

Monks Eleigh Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 25th November 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

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

63/24 Apologies for Absence

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

64/24 Declaration of Interests and Requests for Dispensation

Cllr Bennett – Planning matter: Appeal: APP/D3505/W/24/3354585

Cllr Forrest – Millenium Green

65/24 Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd September 2024

The minutes of the meeting held on 23rd September 2024 were approved by the councillors and signed by the Chairman as a correct record

66/24 Report from County Cllr Robert Lindsay

Due to ill health, Councillor Lindsay was unable to send a report

67/24 Report from District Cllr Bryn Hurren

Not available

68/24 Public Forum

Matters concerning traffic problems with lorries was raised. Scripps Cross Bridge has been hit and the parapet damaged again. Clerk to report to SCC. Potholes are a problem on the road to Sudbury

69/24 Planning Matters

- a. Babergh have no objections to DC/24/04265: Proposal: Application for works to trees in a Conservation Area - Fell 2No Poplar trees (T1 and T2) in rear garden due to fungi and advanced rot at base, liable to fall into neighbouring property or across HV electricity cables. Location: Halcyon, Back Lane, Monks Eleigh
- b. Planning permission has been granted to DC/24/04243: Application for Listed Building Consent - Erection of single storey rear extension Location: The Cottage, Church Hill, Monks Eleigh
- c. Awaiting a decision DC/24/04603: Householder Application - Construction of 2no. parking bays (following removal of Leylandii tree) Location: The Manse, The Street, Monks Eleigh
- d. Babergh have no objections to DC/24/04692: Application for works to trees in a Conservation Area Trees - Fell 5No Poplar trees due to numerous poplar moth holes at the base likely to be decayed and leaning towards neighbours. Location: Alexanders, The Street, Monks Eleigh
- e. Planning permission has been granted DC/24/04242: Householder Application - Erection of single storey rear extension. The Cottage, Church Hill, Monks Eleigh
- f. Awaiting a decision DC/24/03899 Application for the Modification of Section 106 Planning Obligation dated 08.03.2018 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. Former Monks Eleigh C P School Churchfield Monks Eleigh
- g. Babergh have refused DC/24/03671 Householder Planning Application - Erection of Orangery (following demolition of existing lean-to extension) at The Manor Farmhouse, Tye Road, Monks Eleigh
 - h. Babergh have granted DC/24/03428 Householder Application - 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
 - i. The Councillors agreed to reserve the right to attend and comment at the hearing for Appeal Reference: APP/D3505/W/24/3354585 Appeal by: Mr G Newley Proposal: 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. Location: Land South Of, Brent Eleigh Road, Monks Eleigh. It was noted that this will be a hearing rather than a written appeal and councillors agreed to send the inspector (one appointed) our original objection.
 - j. The Councillors agreed to raise no objection to DC/24/05059 Householder Application - Erection of single storey rear extension Location: Wyncolls Bungalow, Swingleton Hill, Monks Eleigh

70/24 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. It was noted that income and expenditure is in line with the budget.
- b. The councillors considered the outlook for 2025-26. It was agreed to review and agree it in detail at the January meeting when more information will be available.
- c. The councillors considered the implications of this outlook for the precept for 2025-26 and noted that it was in line with national trends. It was agreed to approve it at the January meeting when more information will be available
- d. The councillors approved the Asset Register. Cllr Hodges offered to inspect and update the asset register

71/24 People and Place Plan – Cllr Hodges has written the draft Neighbourhood Priority Statement and will circulate to the Councillors. There is a need to identify plots of land suitable for building in the village to meet the requirements at Babergh District for the plan based on the 80% increase in house development quota imposed by central government on our district. Cllr Braithwaite offered his help with the project.

72/24 Defibrillator – The defibrillator will be ten years old next summer and it is recommended to replace it at this age. It was agreed to include the cost of replacement in the budget and to replace it in the summer before maintenance costs arise. A new defibrillator will cost up to £2,000 and hopefully we will be able to secure funding towards the cost. Item to be added to the March meeting agenda.

The Councillors thanked John Naylor for his continued work maintain the defibrillators in the village.

73/24 Telephone Kiosk Library – A window on the kiosk needs to be replaced. Clerk to get some quotes.

74/24 Footpath on A1141 Brent Eleigh Road – The Councillors agreed to cut the hedge back around the steps to the Millennium Green to improve visibility for traffic and pedestrians. It is hoped this will help mitigate some of the issues in the short term. Cllr Braithwaite to ask Ralph Whitehead to do. Cllrs Hodges and Braithwaite to prepare and circulate a draft proposal to address the problems with traffic in the village to Councillors before sending to Highways. It will also be discussed with the team that organised the petition.

75/24 Lorries Travelling Through the Village – This links to the point above with the aim of providing a traffic census for the proposal. Cllr Braithwaite has exchanged the doorbell cam for a different and more suitable cam. He and Cllr Bennett will install it.

76/24 Grit Bins – The contractor replaced two grit bins with smaller ones after digging out the old salt and put it in the new bins. There is a remaining new bin that may be sold to a neighbouring parish council. It was agreed to buy three more small shovels for the bins.

77/24 Recreation Field Grass – The councillors agreed to give the contract to Ed Seeley for three years with a probationary first year and not to pay the remainder if it does not extend to three years. £6510 for three years.

78/24 Causeway and Footpaths – The contractor dug out the ditches along the sides of the Causeway path and taken it back to its original width for part of its length. This is an improvement, but the path still gathers water after rain. Cllr Braithwaite to cut some small drainage gullies protem. The full length of the ditches to the river needs to be dug out to allow the water to flow away. We need to check with the Environment Agency to ensure this work is within their guidance. Two quotes will be needed to do this further work and build up a section of the path to make it dry and walkable at all time.

Rights of Way have added our request to the list of requests about adopting the footway from Back Lane to the Lavenham Road. This may take a long time.

79/24 Brett Valley DigiBus – Cllr Braithwaite has met with SCC several times and more recently with Hadleigh Community Transport. He is meeting with Go Start in the coming days. The approach planned is to set up a pilot with the proposed software and test it on the community transport service. SCC are very keen to establish a digibus service for the county as a whole and see this as an important development. They have the funds to do this.

80/24 Moveable Bollards on Church Hill – The Councillors agreed not to pursue the project and thanked Mrs Grossett for her interest.

81/24 Millenium Green – The number of Trustees will reduce to three at the 2025 summer AGM. There has been low interest from the village to support either the working parties or to become trustees. The Councillors agreed that should it become necessary, the parish council will take on responsibility for the area. Cllr Braithwaite

to advertise on Facebook for trustees. The parish council will continue to support with costs of insurance and maintenance work.

82/24 Pathway Lighting on Church Hill– Unfortunately the electricity supply has to be secured from elsewhere in the village at a potential cost of £180,000 which makes this approach unaffordable. It was agreed to ask the church if they would be willing to link their electricity to supply the new lights. Clerk to check if this would be possible with SCC.

The streetlight by the garages in Churchfields is still on all night. Clerk working to change the hours on this light.

83/24 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
Telephone kiosk replacement window quote	Clerk
Traffic problems and pavement along A1141 – circulate draft proposal / cut back hedge	Cllrs Hodges/ Braithwaite
Install webcam to monitor traffic	Cllr Braithwaite
Swingleton Green notice board replacement	Clerk/Cllr Braithwaite
Causeway footway pathway quote and dig out ditches to the river: secure suitable contractor	Clerk
Identity of streetlight at Churchfields that is on all night – follow up	Clerk
Asset register to check and update	Cllr Hodges
Church Hill footpath lighting bollards – link to church electricity	Clerk
Defibrillator replacement: add to March agenda	Clerk
Budget and precept preparation	Cllr Braithwaite

84/24 To consider exclusion of the public and press in the public interest for consideration of the following item: i) Clerks Salary Review – The Councillors agreed to the increase in salary effective from 1st April 2024 as recommended by NALC & SLCC ii) The Councillors agreed to an increase on the pay scale to Scp 16

85/24 Councillors Reports

Christmas and New Year streetlighting arrangements will be as last year with streetlights on all night on Christmas eve and New Years eve.

The Village sign to be decorated Christmas lights powered by battery. Cllr Braithwaite to organise.

Swingleton Green Noticeboard needs to be replaced. Clerk to ask Cllr Hurren for a price

86/24 Date of the meetings for 2025 – 27th January, 24th March, APM 28th April, 19th

May, 28th July, 22nd September and 24th November

87/24 Date of the Next Meeting

Parish Council Meeting 27th January 2025

The meeting closed at 9.35pm

Appendix 1: Financial Report

MONKS ELEIGH

PARISH COUNCIL

FINANCIAL REPORT 25 NOVEMBER 2024

Schedule of Payments & Receipts from 23 September

2024

Income Received since

23.9.24

2.9.24	Barclays	Interest	71.63
16.9.24	gh Baber	Precept	10,750.00
31.10.24	gh Baber	CIL	24,052.50
			<u>34,874.13</u>

Expenditure (movement since 23.9.24)

Schedule of verified invoices agreed for payment

23.9.24	Playqi p	Zip wire service Insurance	342.00	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9-10
26.9.24	Community Action Suffolk	renewal	700.61	LGA 1972, s111
4.10.24	Go Start	Bus donation	1,000.00	LGA 1972 s137
7.10.24	Community	donation	500.00	LGA 1972 s137
7.10.24	Sudbury CAB	Donation	500.00	LGA 1972 s137
7.10.24	MEV	Donation	500.00	LGA 1972 s137
7.10.24	H	Donation	500.00	LGA 1972 s137
7.10.24	Kernos Centre	Donation	500.00	LGA 1972 s137
7.10.24	Bildeston	Donation	500.00	LGA 1972 s137
7.10.24	Foodbank	Donation	500.00	LGA 1972 s137
7.10.24	MESC	Donation	2,000.00	LGA 1972 s137
7.10.24	AL	Donation	2,000.00	LGA 1972 s137
7.10.24	L	Donation	2,000.00	LGA 1972 s137
7.10.24	Roger s	October wages	588.25	LGA 1972
7.10.24	HMR	October tax	6.60	LGA 1972, s111
7.10.24	C	Doorbell	49.99	LGA 1972
7.10.24	A Braithwaite	camera	49.99	LGA 1972
7.10.24	L	September expenses	25.00	LGA 1972
7.10.24	Roger s	September expenses	25.00	LGA 1972
8.10.24	St Peters church	Donation	600.00	LGA 1972 s137
31.10.24	Hartleys Garden Services	Causeway ditches	750.00	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9-10
31.10.24	Community Action Suffolk	Housing event	60.00	LGA 1972, s111
31.10.24	Alan	Two grit bins	253.94	LGA 1972
31.10.24	Braithwaite	October	360.00	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9-10
7.11.24	Moser Ground	grass cutting	360.00	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9-10
7.11.24	Care	grass cutting	360.00	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9-10

7.11.2024	L Roger s HMR	November wages	588.45	LGA 1972
7.11.24	C L Roger s	November tax	6.40	LGA 1972, s111
7.11.24		October expenses	30.99	LGA 1972
14.11.24	P Crawford Ltd	Clearing ditches	422.47	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9-10
			<u>9,784.70</u>	

Pending Payments

5.9.22	Hadleigh United Reformed Church		10.00	101528	LGA 1972
31.10.24	Hartleys Garden Services	Causeway ditches	750.00		Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9-10
31.10.24	Community Action Suffolk Alan	Housing event	60.00		LGA 1972, s111
31.10.24	Braithwaite Moser Ground	Two grit bins	253.94		LGA 1972
7.11.24	Care L	October grass cutting	360.00		Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9-10
7.11.2024	Roger s HMR	November wages	588.45		LGA 1972
7.11.24	C L Roger s	November tax	6.40		LGA 1972, s111
7.11.24		October expenses	30.99		LGA 1972
14.11.24	P Crawford Ltd	Clearing ditches	422.47		Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9-10
			<u>2,482.25</u>		

Bank Reconciliation

Account	statement date	statement balance	actual balance	credit/trans fers not shown	unpresented cheques/pay ments
Community a/c	31.10. 24	£39,48 2.91	£37,000.66		£2,482.25
Business reserve	31.10. 24	£19,22 5.03	£19,076.10	0.00	£0
		£58,70 7.94	£56,076.76		