

MINUTES OF THE MOUNTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 17th JANUARY 2023

1. Disclosure of interests

None declared.

2. Dispensations

As Proper Officer, the Clerk granted a dispensation to Councillor Cooper to speak at MPC meetings on matters concerning the KGF. This dispensation is now granted to all MPC Members, for the term of this Council.

3. Apologies for absence

None.

4. Accuracy of the minutes of the previous meeting(s)

RESOLVED – that an alteration be made to the minutes, that Councillor Ray abstained from the resolution of item 7 (Approval of the Draft Revenue Budget 2023-24), as the minutes stated that he objected.

The draft minutes of the council meeting held on 01.11.22 were then confirmed as being an accurate record of the proceedings. Councillor Whines proposed and Councillor Ray seconded, the voting was unanimous. The minutes were signed by the Chair.

5. Open Forum

5.1 County Council report (ESCC) - not available, Councillor Field sent apologies.

5.2 District Council report (RDC) – Councillor E. Kirby-Green

- Councillor Kirby-Green advised to keep reporting potholes.
- The Highways Stewards are working overtime to cope.
- There is flooding everywhere.
- Drain clearance is on a 2/3 year cycle.
- ESCC have put in £5.5M into roads.
- There is an important NPPF consultation.
- A Planning Development Officer has been appointed by RDC.

5.3 Public Question Time

- The occupant at 9 Eatenden Lane has dug through a land drain, this has caused flooding. The Clerk will report this to RDC Enforcement and ESCC Highways.
- The hedge between numbers 4 and 5 Eatenden Lane is overhanging the road, the Clerk will also report this to ESCC Highways.

6. MPC Precept 2023-34

RESOLVED – to set the MPC Precept for 2023-24 at £12,000.00, as per resolution of the draft budget at the previous meeting. Councillor Whines proposed and Councillor Miles seconded, all Members agreed except Councillor Ray who abstained.

7. Parish Council Elections May 2023

Members were reminded and discussed the Parish Council elections in May 2023.

8. Village Hall Liaison

- The MVHC are keen to set up a “Drop-in Club” in the Village Hall and have found someone to kick-start this. A grant from MPC may be submitted.
- They are looking for volunteers to drive residents to this.

9. Consultation

Councillor Miles offered to draft MPC’s response to the Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill consultation: reforms to the national planning policy.

10. New Fencing for Playground

AGREED – for the Clerk to obtain quotes for this, particularly the rear fencing.

11. Matters Outstanding

- Welcome Packs – in progress.

- MPC Environmental Policy – nearly complete.
- MPC Resilience Policy – Councillor Cooper will work on this.
- Broadband and Phone Box – to be carried forward to the next agenda.

12. Planning

12.1 Planning applications for consideration

- RR/2022/2767/P Little Millham (Annexe), Mountfield Lane
Covert an existing building known as “the annexe” into a residential dwelling (retrospective)
AGREED – to support this application.
- RR/2022/2926/P Ittingham Manor Farm, London Road
Demolition and rebuilding of a deteriorated and unstable building known as the piggery.
AGREED – to submit a general comment only as MPC wish to see a more specific application and details of its intended use.

12.2 Any other planning matters for discussion

None.

13. Enforcement

13.1 No Mountfield items on the latest RDC Enforcement list.

13.2 RDC Enforcement have stated that no action will be taken on the MPC Enforcement complaint at Crossing Farm.

13.3 The Clerk to notify RDC Enforcement about the caravans and work at Walter’s Wood.

14. Highways/Rights of Way

14.1 There has been major flooding on the A2100, the Clerk to ask ESCC Highways to investigate and remediate promptly.

15. Finance

15.1 Bank balances at 31.12.22

- MPC deposit account - £25,525.79
- MPC current account - £761.53
- KGF current account - £2,883.92

15.2 RESOLVED – to approve the following payments. Councillor Whines proposed and the Chair seconded, the voting was unanimous.

- Clerk (salary/HO Dec22/Jan13), expenses - £950.04
- S. Sutton, village, playground grass/hedge cutting - £777.00
- * Godaddy, email essentials - £28.66
- * Godaddy, basic managed Wordpress - £359.28
- * Godaddy, domain renewal - £14.39
- * Mastercard monthly fee - £3.00
- * UT service charge - £18.00

* Already paid

15.3 RESOLVED – to approve the third quarter accounts at 31.12.22 as presented by the Clerk. Councillor Whines proposed and Councillor Ray seconded, the voting was unanimous.

15.4 The UT Change of Mandate form was signed by two authorised signatories, to enable Councillor Cooper to become an authorised signatory and have full access to UT online banking, for both MPC and KGF accounts.

16. Dates of next meetings

14.02.23 – planning meeting

21.03.23 – KGF meeting (to start at 7.00pm)

21.03.23 – full council meeting