

Monks Eleigh Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 23rd January 2023 at the United Reformed Church Hall, Monks Eleigh Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs John Newton (Chairman), Angela Forrest, Victoria Keitley-Webb, Alan Braithwaite, Elizabeth Evans and Will Sykes

District Cllr Bryn Hurren

Attending: Lucinda Rogers (Clerk) and 4 members of the public

186/22 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Patti Derry

187/22 Declaration of Interests and Requests for Dispensation

None

188/22 Minutes of the meeting held on 28th November 2022

The minutes of the meeting 28th November 2022 were approved by the councillors and signed by the Chairman as a correct record

189/22 Report from County Cllr Robert Lindsay

None received

190/22 Report from District Cllr Bryn Hurren

Cllr Hurren explained that many Babergh staff are off sick and he's waiting to hear about the orchard planning application. The Old School site – no response from the developer and Babergh have no legal powers to use. Cllr Hurren will continue to try to organise a meeting.

BaberghmidSuffolk are once again reverting to public liaison meetings to explain to PC reps, councillors and Clerks their policies, strategies and decision making.

The meeting for Babergh is at the Constable Hall, Gandish Rd, East Bergholt at 9.30 – 11.30am. The meeting for Mid Suffolk is at The Mix in Stowmarket at 1.30 – 3.30 pm.

The main subjects at these events will be Budget, Joint Local Plan and forthcoming Elections. Presentations at these events will usually take about an hour with another hour devoted to questions and developing other issues that the attendees wish to develop. These events are well worth attending and informative. Such a shame that they are during the working day and are not really possible to attend for anyone who works normal hours. On environmental issues, we have now taken delivery of our fleet of brand new refuse vehicles all running on hydrated vegetable oil and named by members of our public in a recent competition. We can now look forward to seeing Gary Bineker, Ed Sheerbin and Binnie the Poo cruising through our streets, picking up recyclate and black bin rubbish for our energy from waste plant to turn into electricity. On the same theme Baberghmidsuffolk have been achieving good results in finding home markets for our recyclate picked up from kerbside (blue bin collections) and bring centres. As an example 2,609 tons of metal collected out of a total of 2,691 is marketed and sold to buyers in the UK with the remaining bought by Germany. With Card the totals are 645 tons (approx. 12%) of the total 5,270 being collected with strong markets in India 1,097 tons, Malaysia 1,029 tons and Turkey 1,554 tons. It would be nice to process more in the home economy and we are working on that but being outbid at this time. With paper we do better with 8,121

(approx. 35%) tons of the total of 22,630 tons collected with strong competition from Netherlands 1,118 tones and India 8,900 tones. We did better on plastic also with 5,135 out of a total of 6,621 tons being processed and once again entering the manufacturing process within UK shores. A good effort I feel with none of our waste products being exported to China. Of course all these figures could be massively improved if only everybody made the effort to recycle as much as possible and not put things in the wrong bins, especially the ones that soil recycle by adding items such as dirty babies nappies. Our biggest task at the moment at the District Council is setting a balanced budget and finding out what other authorities and the parish councils are doing, as it falls to the District Council to add it all together, send out the bills and collect the total amounts. We are very near to doing that and our budget meeting to agree what the districts tax levels will be will be held in late February. It is likely that the Babergh increase will be around 2.9.% which equates to about £5.00 per annum but as our share of the total Council Tax bill is now only about 8.5%, I would estimate that the total increase across the board will be about £70.00 per household. Horrible news indeed and totally unsustainable.

We are at least in Babergh giving an amnesty to those who can afford nothing at all as it would cost us money to try to collect it and then give out the benefits to keep them alive in monetary terms. One quite disturbing change is that in the upcoming District elections on May 4th, voters will have to provide voter identification, this can be a valid drivers license with an up to date photo, a passport with photo identity or failing this a signed statement as why this cannot be achieved or other means of identification

191/22 Public Forum

Church Hill Green – concern raised about the possible loss of parking on the apex of the village green outside Costa Plenty and the loss of somewhere to put skips when carrying out work. Can the residents be consulted. Can parking and dog fouling be discussed at the APM. Question for Cllr Hurren – what is happening with the orchard planning application and can he give a report about what is happening with the old school site. A suggestion to raise funds for Coronation celebrations by having a pub evening at the village hall. A suggestion that the Causeway footpath could be widened and have a more solid path surface.

192/22 Planning Matters

- a. Babergh have granted permission for the application DC/22/05289 for Listed Building Consent - Installation of new staircase to access existing 2nd floor, insertion of stud partitions on the 2nd floor, Installation of 2no. windows, Installation of Fire Door, Automist Fire Suppression Equipment and Fire Alarms at 2 Foysters Hall, Monks Eleigh
- b. Babergh have Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/19/04923 granted under Appeal Reference APP/D3505/W/20/3256118 - Condition 4 (i)(a) (Hard and Soft Landscaping Works) and Condition 4 (i)(b) (External Lighting) at Temporary Mobile Home on Land North Of Second Pits, Highlands Road, Monks Eleigh
- c. Babergh have refused Planning Application - DC/22/04974 Erection 1 No. dwelling and garden room. Firbeck House, The Street, Monks Eleigh
- d. The councillors considered the Application for Planning Permission - DC/22/06221 - Proposed new entrance gates and adjoining walls Location:

Trenance, Swingleton Green, Land West Of The Fenn, Monks Eleigh and agreed to object to the application on the grounds that the appearance of the proposed gates is contrary to all aspects of a Conservation area. They do not meet with the street scene or surrounding visual amenity and are not suitable or fitting to the area.

- e. Discharge of Condition Application for DC/22/04198 - Condition 4 (Biodiversity Enhancement Layout) Location: 2 Foysters Hall, Monks Eleigh
- f. Babergh have granted permission to Application Reference: DC/22/05734 Replacement and re-position oil tank and siting external at The Manse, The Street, Monks Eleigh boiler

193/22 Finance

- a. The councillors approved the financial report and noted income received – see appendix
- b. The councillors authorised payments from the RFO Report made since the last meeting and to be made
- c. The councillors agreed the budget for 2023-24 at £37,835 which includes streetlight replacement costs, SID purchase, footbridge repair, play area improvements and tree work so will draw upon the reserves.
- d. The councillors agreed to increase the precept by 10% to £21,090 which due to the increase in the Council Tax Base will mean a 3.03% rise for a Band D house (£2.27). The Chairman and Clerk signed the precept demand.
- e. It was agreed to renew the Millennium Green insurance at £308.95 for one year
- f. It was agreed to add Cllr Newton and the Clerk as bank signatories. The Barclays account review is hopefully almost complete.

194/22 Street Lights Upgrade to LED

Seven of the street lights have now been upgraded to LED and the others to be completed soon. It was agreed to turn the street lights off at 11.15pm each evening. The Parish Council expressed their thanks to Chris Eames and the Speedwatch team for their work.

195/22 SID Speed Camera

- a) The councillors agreed to buy a SID for the sole use of the village at a cost of £3,455 + vat. Cllr Lindsay has kindly offered a £2,000 grant towards the cost. Whatfield have paid £450 for the old SID. Cllr Newton proposed and seconded by Cllr Sykes a vote of thanks to Chris and his team for the work that they carry out to improve safety in the village.
- b) Update from SID

	2018/19 Average	2020 Average	2021 Average	Q4 2022	2022 Average
Average Speed	29.4 mph	29.8 mph	28.9 mph	28.7 mph	28.8 mph
Maximum speed	75 mph	70 mph	80 mph	80 mph	80 mph
		At 21:20 from Lavenham	At 19:00 from Lavenham on 9-09-21	At 13:30 from Lavenham on 8-11-2022	At 13:30 from Lavenham on 8-11-2022
85 % percentile	34.4 mph	35.2 mph	33.8 mph	33.7 mph	33.8 mph

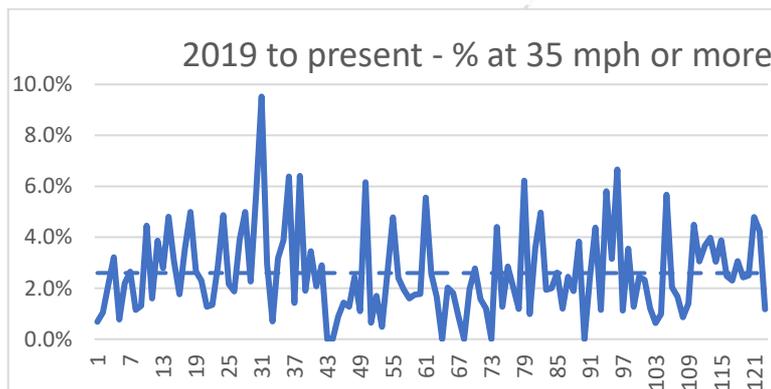
% Speeders from Lavenham	14.2 %	17.4 %	12.9 %	10.6 %	11.7 %
% Speeders from the East	8.2 %	11.2 %	5.9 %	5.3 %	5.7 %
Average Vehicles per day in one direction	1,852	1,106	1,774	1,752	1,673

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

- Speeds slightly reduced over 4 years
- Awaiting purchase of a new SID for sole use of Monks Eleigh

CSW - Community Speed Watch

- 54 x 1 hour sessions carried out in 2022
- 11,166 vehicles monitored in 2022 (i.e. number of drivers reminded of the speed limit)
- Average speeders in 2022 = 2.6%
- Overall Average speeders in 2019-2022 = 2.5 %



- No lorries caught speeding
- 12 qualified volunteers of Monks Eleigh CSW team

➤ **Conclusion:**

- SID indicates more speeders than CSW, so CSW does change behaviour!

196/22 Church Hill Green

It was agreed to defer this item to the Annual Parish meeting on 15th March. Clerk to ascertain the legal position of a Village Green in relation to vehicles.

197/22 Neighbourhood Plan

These are being replaced by Neighbourhood Priorities Statements (NPS). These are a simpler form of neighbourhood planning for communities. Babergh is a pilot area. Cllr Hurren to arrange a training session for Monks Eleigh, Brent Eleigh, Milden and Kettlebaston. The councillors agreed to express an interest in the process and a training session.

198/22 Footbridge at Polegate

It was agreed to accept the quote of £675+vat to repair the bridge but if it is possible to replace the bridge (at a cost of £3835+vat) in the same amount of time, to do so to ensure safety.

199/22 Village Hall Benches

It was agreed that following alterations to the ground levels outside the side door of the hall for the village hall to buy a picnic bench. It was agreed to accept Bruce Whitehead's request to buy a bench to commemorate his mother who used to be Parish Clerk to the village. The bench will have a plaque to this effect.

200/22 King's Coronation

It was agreed to hold a simple celebration at the village hall on Sunday 7th May. Cllr Forrest to apply for a licence for the bar and people to bring a picnic to celebrate together. Cllr Braithwaite to ask via Facebook for volunteers to help organise the event.

201/22 Annual Village Clean Up

To take place on 18th March – or other days if not available that day. It was agreed for councillors to carry out the same tasks as last year. Cllr Braithwaite has traffic cones. The flyer to be printed with the APM agenda to be circulated to houses as a flyer.

202/22 Headway Mobile Shop

It was agreed to invite the mobile shop to visit when ready. Headway is a charity helping people with brain injuries locally based at the Icanho centre in Stowmarket

203/22 Recreation Field Management

Play Area improvements – It was agreed for a working party to meet on 24.1.23 to select the quote for the work. Four companies have made quotes. The CIL bid is almost complete waiting for the final details to hopefully go to the Babergh's March committee for a decision.

204/22 Parish Trees, Hedgerows and Wildflower Scheme 2022 – Clerk to follow up the offer from the Bio Diversity Officer for replacement hedging plants.

205/22 Tree Work at Swingleton Green

It was agreed to have comprehensive work carried out to the large conifer tree and some to the surrounding trees at a cost of £2,000. Cllr Braithwaite to liaise with the contractor.

206/22 Councillors Reports

The village hall committee have some concerns about installing electric car chargers – Clerk to explore further and report back.

It was agreed for the annual Fete and Dog Show to take place on 3rd June

It was a unanimous decision to make a Village Person of the Year Award at the Annual Parish Meeting

207/22 Action List Review

Minute	Action	Who
157/22	Causeway ditches – to ask Jamie Smith and Will Pratt for work	Clerk/Cllr Braithwaite

164/22	SID camera – order SID - Confirm Cllr Lindsay grant	Clerk
115/21	Place larger logs with reflectors on triangle at Causeway	Cllr Braithwaite
151/22	Erect dog bin on Church Hill green Repair to dog bin at Causeway	Cllr Braithwaite
168/22	Clerk to stop grass being cut at end of car park	Clerk

208/21 Date of the next meeting

Annual Parish Meeting 8pm Wednesday 15th March

Parish Council Meeting 27th March 2023

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

Appendix - Financial Report

MONKS ELEIGH PARISH COUNCIL FINANCIAL REPORT 28 NOVEMBER 2022

Schedule of Payments & Receipts from 28 November 2022

Income Received since 28.11.22

Interest	4.96
SID money	450.00
	<u>454.96</u>

Expenditure (movement since 28.11.22)

Schedule of verified invoices agreed for payment

28.11.22	L Rogers November expenses	55.14	101542	LGA 1972
28.11.22	Hadleigh URC	10.00	101543	LGA 1972
30.11.22	SCC Quiet Lanes	50.00	101544	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9-1
30.11.22	Playsafety inspection	88.20	101545	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9-1 LGA
5..12.22	L Rogers backpay	332.50	101546	LGA 1972
5.12.22	L Rogers December pay	553.69	101547	LGA 1972
9.1.23	Tye Farm Contracting	417.00	101548	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9-1 LGA
9.1.23	L Rogers January pay	535.69	101549	LGA 1972
9.1.23	HMRC Dc/Jan tax	18.00	101550	LGA 1972
9.1.23	L Rogers Jan expenses	40.70	101551	LGA 1972
9.1.23	Millenium green insurance	308.95	101552	LGA 1972, s111 LGA
23.1.23	Hadleigh URC hall hire	10.00		1972
		<u>2,419.87</u>		

Unpresented cheques

<u>5.9.22</u>	<u>Hadleigh United Reformed Church</u>	<u>10.00</u>	<u>101528</u>	<u>LGA</u> <u>1972</u>
<u>9.1.23</u>	<u>Tye Farm Contracting</u>	<u>417.00</u>	<u>101548</u>	<u>Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9-11</u> <u>LGA</u>
<u>9.1.23</u>	<u>L Rogers January pay</u>	<u>535.69</u>	<u>101549</u>	<u>LGA</u> <u>1972</u>
<u>9.1.23</u>	<u>HMRC Dc/Jan tax</u>	<u>18.00</u>	<u>101550</u>	<u>LGA</u> <u>1972</u>
<u>9.1.23</u>	<u>L Rogers Jan expenses</u>	<u>40.70</u>	<u>101551</u>	<u>LGA</u> <u>1972</u>
<u>9.1.23</u>	<u>Millenium green insurance</u>	<u>308.95</u>	<u>101552</u>	<u>LGA 1972, s111</u> <u>LGA</u>
<u>23.1.23</u>	<u>Hadleigh URC hall hire</u>	<u>10.00</u>	<u>101553</u>	<u>LGA</u> <u>1972</u>
		<u>1,340.34</u>		

Bank Reconciliation

Account	statement date	statement balance	actual balance	credit/transfers not shown	unpresented cheques
Community a/c	30.12.22	£34,934.48	£34,054.14	£450.00	£1,330.34
Business reserve	30.12.22	£8,902.26	£8,894.56	0.00	£0
		£43,836.74	£42,948.70		

