

## Monks Eleigh Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 22nd March 2021 remotely via Zoom at 7.30pm

**Present:** Cllrs Angela Forrest (Chairman), Patti Derry, Alan Braithwaite and Will Sykes  
County Cllr Robert Lindsay and District Cllr Bryn Hurren

**Attending:** Lucinda Rogers (Clerk)

### **126/20 Apologies for Absence**

Elizabeth Evans and Victoria Keitley-Webb - apologies accepted

### **127/20 Declaration of Interests and Requests for Dispensation**

No interests were declared and no requests for dispensation had been received.

### **128/20 Minutes of the meetings held on 25th January 2021**

The minutes of the meeting were approved by the councillors and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

### **129/20 Report from County Cllr Robert Lindsay**

**30mph roundels** I have agreed to finance these at the two ends of The Street in the hope this will slow traffic a little. **GoStart 112 Foodbank** I have donated half my locality to 112 bus and the other half to the Bildeston Food bank **Leak/flood on High Street**

Highways are aware and are chasing Anglian Water on this because they believe it is a pipeline leak. **Up to 10 year delay to flood repairs** It has emerged from a report to the Suffolk Flood Risk Management Scrutiny subcommittee on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, that funding restrictions meant it would take highways ten years to repair all the highways flooding issues currently on its list. Meanwhile, the County Council has been told it will receive £27m from Government for highways repairs, maintenance and drainage in 2021-22, a reduction from £31m the previous year. This has necessitated the use of £2m of reserves to top up the grant. **Suffolk moves school bus contracts from Norse to Vertas** The county's school buses have been run since 2013 by Suffolk Norse, a joint venture in which Suffolk has a 20% stake. However, Suffolk Norse went into losses in the last two years and has handed notice in on the contract. Suffolk cabinet decided on 23 February to move the contract in-house by handing it to its wholly owned company Vertas. The 40 home-to-school transport routes and a school swimming service will be delivered by Vertas from September onwards. The move does mean the county can look at replacing diesel with electric vehicles as the technology becomes viable, to help meet its zero carbon by 2030 commitment. **Funding for Hadleigh Community Transport** I have donated £1000 from my Suffolk locality fund towards the Wheels within Wheels wheelchair friendly, car service HCT run to get people to hospital and medical appointments. **March full council backs identifying unpaid carers** The council unanimously approved a motion proposed by my political group to support Suffolk Family Carers in expanding their database to pick up all carers within Suffolk, drawing information from community organisations and GPs. It has also committed to run an annual marketing exercise to encourage carers to identify themselves and sign up to the database. Suffolk has this week begun offering vaccinations to unpaid carers of clinically vulnerable people or elderly and is urging them to sign up.

### **130/20 Report from District Cllr Bryn Hurren**

Despite concerns being voiced from almost all who were consulted, it does seem that the CC and PCC elections are going to go ahead on 6<sup>th</sup> May this year, the PCC elections were already delayed from last year. The popular view from a huge majority of returning officers was to delay the elections until September when hopefully we will all be able to move around much safer and the District Councils will have had time to recover and allocate staff to this function. Should the election be formally declared on 25 March the Councils will enter a period of Purdah which means that no favour or political view should be shown by staff and Chief Executive. Postal votes will be readily available by all those who wish to apply and all precautions will be taken in the polling booths so that all feel safe to vote. These elections are important for local democracy so I would urge all to engage and exercise their right to vote. At Babergh the incidents of Coronavirus amongst the local population are down to 36 per 100,000 which is the lowest they have been for some time, having said that we have lost now, 236 of our Babergh residents to this horrible virus and care needs to be taken now more than ever as we try to move back to our more normal lives. Since we have last met Babergh District Council have set their 20/21 budget. We have proposed an increase to our share of the Council tax by 2.96% which is £5.00. yearly for a band D property, or just under 10p weekly. Our share of the council tax is however only about 9% and as other authorities are raising their share by at least the same amount, the total increase in tax per household will be at least £60.00 per Band D property. I do feel that these constant increases are unsustainable and we either need to look at three unitary councils across Suffolk better devolved government or better funding from central government.

There is also a small increase in the Brown bin service of £2.50 per week and free car parking has been cut to one hour which was bitterly fought for by a combined section of councillors including myself, across the political spectrum. We also had to deal with what was basically a no confidence vote in the Council leader John Ward, I chose to register an abstention vote which is unusual for myself, but I did make my feelings clear that I was very unhappy with some of the directions that the Council was being pulled into.

We are also increasingly supported by our CIFCO investment of now nearing £100 million which in the last financial year brought in close to £1.5 million. to help with budgetary pressures. This along with income from our services and the solar project are now making up an ever increasing percentage of our income. The new houses on the old school site are to have 5 housing association houses for local people. Need to apply via Homechoice website. The locality budget has been given the GoStart Bus and the Boxford newsletter. The GoStart bus is secure until March 2022.

### **131/20 Public Forum**

No members of the public were present

### **132/20 Planning**

- a. Planning permission granted to DC/20/05134 – Erection of first floor extension over existing single storey extension and creation of a single storey linked extension at Hill View, The Street
- b. Planning permission granted to DC/20/05736 – Erection of detached ancillary outbuilding and resulting access; Erection of single storey rear extension, two-storey front extension and balcony to rear elevation of dwelling (following demolition of existing conservatory and porch) (amended scheme to B/16/00831 and DC/20/02927) at Nova Scotia House, Nova Scotia Lane

- c. Planning permission variation has been granted - DC/21/00143 – remove condition 5 (Removal of Permitted Development Rights) at South House, Lindsey Road
- d. Planning permission variation granted DC/20/05920 – to vary Condition 2 to enable approved cartlodge to be used as a home office/ancillary to the host dwelling at Stackwood Cottage, Stackyard Green
- e. The councillors reviewed Non-Material Amendment to Outline Planning Permission B/16/01718 and Reserved Matters DC/19/01463. House type names replaced with numbers, fenestration changes, pitched roof dormers replaced with flat roof dormers, change in materials and colours, removal of some chimneys, partially raised ridge height on plots 13 & 14, reposition dormers on rear elevation on plots 10 & 11, reposition solar panels and changes to garage design at Site of Former Monks Eleigh CP School, Churchfields and resolved to make no objection.
- f. The councillors reviewed Planning Application DC/21/01106 Erection of new double garage, conversion of existing double garage to single storey annexe and installation of pair of French doors at 1 Foysters Hall, Monks Eleigh and resolved to make no objection.
- g. Application for works to trees in a conservation area- DC/21/01185 Fell 2 no conifers approx. 15m high very close to garage, we would like to take them own to garage height approx. 5m at 1 Foysters Hall, Monks Eleigh and resolved to make no objection.
- h. The councillors reviewed Application for Listed Building Consent DC/21/00160 – Replacement UPVC windows with wooden frames and installation of wooden French doors following removal of existing side window at 1 Foysters Hall, Monks Eleigh and resolved to make no objection.
- i. Application for works to trees in a tree conservation area DC/21/01435 – T1 Fell 1 No Alder tree to ground level at The Hedgerow, Foysters Hall, Monks Eleigh

Cllr Derry has completed the Planning - model design code questionnaire. It was agreed to hold a meeting to discuss a planning application that was received too late to add to this agenda.

### **133/20 Recreation Field Land Registry Registration**

Holmes & Hill have sent evidence provided for ownership of the village green at Church Hill to the Land Registry for their consideration and await their decision.

### **134/20 Speeding in the village**

Cllr Lindsay has agreed to finance 30mph roundels at the two ends of The Street in the hope this will slow traffic a little. Due to coronavirus restrictions, Speedwatch has not been able to take place. The SID camera will be coming back from Whatfield soon.

### **135/20 Grass Cutting in the village**

Two volunteers have come forward to cut the Church Hill village green. It was resolved to ask a volunteer to do this as a trial for three months. Clerk to forward risk assessment to Cllr Forrest. Thanks to the volunteers who currently cut the grass at Swingleton Green, the triangle and the bank on The Street.

### **136/20 Grit Bins**

Unfortunately, many of the grit bins lids are blowing open in the wind allowing them to fill with rainwater. It was agreed to place logs on the lids to keep them closed but

to open the bins in the warm weather to allow them to dry. Cllr Forest will scoop water out from the grit bin in Churchfields. It was agreed to buy a small shovel for each bin at a cost of £50.

#### **137/20 Play Equipment**

The councillors reviewed the quotes to complete the repairs work and resolved to accept the quote from Mortimer's at a cost of £1,405 + vat. Cllr Hurren to organise two logs to repair the log stack and to restore the benches.

#### **138/20 Notice Board**

The councillors are pleased with the new notice board and agreed the cost of £437.70. Cllr Hurren to restore the header piece of wood.

#### **139/20 Speeding Forum**

Cllr Sykes reported from the forum. It is now possible to have SID cameras with automatic registration number plate recognition. The problem of recognising motorbike number plates was raised. Speedwatch to investigate this option.

#### **140/20 Quiet Lanes Scheme**

A consultation letter was sent to all the village for their comments. The village has given its approval via the consultation. The responses are in favour and none are in disagreement with the project. The project is to promote routes for people to cycle and walk. The signage is free. The cost of printing the consultation letters was £68.04

#### **141/20 H Lines at the corner of The Swan and Church Hill**

The lines have not been painted – Clerk to chase

#### **142/20 Church Easter Display**

The church wishes to display pictures of stations of the cross on one meter high posts on Church Hill village green. They have confirmed they have confirmed they have adequate insurance cover for the event which runs from Good Friday to Easter Sunday. There will be instructions displayed to explain how people should view the display in line with the current Covid restrictions.

#### **143/20 Finance**

- a. The councillors reviewed and resolved to accept the March 2021 finance report-see appendix
- b. All cheques signed and due for signing, as itemised in the Appendix, were authorised by the councillors. The councillors also noted the income received since the last meeting and reviewed the Statement of Accounts against the budget and bank statements.
- c. Cllr Braithwaite presented a financial forecast to show the likely out-turn for the year and next year's budget. Expenditure is within the budget and next year's precept should meet the budgeted expenses. It was agreed for Cllr Braithwaite to prepare a budget comparison four times a year.
- d. It was agreed that Cllrs Derry and Evans will arrange to go to Barclays to organise updating the bank signatories as agreed previously.
- e. The councillors reviewed the Risk Assessment and resolved to adopt it with the

suggested changes. Clerk to update this on the website.

f. Asset Register -it was agreed for Cllr Derry and the Clerk to check the asset register is up to date.

#### **144/20 Donations**

It was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting. Clerk to circulate a list of previous donations.

#### **145/20 Emergency Plan**

Cllr Evans has collected and collated the responses to the emergency plan questionnaire. It was agreed that Cllr Forrest be the Emergency Coordinator and Cllr Derry Deputy Emergency Coordinator. Where to keep the emergency kit was discussed. All councillors present agreed to have their phone numbers added to the emergency phone tree. Cllr Forrest to ask Cllrs Evans and Keitley-Webb. Clerk to add the plan to the website and check if the plan needs to be shared with Babergh.

#### **146/20 Summer Fete and Dog Show**

The councillors resolved to allow the summer fete and dog show be allowed to take place on the recreation field on Saturday 3rd July subject to any Covid restrictions in place.

#### **147/20 Action List**

The action list was reviewed and update – see attached

#### **125/20 Date of the next meeting**

Annual Parish Council Meeting 24th May 2021

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

#### **Appendix - Financial Report**

Schedule of Payments & Receipts from 25 January 2021

Income received since 25.1.21

Allotment rent	£30.00
	<u>£30.00</u>

#### **Schedule of verified invoices agreed for payment**

Community Action Suffolk Insurance (M Green)	217.89	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9-10
Millennium Green Trust Lawnmower service	37.50	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9-10
L Rogers February wages	438.42	LGA 1972
L Rogers February expenses	60.00	LGA 1972
Sudbury Office Supplies Emergency plan printing	99.00	LGA 1972
SALC Good Councillor Guide books	31.72	LGA 1972
SALC Councillor training x2	60.00	LGA 1972, s111
SALC CiLCA Training	30.00	LGA 1972, s111
Sudbury Office Supplies Quiet lanes printing	68.04	LGA 1972
L Rogers March wages	438.42	LGA 1972
Strutt & Parker Allotment rent	37.50	Small Holdings & Allotment Acts 1908,ss223,2
	<u>1570.44</u>	

### Unpresented cheques

Community Action Suffolk Insurance (M Green)	217.89	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9-10
Sudbury Office Supplies Emergency plan printing	99.00	LGA 1972
SALC Good Councillor Guide books	31.72	LGA 1972
SALC Councillor training x2	60.00	LGA 1972, s111
SALC CiLCA Training	30.00	LGA 1972, s111
Sudbury Office Supplies Quiet lanes printing	68.04	LGA 1972
L Rogers March wages	438.42	LGA 1972
Strutt & Parker Allotment rent	37.50	Small Holdings & Allotment Acts 1908, ss223,2
	<u>£982.57</u>	

### Bank Reconciliation

Account	Statement Date	Statement balance	Actual Balance	Credit/transfers not shown	Unpresented cheques
Community a/c	26.2.21	£21,939.32	£20,956.75	£0.00	£982.57
Business reserve	26.2.21	£8,892.79	£8,892.79	£0.00	£0.00
		£30,832.11	£29,849.54		

### Action List

Minute	Action	Who
143/20	Remove Cllr Braithwaite as bank signatory and add Cllr Evans	Cllrs Derry & Evans
143/20	Update Risk Assessment on website	Clerk
137/20	Quotes for work to log stack and benches	Clerk/Cllr Hurren
140/20	Send confirmation of village confirmation to project	Cllr Forrest
145/20	Emergency plan – phone tree to be updated Check with Babergh about emergency plan	All Clerk
122/20	Rules about holding annual parish meeting – check with SALC. Hall to be open 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Clerk