

MOUNTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 13th September 2016

Present

Councillors P. Miles (Chairman)
M. Hardy, C. Hollamby, S. O'Sullivan
Mrs. I Marchant (Parish Clerk/RFO)
County Councillor K. Field
District Councillor E. Kirby-Green
Members of the Public

1. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS
Councillor Hollamby declared a personal interest in item 10, as she is the Chairman of Mountfield Village Hall Committee.
2. DISPENSATIONS
None requested.
3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ray, Rickman-Smith and Snuggs.
4. ACCURACY OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING
RESOLVED - that the draft minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 12.07.16 be confirmed as being an accurate record of the meeting. Councillor Hardy proposed and Councillor O'Sullivan seconded, the voting was unanimous
5. ADJOURNMENT
 - 5.1 County Council report (ESCC) - Councillor K. Field
 - A Level results for 2016 are in line with national averages, so far GCSE results are also looking in line.
 - 5.2 District Council report (RDC) - Councillor E. Kirby-Green
 - The RDC Planning Committee will now allow public speaking/representation, this will be petition based (10 people).
 - RDC have a new Electoral Officer, Richard Adams.
 - 5.3 Public Question Time
 - There are concerns about speeding on the Riverhall Corner and other areas. The Chairman is to speak to Southern Water's contractors to see if they can assist.

THE MEETING RECONVENED

6. SOUTHERN WATER NEW SEWERAGE SCHEME (standing item)
 - 6.1 Works progress - the works in Solomon's Lane could not be completed. Another road closure here will be needed at the end of March. Works have started in New Cut.
School bus - arrangements have been made by the Chairman/ESCC. ESCC had not notified the parents or school by the Friday before the start of the new term and the Chairman had to phone the bus company with the new arrangements. This has been a total shambles by ESCC and there are serious safeguarding issues for them to answer. A vote of thanks was given to the Chairman for his hard work and time spent on this matter.
Village sign - it is safe and sound in a secure location. It was agreed that it will be renovated at a suitable time. The sign will also need a new post.
Bonfire event - Councillor Hollamby said SW have been very accommodating and helpful. The bonfire/fireworks event will be on 28.10.16.

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Access - Church Road closure, the solution will be to get assistance from British Gypsum. There is a big question about pedestrian access over the Eatenden Lane closure. Emergency vehicles are aware of all road closures/diversions.

Vulnerable residents - neighbours will be present for all visits by SW.

Other matters - the diversion signs are not particularly helpful, do not show the direction in which to go.

6.2 **AGREED** - to carry discussions regarding the planting scheme forward to the meeting.

7. KING GEORGE'S FIELD

7.1 **AGREED** - to paint all containers dark green. The Clerk is to obtain quotations. **(CLERK)**

7.2 More information is required for the matter of ball-stop netting along the A21 side. **(CLERK)**

8. PLAYGROUND

The matter of the safety surface under the swings was discussed, the Clerk is to contact Robertsbridge PC to see what they have used. **(CLERK)**

9. JOHN'S CROSS ROUNDABOUT

9.1 MPC will remove the banners from the KGF hedge. The Clerk is to obtain signs banning such banners, Councillor Hardy is to let her know how many are needed. **(COUNCILLOR HARDY/CLERK)**

9.2 No action will be taken regarding the comments by Battle Town Council.

10. GRANTS AND DONATIONS

RESOLVED - to donate the sum of £250.00 to Mountfield Village Hall Committee for the Bonfire Event. The Chairman proposed and Councillor O'Sullivan seconded, the voting was unanimous.

11. WAR MEMORIAL PLAQUE

AGREED - to carry forward this matter to the next meeting.

12. RURAL BROADBAND

The Members considered the recent Ofcom report. A Rural Broadband Committee has been set up by RALC, they intend to invite elected ESCC members and explain the true situation.

13. RIVERHALL LEVEL CROSSING LIGHTING

With no response from Network Rail after the meeting on 31.05.16, the Clerk is to contact them again and insist that the works recommended are carried out. **(CLERK)**

14. PLANNING (standing item)

14.1 Planning application for consideration.

RR/2016/20111/P The Dolls House, Vinehall Road

AGREED - to support this application. **(CLERK)**

14.2 RR/2016/1055/P and RR/2016/1056/L Baldwins Farmhouse

MPC have serious concerns regarding RDC's delay on this application. MPC requested an extension of 30 days on 30.04.16, this was refused and Mrs. Shepherd informed us that she would have to take the application to the Planning Committee in June - a decision has still not been made more than four months on.

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15. ENFORCEMENT (standing item)
- 15.1 No Mountfield items on RDC's weekly enforcement list.
- 15.2 Edlins appeal - this will be by written submissions only.
AGREED - to stand by MPC's original submission and photos and to also include a time-line/history of enforcement items. (**CHAIRMAN/CLERK**)
16. ROADS, PATHS, VERGES (standing item)
The signage for the damaged surface at the A2100 level crossing is still not adequate. ESCC inform us that there are no funds in the budget for additional signage.
17. FINANCE (standing item)
- 17.1 Bank balances at 31.08.16
- | | |
|---------------------|------------|
| MPC deposit account | £21,811.46 |
| MPC current account | £2,712.43 |
| KGF custom account | £4,255.94 |
- 17.2 **RESOLVED** - to approve the following payments. Councillor O'Sullivan proposed and Councillor Hardy seconded, the voting was unanimous.
- | | |
|--|------------------|
| Clerk (Aug/Sep16), salary, home office, expenses | 837.60 |
| Donation to Village Hall Committee for bonfire event | 250.00 |
| PKF Littlejohn, external audit fee | 120.00 |
| TOTAL | £1,207.60 |
- 17.3 **RESOLVED** - to release the remainder of the £5,000.00, earmarked for KGF fencing, back into the general funds. The Chairman proposed and Councillor Hollamby seconded, the voting was unanimous.
- 17.4 The Members received and noted the budget monitor, statement of earmarked reserves and bank reconciliations at 31.08.16.
18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING
8th November 2016, at 7.30pm in Mountfield Village Hall.