

Minutes of the Monxton Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 23rd April 2019 in Monxton Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr M Cleugh – Chairman
Cllr S Dowding – Vice Chairman
Cllr J Balding
Cllr P Kitson
Heather Bourner – Parish Clerk
Test Valley Borough Councillor Mr B Few-Brown
David James- Neighbourhood watch representative
Members of the Public –2

Apologies:

Apologies were sent by Cllr P Weston.

WELCOME.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

None

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

The Chairman signed the minutes of the previous meeting of 12th February 2019 as a true record.

PLANNING.

The following decisions by TVBC were noted:- None

Resolved: that the planning advisory committee's approval on the following applications were endorsed:

19/00533/FULLN- single storey extension and external swimming pool- Paisley House- support

19/000837/LBWN single storey extension & replacement garage Little Cottage- Cllr Cleugh and David James will meet the applicant to discuss the part of the application regarding erecting a wall.

Concerns have been raised and referred to the Environmental Agency enforcement officer as Nelsons Lorries are once again driving through the village. More have been spotted recently however there is currently a road diversion in place.

The Alpine-Penchards out line application has been submitted to TVBC. Abbots Ann Parish Council and several Abbot Ann residents have objected however Monxton Parish Council and several Monxton residents have written letters of support. TVBC outcome is awaited as it likely the application will go before the Northern Area Planning Committee by the end of May 2019.

FINANCE

To note balance in Lloyds bank as at 23/04/19 £21538.60

Resolved: that the following payments be approved and cheques signed

H Bourner salary March & April	£203.74
H Bourner office expenses	£14.00
Sarah Dowding (website)	£75.24

Information Commissioners Office	£40.00
HMRC (Income tax)	£127.80
Thruxton PC lengersman	£104.50
Pandora Technologies (speed sign solar battery)	£828.00
TVBC (Dog waste bin contract)	£345.00
Mike Cleugh (Website)	£75.24

The Clerk noted the National Joint Council recommended increase in Clerks pay rates. She will calculate the impact of these changes on the next salary payment. She also noted the rise in HMRC agreed office expenses to £18.00 per month. These changes will also be reflected in the next Clerks Payments schedule

The accounts to 31/03/2019 were reviewed and discussed. All Cllrs present approved the accounts and asked the Clerk to now submit these to the internal auditor.

The Clerk noted that the first installment of the 19/20 precept had been received.

VILLAGE HALL UP-DATE

Following the decision by the Parish Council not to proceed with building a new village hall villagers were asked for feedback and suggestions as to how to proceed at the recent village clean up event.

One suggestion was to reconfigure the interior to open up the southern aspect and move the services/store room to the rear and remove the stage. Rupert Staines suggested getting a team together to come up with a proposal.

It has been revealed that the oil tank for the hall is corroded and needs replacing according to the survey by the current maintenance company plus the current boiler requires some work to the motor. A quote to replace the oil tank has been obtained for £1,980.00 including VAT however several areas of concern arose regarding this. The current tank was still half full, this would need to be drained and disposed of by a specialist incurring further costs, additional work would also be required to piping etc. Concerns were expressed regarding the impact if the tank were to leak into the paddock owned by Veronic Rushford Lund and the surrounding area which could impact the Pillhill Brook water course.

A previous discussion between the Village Hall Committee had suggested replacing the heating system with an air source heat pump and while this would incur costs would be more effective, environmentally friendly and not require oil to run, the quote obtained was over a year old.

After some discussion it was agreed the Village Hall Committee would regularly inspect the current oil tank for further corrosion to ensure no oil spillage was allowed to incur and hopefully allow the full use of all oil held. A new quote for an air source heat pump would be obtained so a better informed decision could be made to future proof the hall heating system.

ENVIRONMENT AND FOOTPATHS

Cllr J Balding confirmed that a fallen tree on footpath 4 had been cleared by the Lengersman. She noted that footpath 4 from Green Lane to Broad road had once again been ploughed over. Finally, she reported on a new group- The Pillhill Brook Community Catchment Group that covered all villages where the brook was present who were tracking water quality and wildlife in and around the stream.

MONXTON AND AMPORT WEB SITES

Cllr S Dowding confirmed that although she would no longer be a Parish Councillor she would continue to be the webmaster for the Monxton Matters website. She said she had heard nothing about the proposal for a joint website with Amport.

TRAFFIC

Cllr P Weston had sent a report to confirm

- An investment had been made in a solar panel to power the speed sign which will enable long term positioning of the sign without recharge. The Clerk will ensure this included in the Parish Council asset register and on covered by insurance.
- He would like suggestions villagers for locations for long term use (sign post, telegraph pole, sunlight requirement) plus offers to assist moving the machinery.
- Other alternative traffic calming measures available (info from HCC) have almost all been explored.
- A graph had been produced from data regarding the speed of traffic from Cattle Lane leaving the village which showed most vehicles were driving within the speed limits. It was agreed these charts needed to show percentages rather than number of vehicles.

Lengthsman

The Clerk confirmed she had a renewal contract for the Lengthsman Scheme between Monxton Parish Council and Hampshire County Council. Once returned to HCC the funding for Monxton and Thruxton would become available. Cllr Balding signed the agreement on behalf of Monxton Parish Council. The Clerk will obtain a signed contract between Thruxton and Monxton Parish Council as lead for the cluster.

Borough & County Councillor Reports.

No Hampshire County Councillor present.

Test Valley Borough Councillor Mr B Few-Brown confirmed Borough Council elections would take place shortly.

Correspondence

The Clerk gave details she had received regarding registration with the Pensions Regulator. She explained that certain criteria had to be met but that it was not necessary for Monxton Parish Council to open an employee pension scheme. The necessary registration documents will be returned.

The Clerk explained that she had received a letter from TVBC regarding charges for emptying the dog waste bins in 2019/20. She said that there were 3 bins in the parish and to empty them last year had cost the Parish Council £287.50, however TVBC proposed to charge a flat rate of £200.00 per bin from now on. A telephone call to TVBC had established the contract to empty these bins could be cancelled at any time and that bins could be removed by TVBC at a charge. A discussion followed regarding whether the bins were needed and all agreed they were. Those present believed only two of the three bins were necessary and the Clerk was asked to establish how much TVBC would charge to remove one bin.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

A discussion regarding the date for an AGM took place. It was agreed to hold an extra meeting to accommodate this on Tuesday 14th May, 7.30pm at Monxton Village Hall.