

Monks Eleigh Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 23rd September 2024 at the Village Hall, Church Hill, Monks Eleigh at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Alan Braithwaite (Chairman), Angela Forrest, Sarah Bennett, James Hodges and Rupert Perry

County Councillor Robert Lindsay (SCC), District Cllr Bryn Hurren (BDC)

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

45/24 Apologies for Absence

None

46/24 Declaration of Interests and Requests for Dispensation

Cllr Perry – Planning matter DC/24/03428

Cllr Braithwaite – Donations in relation to CAB and St Peter's Church

Cllr Forrest – Village Hall

Cllrs Hodges and Bennett – Village shop

47/24 Minutes of the meeting held on 29th July 2024

The minutes of the meeting held on 29th July 2024 were approved by the councillors and signed by the Chairman as a correct record

48/24 Report from County Cllr Robert Lindsay

Councillor Lindsay continues to follow up reports of a blocked drain on Church Hill.

The resident needs to take photos to show the flooding and send to either the parish council or Highways. His full report is in appendix 2

49/24 Report from District Cllr Bryn Hurren

The new houses at Friars Meadow have been sold to Impact who are backers for Archerfield. The CIL money due to Monks Eleigh parish council may be available eventually. It was not possible to find a buyer for the social housing so it will be sold with a 20% discount to local buyers and the 20% discount will always apply to the five houses. The condition of the houses is unknown but they will be thoroughly checked. Cllr Hurren to send the news release to the clerk. His full report is in appendix 3

50/24 Public Forum

The need for a footpath opposite Mill Lane was raised and it was agreed that all residents are in agreement about the need for it. The bushes along the road need to be cut back to help visibility.

51/24 Planning Matters

- a. The Planning Inspector has dismissed the Appeal Ref:
APP/D3505/W/23/3333575 Manor Farm, Tye Road, Monks Eleigh
- b. Babergh does not wish to object to Application Reference: DC/24/02997
Notification of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - Fell 1 No. Ivy (T1), Fell 2 No. Thuja Cyprus (T2 and T3), Fell 1 No. Blue Cedar (T1), Fell Indian Bean (T5),
Re Coppice 3 No. Hazel (T6,T7 and T8) at Onchan, Back Lane, Monks Eleigh

- c. Babergh does not wish to object to Application Reference: DC/24/02896 Application for works to trees in a Conservation Area - Fell and grind out stumps of 3 x Leyland Cypress trees in rear garden to approx 200mm or grub out stumps below current ground level at Little Pond Cottage, The Street, Monks Eleigh
- d. Babergh does not wish to object to Application: DC/24/03251 Application for works to trees in a Conservation Area - Pollard a row of 10 Sycamore trees back to previous pollard points. Reduce 1No Birch Tree (T1) by 50%. Pollard 1No Pin Oak (T2) by approx 6m above ground level. Fel 1No Acacia (T3) suffering from bacterial disease. At Meadow House, Foysters Hall, Monks Eleigh
- e. Babergh have refused DC/24/02630 Application for Outline Planning Permission (Access Points to be considered, all other matters reserved) Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) - Erection of 3No self-build dwellings at Land South Of, Brent Eleigh Road
- f. Permission is granted for Application Reference: DC/24/03311 Application under S73a for the Removal or Variation of a Condition following grant of DC/24/00333 dated 04/03/2024 Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)-Erection of retaining wall to support earth bank. To Vary Condition 2 (Approved Plans and Documents) as per revised drawings. Fen Cottage, Brent Eleigh Road, Monks Eleigh
- g. The Councillors have no objection to the APPLICATION FOR LISTED BUILDING CONSENT - DC/24/03672 - Erection of Orangery (following demolition of existing lean- to extension). including alterations to openings. At The Manor Farmhouse, Tye Road, Monks Eleigh
- h. The Councillors have no objection to the APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/24/03428 - Erection of a two storey rear extension and first floor extension over garage, conversion of integral garage to additional living accommodation including new landscaping and driveway layout. At Onchan, Back Lane, Monks Eleigh DC/24/03899
- i. The Councillors have no objection to the APPLICATION FOR THE MODIFICATION OF SECTION 106 PLANNING OBLIGATION - DC/24/03899 - relating to B/16/01718 (17no dwellings) to amend the 5no Affordable Housing Units from affordable rent to discount market rent or sale (at 80% discount to market rent/sale) rather than a commuted sum. The Councillors are focussed on resolution and the occupation of all 17 houses.

52/24 Finance

- a. The councillors approved the financial report and noted income received – see Appendix 1. The councillors authorised payments from the RFO Report made since the last meeting and to be made. The finances are in line with the budget
- b. The councillors agreed the following donations to local organisations:
 - Village shop - £2,000
 - Go Start and Hadleigh Community Transport £1,000
 - Village hall £500
 - Sudbury CAB £500
 - Kernos £500
 - Bildeston Foodbank £500

St Peter's Church £600

It was agreed to put £2,000 towards new bollard lights at the top of Church Hill

- c. The councillors approved the insurance renewal of £700.61
- d. The councillors approved the Asset Register
- e. The councillors approved the External Auditor report
- f. The councillors agreed to donate the £44.88 recycling money to the village shop

53/24 People and Place Plan – 53/24 People and Place Plan – There have been 90 responses out of 200 households in the village. Now that the results have been collated, they will be published on the website and on Facebook. They will also inform the drafting of the Neighbourhood Priority Statement. This will also help to frame the objectives and activities of the parish council and help to the parish council to form its responses to planning applications.

54/24 Petition for a Footpath on A1141 Brent Eleigh Road – The Councillors agreed that the impact of traffic along The Street, speed limits, pedestrian safety and parking were of key concern for parishioners (as borne out by the village survey) and for the Parish Council. In light of the petition, the Parish Council committed to work with the sponsors of the petition to create a comprehensive case and proposal for the installation of a regulation footpath and road scheme changes near Mill Lane. The clerk has discovered that Suffolk County Council drew up plans to do this in 2008 but the project did not go ahead. In the short term it was agreed to explore whether the hedge could be cut back to improve visibility for pedestrians. The plan needs to include speeds, volume and types of vehicles traveling through the village and impacts on the URC. It was agreed to spend £100 on equipment to aid in measuring the types of vehicles to set alongside SID data. Cllrs Braithwaite and Hodges will collaborate on this (as well as in the context of the wider objectives set out above) with the aim of having it available by the November meeting. Once agreed it will be pursued down all appropriate channels.

55/24 Grit Bins – It was agreed to replace five of the grit bins with smaller ones. It was agreed to use a contractor to dig out the old salt and put it in the new bins (£352.06 +VAT)

56/24 Recreation Field Grass –The councillors agreed for the contractor to apply a one off herbicide to the grass in Spring 2025 to improve the turf on the field. (£450+£90 VAT)

57/24 Causeway – The councillors agreed to ask the contractor to dig out the ditches along the sides of the Causeway path (£1125). Clerk to follow up possible footpath improvement with SCC. Clerk waiting for a response from Rights of Way about adopting the footway from Back Lane to the Lavenham Road.

58/24 Brett Valley DigiBus – Cllr Braithwaite has visited the scheme in Hertfordshire. The concept plan is almost complete and Cllr Braithwaite is meeting SCC in early October – there is affordable software to run the scheme. Viability will only be achieved with a degree of integration with the school bus service and community buses from Go-Start and Hadleigh Community Transport. Clerk to follow up Cllr Braithwaite's expenses in relation to travel to meetings to date.

59/24 Street Lighting on Church Hill– Suffolk County Council estimate the project could cost £10,500. Clerk to apply for grants to carry out the work. The streetlight by the garages in Churchfields is on all night. Clerk working to change the hours on this light.

60/24 Action List Review

Actions from the previous minutes have been completed unless otherwise stated.

Action	Who
People & Place Plan Neighbourhood Priority Statement	Cllr Hodges & team
Grit bin – order new bins and instruct contractor	Clerk/Cllr Braithwaite
Pavement along A1141 – form a case	Cllrs Hodges/ Braithwaite
Purchase and install doorbell webcam	Cllr Braithwaite
Agreement for removable bollards	Clerk/Cllr Braithwaite
Causeway footway funding/quote	Clerk
Identity of street light at Churchfields on all night – follow up	Clerk
Footway Back Lane to Lavenham Road – SCC to adopt	Clerk
Causeway – dig out sides of path – instruct contractor	Clerk
Church Hill lighting bollards – quote /grants	Clerk
Memorial cherry tree for Sally Whitehead will be planted at the back hedge of the Recreation field. Agreed with Bruce Whitehead and council to acquire and plant.	Cllr Braithwaite (September)

61/24 Councillors Reports

Grass cutting at Millenium Green – Clerk to forward contractors details to Cllr Forrest

62/24 Date of the next meetings

Parish Council Meeting 25th November 2024

The meeting closed at 9.35pm

Appendix 1: Financial Report

MONKS ELEIGH PARISH COUNCIL FINANCIAL REPORT 23 SEPTEMBER 2024

Schedule of Payments & Receipts from 29 July 2024

Income Received since 29.7.24

Barking Parish Council	half of phone	145.41
		<u>145.41</u>

Expenditure (movement since 29.7.24)Schedule of verified invoices agreed for payment

7.8.24	Moser Ground Care L Roger s	July cuts	180.00
7.8.24	s	August wages	588.25
7.8.24	HMRC L Roger s	August tax	6.60
7.8.24	s	July expenses iphone	389.00
12.8.24	ICO	Annual subs	35.00
9.9.24	PKF Littlejohn	External audit 2023-24	504.00
9.9.24	Moser Ground Care L Roger s	August cuts	180.00
9.9.24	s	September wages	588.45
9.9.24	HMRC L Roger s	September tax	6.40
9.9.24	s	September expenses	20.00
			<u>2,497.70</u>

Pending Payments

5.9.22	Hadleigh United Reformed Church	10.00	101528
		<u>10.00</u>	

Bank Reconciliation

Account		statemen t date	statement balance	actual balance	credit/transfer s not shown	unpresente d cheques
Community a/c		30.8.24	£12,291.7 1	£21,742.86	£10,750.00	£1,298.85
Business reserve		30.8.24	£19,153.4 0	£19,076.10	0.00	£0
			£31,445.1 1	£40,818.96		

Appendix 2**Report for Monks Eleigh PC by Robert Lindsay, Suffolk County Councillor
Ofsted Inspection of Children's Social Care**

In August the inspection report for Suffolk County Council's social care services for children was published, following a visit from Ofsted at the end of May. The report found that social care services for children, which include fostering and adoption, safeguarding, child protection, youth justice and corporate parenting (children in care), 'require improvement to be good.' My opposition group are concerned by this as children's services were rated as 'Outstanding' the last time they were inspected in 2019, and the remarks on leadership – that leaders do not

have 'sufficient grip' on all the services provided – are especially worrying.

You can read the full Ofsted inspection report here:

<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/44/80565>

Electric Car Hire

The county has won a bid for £7.3m Government funding for electric car

infrastructure. £1.4m will go towards chargers in 63 community sites such as village halls, scout huts, while £5.9m will be spent on on-street charging. Also the county will be

tendering for a company to provide an electric car rental service across eight locations in Suffolk including Sudbury, Needham and Stowmarket. Residents can book them by the minute, hour or day.

Launch of Solar Together Suffolk

The county is launching a group buying scheme for people wanting to install solar

panels or battery storage. If you sign up to the scheme, an independent company

will organise bids from installers to collectively install several schemes in your

area. The winner is the cheapest bidder. It is free to register at

www.solartogether.co.uk/suffolk, and there is no obligation to go ahead with an installation.

Green Homes Grant – if no takers £5m will have to be returned to Govt.

This grant for full cost of insulation or home energy efficiency improvement is still

available until March but the uptake has not been good. This may be because it is

means tested or just not been promoted enough. Of the £8.3m available this year,

only £3.3m is forecast to be spent and the remaining £5m will have to be returned

to Government. The scheme in Suffolk is known as Warm Homes Suffolk.

Report for Monks Eleigh PC by Bryn Hurren, District Councillor

Angela Raynor has decreed that Babergh DC now has to deliver 760 new dwellings every year which is up from 450 dwellings as in the last parliament. We can achieve that with a secure landbank for housing and also some more possible sites from the recent call for sites initiative. Very hard task but achievable, I think. What is so important is the types of housing we allow and promote, hopefully more smaller dwellings for existing residents to downsize to, which will free up larger homes for expanding families to move up into. Also now an ever increasing need to house the next generation in affordable houses for purchase or rent. We also have a responsibility to develop passive zero rated homes with low or no power bills. With fitted solar panels and storage batteries, this is quite possible now, just imperative that the solar panels are made within the UK shores. We continue to distribute developers CIL contributions to worthwhile causes and infrastructure schemes throughout the villages and communities of the Babergh area. This includes £57,000 to Belle Vue park for enhanced disabled access and general improvement to facilities for all visitors to this lovely area. Also £9,773.10 for replacement and improved floodlighting at Boxford Playing field, especially for afterschool football training and playing tennis at their revamped courts, hoping this encourages more matches and subsequent income for these much needed facilities. Even closer to home is the bombshell of the consultation to close Boxford surgery which is going to be very controversial. Please respond to consultation letter and attend meeting in Boxford Village Hall at 10.00.am – 12.00.pm on Tuesday 1st October, if you are able. The Babergh liaison meeting this year is on 15th October at 10.30.am. – 12.00.pm. at Pinewood Community Centre. Not a great time for those that are in work. Sorry.