

MOUNTNESSING PARISH COUNCIL
Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council
St. John's Hall, Church Road, Mountnessing, Monday, 12 March 2018 at 7.30pm

MINUTES

- 18/030** **Apologies for absence** – apologies were received from Cllr Wagland. Cllrs Santry and Hofert were absent from the meeting
- In attendance: Cllr Stephenson, Cllr King, Cllr Read, Cllr McKinney, Cllr Broughton, Cllr Harries, BClr Cloke, BClr Honess, BClr Bridge, Laura Brown, Parish Clerk. Four members of the public were in attendance at the start of the meeting
- 18/031** **Approval of Minutes of Meeting held 5 February 2018** – Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on the 5 February were approved.
- 18/032** **Declaration of Interests and Compliance with Ethical Framework** - there were no declarations of interest.
- 18/033** **Public Question Time** – A member of the public provided the meeting with photographs to show damage to the grass area in Church Crescent, caused repeatedly by the refuse trucks. BClr Cloke has reported this to the depot and will follow up the need to make good the damage. He also requested that if possible, photos be taken of the truck in question should it happen again. The same member of the public also asked for information on the plans for the garages in Church Crescent. BClr Cloke assured the meeting that there is no proposal to close the footpath that runs from these, down past the Prince of Wales public house but that the garages would in time be demolished. The member of the public informed the meeting that he privately owned one of these and agreed to email details through to BClr Cloke.
- 18/034** **Finance**
- The monthly financial report was reported and accepted with payments noted.
- The proposed budget for 2018-2019 was presented. This was proposed by Cllr King and seconded by Cllr Harries. All members of MPC present accepted this.
- There was a discussion regarding the Village Hall maintenance contribution as the Treasurer of the Village Hall thought the Parish Council might waive this. MPC agreed that the contribution charged was justifiable and noted that the same financial arrangement exists with St. John's Hall. This subject will be discussed with the Village Hall committee at their meeting on Monday 19 March and Cllr's Stephenson and Harries will report back.
- 18/035** **Traffic Survey**
- Traffic survey completion – the Essex Highways Stakeholder survey was completed by all members of MPC present at the end of the meeting and will be submitted by Cllr McKinney online.
- 18/036** **Planning**
- i. New Applications:**
- Hollins, Lower Road – The owners of this property were among the members of the public present today and explained that they want to improve the appearance of their property whilst increasing living space. There are currently two applications submitted for Hollins and the one currently under discussion is for a loft conversion and inclusion of 3 dormer windows. MPC is opposed to any development in the Green Belt other than in very exceptional and legally permissible circumstances but recognised that there may be exceptional circumstances in this instance. It was agreed that the Planning Officer should be the one to make the decision but MPC wish it to be noted that it considers the design for the dormers to be acceptable from an aesthetic point of view.
- ii. For Update:**
- Woolards, 358 Roman Road - **Pending**
Master John's Farm, Thoby Lane - **Pending**
5 Hope Close - **Approved**

Ingatestone Garden Centre (including Section 106 update) – at this time, it has not been confirmed yet whether this application will be on the BBC planning committee meeting in March.

Meadowside Swallows Cross - **Pending**

3 Mountney Close - **Approved**

6 Padhams Green – **Approved**

LDP – Cllr Stephenson has submitted collective comments agreed by MPC.

18/037

Maintenance/development issues

- i. Pavements Church Road and Burnthouse Lane - there has been no progress on this matter since concerns were raised in August 2017. In Cllr Wagland's absence, BCllr Cloke has offered to pursue this matter.
- ii. Coronation Field footpath – MPC own the field where the path is proposed. This may mean that the Parish Council has certain obligations with regards to construction and maintenance that are not made clear in current documentation. Before anything further is signed this needs to be clarified. Cllr Stephenson has written to ECC to determine the level of obligation and it was agreed by all that he would deal with all documentation coming through and keep the Parish Council updated as appropriate.
- iii. Pay and Play Tennis Court – it was agreed that the need to refurbish the pay and play court would be discussed at a later meeting and has been tabled for the June agenda. Cllr King reported that the door padlock is faulty and needs attention. Parish Clerk to arrange.
- iv. Notice board Heybridge – this board is being refurbished to contain a cork board rather than the current need for magnets. This should resolve issues with wind blowing through and moving papers around.
- v. Hedges at St.John's Hall – the hedges are currently in good order and quotes for a cut will be sought for May/June 2018.

18/038

Borough and County Councillor's reports

BCllr Bridge reported that a new enforcement policy has been passed which means that properties which have not had all planning fully approved will be investigated. He also reported full council passed the budget for BBC for 2018/19.

BCllr Cloke informed the meeting that houses may be built on the ground where there are currently council garages in Church Crescent.

18/039

Parish Council Assets including Risk Assessment/Management and on-going repairs

- a. Children's Play area, Bus Shelters and Tennis Court - no concerns. One of the MPC signs at the play area is currently being repaired and the tennis court lock will be repaired soon.
- b. Recreation Ground – Cllr Broughton reported that one of the trees appears to be rotten. MPC are currently having a full survey of trees carried out and will await the findings of this to determine what should be done with regards to this particular tree.
- c. Village Hall Car Park, Millennium Gardens and Old Recycling Area - the asbestos dump has been removed. Cllr King reported that someone has dumped litter in the old recycling area and MPC will look to have this removed.
- d. Water Meadows - no concerns.
- e. Allotments – no concerns. The allotment manager has written to Cllr Stephenson to enquire whether the allotments could become self-managing and operate independently to the Parish Council. All agreed this was an acceptable decision.

18/040

Communications – the newsletter is with the printers and should be ready for distribution before the end of March.

18/040

St John's Hall and Village Hall - Cllr Harries anticipates that the report for St Johns parking will arrive this week and will be discussed at the next Ordinary meeting with a view to sharing the findings with the local community.

- 18/041** **Mountnessing C of E School** – Book day had to be rescheduled due to the bad weather. Cllr Read reported that discussions regarding the move to academy status are still on-going.
- 18/042** **Other Matters of Interest**
Cllr King asked the Borough Councillors whether anything could be done about parking on Widvale Road adjacent to the Elms development. BClI Cloke has reported these incidents to the police but no action has been taken. The possibility of applying for double yellow lines in this area was suggested.
- 18/043** **Date of Next Meeting: Monday, 16 April, 7.30pm**
Apologies received in advance from Cllr King and BClI Bridge.

Andrew Stephenson
Chairman

Laura Brown
Parish Clerk