July meeting.
- b) **Watermeadows (KD) – To include future for Watermeadows**
Cllrs discussed valuation requirements for Watermeadows land, owned by MVC. This is a registered asset, and it was agreed to obtain a current value for council purposes. Clerk obtained a quote from Mass & Co and this was agreed by Cllrs unanimously. P Cllr Dale S Cllr Hyde.
- c) **Bus Shelters (TB) – Refurbishment of all shelters completed. Shelter at Lower Road requires a new roof in the Spring.**
- d) **Village Green (SH) – to include Christmas lights installation**

Baubles to be decorated by Forget Me Not club for the village Christmas tree. Brambles require cut back – Clerk to arrange. Lights to be installed end of November.

e) Mountney Close/Burnthouse Lane (NHC)

See earlier points raised re Play area, pavements and Network Rail works

f) St Johns & Village Hall (Clerk) – Successful quiz night raised £600 for Village Hall funds. New doors are to be installed at St John's hall.

g) Cricket Pavilion – (KD) Internal and external refurb works are in discussion with Pemberton Handyman.

25/103 Remembrance Service

Chair updated Cllrs following her attendance at St Giles. It was noted that the memorial needs to be cleaned. Clerk advised that Government are releasing grants in 2026 for memorial clean ups. MVC will apply for a grant.

**25/104 Items for next month's agenda
Finger Post Update – funds from BBC
Budget Setting for 2026/27 Precept**

25/105 Date of next meeting – Monday 12th January 2026, 6.30pm St Johns Hall

Public meeting ended at 8.16pm