

MOUNTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 10th January 2017

Present

Councillors P. Miles (Chairman), J. Ray (Vice-Chairman)
M. Hardy, C. Hollamby, S. O'Sullivan, S. Rickman-Smith, J. Snuggs
Mrs. I. Marchant (Parish Clerk/RFO)
County Councillor K. Field (part)
District Councillor E. Kirby-Green
Members of the public

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1. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS
None declared.
 2. DISPENSATIONS
None requested.
 3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
None.
 4. ACCURACY OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING
RESOLVED - that the draft minutes of the council meeting held on 08.11.16 be confirmed as being an accurate record of the meeting. Councillor Snuggs proposed and Councillor Ray seconded, the voting was unanimous.
 5. *ADJOURNMENT*
 - 5.1 *County Council report (ESCC) - Councillor K. Field*
 - *Budget discussions for 2017-18 are in progress.*
 - *ESCC are integrating their social/health care with the NHS to save duplication and to provide a better service.*
 - *The Chairman asked whether realistically the reply received from the CEO of ESCC regarding the problems with the school bus last year represented the best response we could expect. Councillor Field suggested it was, short of escalating the complaint to the Ombudsman.*
 - 5.2 *District Council report (RDC) - Councillor E. Kirby-Green*
 - *Nothing much to report, budget discussions for 2017-18 are ongoing.*
 - 5.3 *Public Question Time*
 - *The question of a refund from RDC for non-collection of brown bin waste was asked, unfortunately there are no refunds available.*
 - *The new parking meters in Battle car parks were discussed, it was agreed that they are difficult to use and there has been poor communication about their use.*
- THE MEETING RECONVENED
6. RESOLUTION OF BUDGET FOR 2017-18/PRECEPT FOR 2017-18
 - 6.1 **RESOLVED** - to approve the draft budget for 2017-18 as presented by the Clerk. Councillor Hollamby proposed and Councillor Hardy seconded, the voting was unanimous
 - 6.2 **RESOLVED** - to set the precept for 2017-18 at £13,100.00, the same as for 2016-17. Councillor Hardy proposed and Councillor O'Sullivan seconded, the voting was unanimous.

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7. SOUTHERN WATER NEW SEWERAGE SCHEME (standing item)
 - Pedestrian access is sometimes difficult due to road closures, this has still to be resolved.
 - There is a large pool of water outside the small playground gate.
8. RIVERHALL LEVEL CROSSING - LIGHTING ISSUES
A meeting has been arranged with Network Rail at 8pm on Wednesday 11.01.17.
9. REFURBISHMENT OF VILLAGE SIGN
The Chairman and Vice-Chairman are to arrange to get the village sign to the blacksmith for refurbishment. **ACTION - CHAIRMAN/VICE-CHAIRMAN**
10. VILLAGE PLANTING/MGJV OFFER
A working party is to be set up, involving the community. Information is to be publicised in Village Voices, The Messenger and website. MPC contacts are to be the Chairman and Councillor S. Rickman-Smith. **ACTION - CHAIRMAN/COUNCILLOR S. RICKMAN-SMITH**
11. JOHN'S CROSS FLYPOSTING CONTROL
Signs are to be made and positioned on fence posts. The Chairman to contact Millbrook Printing to get the signs made. **ACTION - CHAIRMAN**
12. MOUNTFIELD AND WHATLINGTON SCHOOL
Still no news from ESCC/Diocese at this date.
13. PLAYGROUND SAFETY SURFACE
The Clerk is to make appointments with installers for wet pour surfaces and obtain quotes.
ACTION - CLERK
14. CONTAINER PAINTING AT KING GEORGE'S FIELD
One quote has been received and was considered to be very expensive. Councillor Rickman-Smith is to contact another company for a quote and liaise with the Clerk.
ACTION - COUNCILLOR RICKMAN-SMITH/CLERK
15. PLANNING (standing item)
 - 15.1 Planning application for consideration
RR/2016/2977/P 1 and 2 Vinehall Cottages
Proposed off-road parking
AGREED - to object to this application on the following grounds
 - The difference in levels between adjoining properties and this would require a retaining wall sufficient to withstand a drop of approximately 18 inches.
 - The threat to the screening at the front of Carpenters Cottage and the party boundary.
 - There is extreme concern regarding the sight lines for emerging traffic.
 - There is concern that southbound traffic indicating to enter the property will be assumed to be taking the next junction to Rye.**ACTION - CLERK**
RR/2016/3167/FN Darwell Beech Farm, Darwell Hill
Proposed agricultural building.
Farm notification, no response required.

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- 15.2 MPC responses to planning applications made under delegated authority
- RR/2016/2299/P Hoath Farm Cottage, Church Road - support.
 - RR/2016/2520/P Burs, Hoath Hill - support.
 - RR/2016/2895/P 16 Eatenden Lane -support.
 - RR/2016/3122/P Harestone, Solomon's Lane - support.
- 15.3 Baldwins application, the Chairman is to write to Councillor Kirby-Green expressing MPC's concerns about the delays on this application. **ACTION - CHAIRMAN**
16. ENFORCEMENT (standing item)
- 16.1 Mountfield item on RDC weekly enforcement list
Parcel of land that lies adjacent to the access drive to Carpenter's Cottage (left hand side), Vinehall Road, Mountfield - clearing of land and barn nearby. RDC report no breach of planning control and no further action.
- 16.2 Edlins, the appeal was upheld.
17. ROADS, PATHS, VERGES (standing item)
- Coussens Cranes, a large building has been reported in their yard, it was thought that it may be a mobile home type. The matter of noise restrictions was also discussed, Councillor Kirby-Green offered to ask RDC to look up the original restrictions on noise and working hours.
ACTION - COUNCILLOR KIRBY-GREEN/CLERK
 - Footpath 34, A2100 to Vinehall School, has a damaged stile, to be reported to ESCC ROW team.
ACTION - CLERK
18. FINANCE (standing item)
- 18.1 Bank balances at 31.12.16
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|---------------------|------------|
| MPC deposit account | £27,369.06 |
| MPC current account | £1,089.83 |
| KGF custom account | £4,158.29 |
- 18.2 **RESOLVED** - to approve the following payment. Councillor Hardy proposed and Councillor Hollamby seconded, the voting was unanimous.
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| Clerk (Dec16/Jan17) salary, home office, expenses | £665.48 |
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- 18.3 **RESOLVED** - to approve the third quarter accounts, to 31.12.16, as presented by the Clerk. Councillor Rickman-Smith proposed and Councillor Snuggs seconded, the voting was unanimous.
- 18.4 The Members received and noted the budget monitor and bank reconciliations at 31.12.16.
19. DATE OF NEXT MEETING
14th March 2017 - 7.30pm in Mountfield Village Hall.