

MOUNTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Mountfield Parish Council Meeting
held on 15th January 2019

Present

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

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 full council meeting held on 13.11.18 be confirmed as being accurate records of the proceedings. Councillor Snuggs proposed and Councillor Ray seconded, the voting was unanimous. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.
5. OPEN FORUM
 - 5.1 County Council report (ESCC) – Councillor K. Field
 - The budget meeting will be held on 05.02.18.
 - There is a pilot scheme for retention of 75% of business rates.
 - £4M less will be put into capital funds.
 - 5.2 District Council report (RDC) – Councillor E. Kirby-Green
 - Biffa are taking over the waste collection contract from Kier in Spring 2019.
 - 5.3 Public Question Time
 - The Local Secretary of the Ramblers Association was present and had some very helpful information. The Ramblers try to walk every footpath in the Parish once every two years. They are also authorised by ESCC to put up fingerposts and signage. They intend to put up signage arrows on the Twitten. They will also look carefully at the footpath at Riverhall Bridge.
 - The deer warning sign on Eatenden Lane is broken and just a metal stump remains. The Clerk will contact ESCC Rights of Way to have it repaired/replaced. **CLERK**
 - MPC were thanked by the Village Hall Committee for their grant of £6,000.00 towards the new sewerage system.
6. APPROVAL OF DRAFT BUDGET 2019-20 AND SETTING OF MPC PRECEPT FOR 2019-20.
 - 6.1. **RESOLVED** – to approve the MPC draft budget for 2019-20 as presented by the Clerk. Councillor Ray proposed and Councillor Hollamby seconded, the voting was unanimous.
 - 6.2. **RESOLVED** – to set the MPC precept for 2019-20 at £13,100.00 (the same as the previous year). Councillor O'Sullivan proposed and Councillor Ray seconded, the voting was unanimous.

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7. SOUTHERN WATER NEW SEWERAGE SCHEME

The Mountfield Residents Group should be congratulated on the result of their outstanding work in getting Southern Water to build a treatment works as originally intended. The MRG reports as follows

- The treatment works have been redesigned for greater efficiency and to provide flexibility to treat a range of waste volumes.
- As a result, the footprint of the treatment works has been significantly reduced by as much as approximately 35-40%.
- This has enabled the treatment works to be realigned so that it is end on to, rather than broadside to the road and houses, which will reduce the visual impact.
- These design changes have permitted enhanced screening with planting being raised on a bund for much of its length.
- 1-18 Eatenden Lane – the entire scheme falls within a described EA boundary. This boundary **does** include provision for these properties to connect in the future, but does **not** include those properties themselves. Southern Water have therefore fulfilled their legal responsibilities. It would now seem that any opportunity for a separate, new s.101A requirement under the Act for a sewer to be built lapsed in 2011 under a scheme of national rationalisation of the water industry implemented by secondary legislation. There are therefore no practical, legal or financially feasible means for this connection to be achieved without a privately constructed, privately owned sewer. This represents a long-term threat to this neighbourhood as it could see them left behind with no alternative or more satisfactory means of catching up with the level of amenity that applies elsewhere in the main population centre of the Village. Working behind the scenes, MRG are actively pursuing this problem.

8. GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS (GDPR)

MPC are almost fully compliant. The only exception is the transfer of some Members' emails to the official mountfield.org email address. The Clerk asked those Members to do this as soon as possible.

9. VILLAGE MATTERS

9.1 Repair/replacement of the goose house – MPC are actively considering replacing the goose house, with the permission of the owners of the pond. However, there is a problem regarding cleaning/maintenance of a new goose house. MPC will ask for volunteers for this.

9.2 New Cut entrance – a resident has suggested that this be “tidied-up,” the village sign be moved there, the derelict BT box be removed and bulbs planted. The Members agreed the following –

- Any fly-tipping will be reported to RDC for removal.
- The Clerk to contact BT Openreach and get the derelict BT box removed. **CLERK**
- The village sign (now refurbished) will be installed in its previous position when SW have decamped.
- Bulb planting is grass is very problematical and needs much maintenance, wild flower seed will be planted instead.

9.3 Dumping at Milham (old Photonics site) – the Clerk is to contact the Photonics liquidator to get the rubbish removed. **CLERK**

10. DEFIBRILLATOR AT JOHN'S CROSS

Now formal permission from the Mountfield Heath School to put this defibrillator on their outside wall has been received, the Clerk to go ahead and order this. **CLERK**

RESOLVED – The Chairman proposed and Councillor Snuggs seconded, the voting was unanimous.

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11. PLANNING
- 11.1 Planning application for consideration
RR/2018/3041/P – Bartrum Gables, Hoath Hill
Demolition of existing conservatory, extension to side incorporating extant consent
RR/2007/2897/P and glazed canopy across rear of property.
AGREED – to support this application.
- 11.2 No other planning matters for discussion
12. ENFORCEMENT
- 12.1 No MPC enforcement items on RDC’s enforcement list.
- 12.2 The Barn – there is photographic evidence of planning breaches, the Clerk will report/send these to RDC Enforcement. **CLERK**
- 12.3 No other enforcement matters for discussion.
13. ROADS/PATHS/VERGES
- 13.1 A resident asked that the following be discussed
- Repairs to Riverhall Bridge – these are now underway (at last), the bridge was damaged during Summer 2018.
 - Damage to the road surface at the junction of Eatenden Lane/Solomon’s Lane, probably due to SW traffic. The Clerk will report to ESCC Highways. **CLERK**
 - Speeding at the junction of Eatenden Lane/Solomon’s Lane, schoolchildren walk here to get the school bus. The Clerk will ask ESCC Highways for warning signage. **CLERK**
 - Maintenance of the Riverhall Bridge footpath – see first bullet point under item 5.3.
- 13.2 Any other roads/paths/verges matters for discussion
- There were some very unpleasant incidents during the recent BT Openreach road closure, due to one of their subcontractors. The Clerk is to write to the CEO of BT Openreach and demand an explanation and apology. **CLERK**
 - The road surface outside the KGF on the A2100 is badly damaged. The Clerk will report (yet again) to ESCC Highways. **CLERK**
14. FINANCE
- 14.1 Bank balances at 31.12.18
- | | |
|---------------------|------------|
| MPC deposit account | £15,774.71 |
| MPC current account | £823.16 |
| KGF custom account | £4,388.90 |
- 14.2 **RESOLVED** – to approve the following payment. Councillor Ray proposed and Councillor Snuggs seconded, the voting was unanimous.
Clerk – salary/home office (Dec 18/Jan19), expenses £725.84
- 14.3 **RESOLVED** – to approve the third quarter accounts 2018-19 at 31.12.18 as presented by the Clerk. Councillor Ray proposed and the Chairman seconded, the voting was unanimous.
15. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS
- 12.02.19 – Planning meeting (provisional, will only be used if required)
- 12.03.19 – Full Council meeting.
- Both to start at 7.30pm in Mountfield Village Hall.