

Monks Eleigh Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 27th September 2021 at Monks Eleigh Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Angela Forrest (Chairman), Patti Derry (Vice-Chairman), Alan Braithwaite, Will Sykes and Elizabeth Evans
District Cllr Bryn Hurren
County Councillor Robert Lindsay

Attending: Lucinda Rogers (Clerk) and three members of the public

62/21 Apologies for Absence

Victoria Keitley-Webb

63/21 Declaration of Interests and Requests for Dispensation

Cllr Derry – re item on Church Hill village green

64/21 Minutes of the meetings held on 26th July 2021

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

65/21 Report from County Cllr Robert Lindsay

Council apologises after SEND report finds big failings The county council's leadership has apologised to families after an independent report into the county's care of special needs children (SEND) has come up with a lengthy list of serious failings. The report found that the education service had been poor at communicating with parents, was slow to respond to calls and emails, had placed some pupils in inappropriate schools, had failed to identify caseworkers for children, failed to record requests from parents, failed to routinely track the Care Plans for children and had faced high numbers of appeals when they had refused to provide assessments. The authors – a team from Lincolnshire County Council made a series of recommendations which the council has agreed. These include hiring specialist consultants (Impower) to help review all their case work and ensure that better health and care plans for children are drawn up. Also to ensure that they share information with health service colleagues. **Climate Emergency** The county council agreed a little noticed plan to achieve zero carbon for Suffolk (not just the councils but the whole of Suffolk), in June. It sets out broad goals for change in behaviours and technology to achieve zero carbon by 2030 by means of measures of: 'transitioning to a fully decarbonised heat supply for homes; improving energy efficiency; behavioural change to use less energy; low carbon travel; reducing car use; more efficient freight transport; reductions in commercial and industrial carbon use; improvements in renewable energy production and a flexible grid' among others. **No timetable for spending £20m on cycling and walking** The Conservative administration said in its election literature this spring that it had identified £20m of cycle path upgrades. In line with this I, with the backing of my political group, proposed a motion at the September Council Meeting that the Council set specific benchmarks and targets each year to spend the £20m up to 2030 in order to double

cycling and walking by then. Unfortunately the administration voted this motion down and admitted that what they meant was that they had identified cycle routes for prioritising and calculated the cost as £20m but there was no commitment to spend any of it over any timescale. **Suffolk Biodiversity policy development panel** I am on this panel and have attended the first 3 of 8 meetings. I will try to ensure that goals and a strict timeframe are set so that progress can be checked. So far summary of recommendations seems a little vague. We have discussed so far a different regime for verge management as well as moving towards a phase out of the use of glyphosate on pavements in Suffolk towns. Also working with landowners and our own county farms to “rewild” significant proportions. **Road closures and signage** At full council earlier in September one of my group colleagues asked what the council was doing about “sloppy signage” when roads are closed with a report to council showing there were 20% of closures where the signage had not been up to standard. Cabinet member Paul West stressed that it was the sloppy behaviour of the utility companies (rather than Highways Network Assurance) and said he was making efforts to improve this behaviour. Though he gave no details about how. He said that last year there 65,000 applications for closure – over 200 a day – and that because of the volume highways can only do a “sample” of them to check that signage was being done correctly. **Considerate constructor, LED lights** Full council also approved a Green motion on signing up to the considerate constructor scheme and a joint Green - Conservative motion on moving towards adjustable LED lights of different colours from white to avoid affecting wildlife. **Road Damage in Monks Eleigh following Old School Site Development** – Take photos and send to Cllr Lindsay

66/21 Report from District Cllr Bryn Hurren

Babergh will not be able to remove the tyres on the allotments. **Car parking fees** to be introduced. One hour free and then £1 for the following 2 hours. Babergh has to pay business rates on car parks – a total of £242,000 this year and finance has to be found to meet this commitment. There is no financial aid from central government to assist so Babergh has to be run as a business. Hopefully it will help the local village shops. Babergh **fleet of vehicles have been converted** to run on hydrated vegetable oil (HVO) from food processing factories. Expensive to convert and paid for from CIL monies. **Planning changes** have come to a stop and may be reversed. **Devolution** – Finance is needed to run 3 smaller authorities to cover Suffolk – each looking after it’s area in total. **Women’s Cycle Tour** travelling through Monks Eleigh – Cllr Hurren keen to promote local business such as the Swan and Corncraft. Cllr Hurren trying to establish who is responsible for the trees in no mans land near the new development on the old school site.

67/21 Public Forum

A local resident explained he had made an objection to the planning application at Firbeck House

68/21 Speed Watch Report

SID - Speed Indicating Device

Summary table

	2018/19 Average	2020 Average	H1/2021	Q3/2021

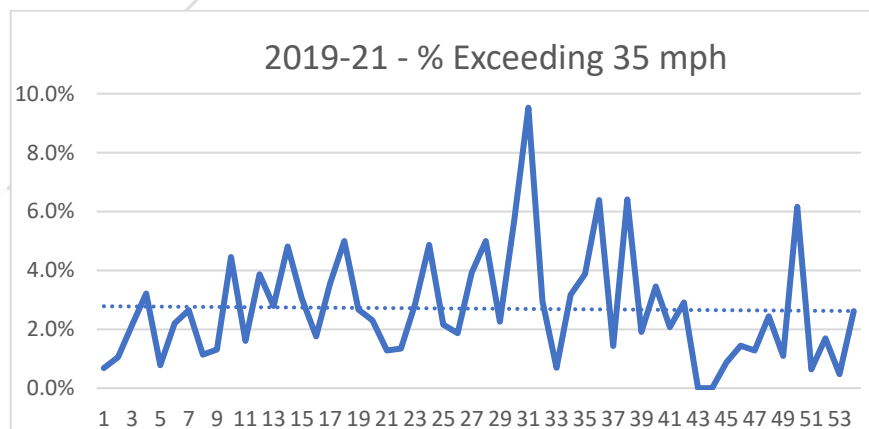
Average Speed	29.4 mph	29.8 mph	29.2 mph	28.8 mph
Maximum speed	75.0 mph	70.0 mph	75 mph	80 mph
		At 21:20 from Lavenham	At 16:00 from Lavenham on 11-05-21	At 19:00 from Lavenham on 9-09-21
85 % percentile	34.4 mph	35.2 mph	34.2 mph	33.8 mph
% speeders from Lavenham	14.2 %	17.4 %	14.8 %	10.9%
% speeders from The East	8.2 %	11.2 %	6.6 %	5.6%
Average Vehicles per day in one direction	1,852	1,106	1,189 in January 2021 rising to 1,651 in May 2021	1,774

Note: A speeder is someone travelling at 35 mph or more

- Equipment shared with Whatfield
- Reduction in average speed and % speeders in Q3/2021 compared to previous periods, probably due to a combination of more traffic and builders' vehicles parked on the road by "The Narrow House".

CSW - Community Speed Watch

- 26 x 1 hour sessions carried out since January 2021 – no CSW sessions during lockdown
- 4484 vehicles monitored over these 26 sessions (i.e. number of drivers reminded of the speed limit)
- Average speeders = 2.7 %, overall trend stable



- No lorries caught speeding

➤ **Conclusion** – SID indicates more speeders than CSW, so CSW does change behaviour!

69/21 Planning Matters

- a. The councillors considered planning application DC/21/03758 - Erection on 1 no dwelling and garden room outbuilding (following demolition of existing outbuilding) at Firbeck House, The Street, Monks Eleigh and agreed to object about the location, access and infill development in a conservation area. It is outside the village boundary at the rear of the proposed house and affects listed buildings.
- b. The councillors considered planning application DC/21/05069 – Repairs to front boundary wall and insertion of new gates at 2 Foysters Hall, Monks Eleigh and agreed they have no objections.
- c. The councillors considered planning application for Listed Building Consent DC/21/0515 – Construction of new staircase to second floor, re-opening previously blocked up window to rear elevation and insertion of new window to enable creation of two additional bedrooms. Insertion of thermal insulation to walls. Erection of gates and alterations to boundary wall at 2 Foysters Hall, Monks Eleigh and agreed they have no objections.
- d. The councillors considered planning application DC/21/05009 – Erection of single storey rear extension, erection of two storey side extension (following demolition of garage), erection of front porch canopy and replacement of windows at South House, Lindsey Road, Monks Eleigh and agreed they have no objections.
- e. The councillors considered planning application for works to trees – DC/21/05103 – reduce acer, fell cotoneaster, fell leylandii and Douglas fir at Mortimer's, Back Lane, Monks Eleigh and agreed they have no objections
- f. The councillors considered planning application for planning permission. without compliance of conditions - DC/21/05184 – Application under s73a for a removal or variation of a condition following grant of planning permission. DC/18/00621 dated 28/3/2018 for erection of a detached 3 bedroomed dwelling and car parking re materials, landscaping, refuse bins and levels at Fen Cottage, Brent Eleigh Road, Monks Eleigh and agreed they have no objections.
- g. The following planning permission has been granted: Babergh does not wish to object to - DC/21/04370 – Notification for works to trees in a Conservation area – fell 1no holly at Hillview, The Street, Monks Eleigh

70/21 Bollards on Village Green on Church Hill

Councillor Forrest to contact the owners at Costa Plenty to ask when work to the house will be finished so the landscaping can be carried out.

71/21 Adverse Possession Claim at Swingleton Green

The councillors agreed the land concerned does not belong to the parish council and they do not have any objection to the claim. Cllr Forrest signed the acceptance form.

72/21 Hedge Planting Application

Clerk to enquire if protectors will be supplied with the hedging – if not to purchase some. Councillors to form a working party to plant the hedging when it arrives in November.

73/21 Safety Notices at the Recreation Ground

The councillors agreed to erect signs to say no kite flying in the recreation field due to the danger of electrocution from the overhead wires. Clerk to arrange. Cllr Derry to order replacement 'No Dogs' on the recreation field signs as the previous ones have gone missing.

74/21 Triangle at Causeway opposite Hobarts

It was agreed to insert two removable wooden posts in concrete at the end of the plastic matting. Clerk to write to Hobarts to see if they would be willing to contribute towards the costs. To consider re-seeding it in the spring

75/21 Finance

- a. The councillors approved the financial report and noted income received
- b. The councillors authorise payments from the RFO Report made since the last meeting and to be made
- c. The councillors noted the external auditor's report from PKF Littlejohn
- d. The councillors resolved to donate the bottle bank payment of £60.52 to the village hall management committee
- e. The councillors resolved to appoint Lucinda Rogers as Responsible Finance Officer
- f. The councillors agreed the annual insurance renewal at a cost of £763.41. This is the second year of the three year agreement
- g. The Councillors reviewed and agreed the asset register as correct
- h. The Councillors offered congratulations to the clerk on passing the CiLCA training course and agreed a pay increase to spine point 11 with effect from 1st October 2021 and to review each year

76/21 Action List Review

Minute	Action	Who
37/21	Explore creating a simple Facebook page	Cllr Braithwaite
72/21	Hedge planting protectors	Clerk
73/21	Safety notices re kites at recreation field	Clerk
47/21	Check with Costa Plenty owners when landscaping can happen	Cllr Forrest
49/21	Grass cutting risk assessment for volunteers	Clerk/Cllr Forrest/Cllr Braithwaite
53/21	Write to see if Hobarts will assist with costs of installing posts on the Causeway triangle	Clerk
59/21	Update emergency plan with recommended changes	Clerk
122/20	Land Registry – check progress with Homes & Hill	Clerk

77/21 Date of the next meeting

Parish Council Meeting 23rd November 2021

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

Appendix - Financial Report

Income received since 26th July 2021

VAT refund	£673.84
	<u>£673.84</u>

Expenditure (movement since 26th July 2021)

Schedule of verified invoices agreed for payment

Information Commissioner Fees		40.00	LGA 1972
Mortimer contracts	Log stack repair	216.00	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss 9-10
L Rogers	Clerk wages August	438.42	LGA 1972
L Rogers	August expenses	25.74	LGA 1972
SALC	Training	30.00	LGA 1972 s111
Tye Farm Contracting	July grass cut	99.00	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss 9-10
PKF Littlejohn	External audit	240.00	LGA 1972 s111
Strutt & Parker	Rent	37.50	Small Holdings & Allotments Act 1908, ss23,25
L Rogers	Clerk wages September	438.42	LGA 1972
Tye Farm Contracting	August grass cut	99.00	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss 9-10
		<u>£1,664.08</u>	

Unpresented cheques

Suffolk Preservation Society Training			25.00	LGA 1972 s111
SALC	Training	30.00		LGA 1972 s111
Tye Farm Contracting	July grass cut		99.00	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss 9-10
PKF Littlejohn	External audit		240.00	LGA 1972 s111
Strutt & Parker	Rent		37.50	Small Holdings & Allotments Act 1908, ss23,25
L Rogers	Clerk wages September		438.42	LGA 1972
Tye Farm Contracting	August grass cut		99.00	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss 9-10
			<u>£968.92</u>	

Bank Reconciliation

Account	Statement Date	Statement balance	Actual Balance	Credit/transfers not shown	Unpresented cheques	Difference
Community a/c	30.6.21	£24,601.37	£23,633.37	£0.00	£968.00	£0.00
Business reserve	30.6.21	£8,893.23	£8,893.23	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
		£33,494.6	£34,526.6			