

# **MONK SOHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

## **(Draft) Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 held at the Bedfield Community Pavilion**

The meeting commenced at 1900

### **11/21 - 01 Present**

- Graham Wigley (GW - Chairman), David Entwisle (DE – Vice-Chairman), Julian Sayer (JS), Cliff Arndt-Snelling (CAS), Julie Giles (JG), Charles Bagnall (CRB) and Caroline Berkley (CJB)
- Geoff Robinson (GR), as Parish Clerk.

### **11/21 - 02 Apologies for Absence**

- Matthew Hicks (SCC and MSDC Ward Councillor).

### **11/21 - 03 Declaration of Members Interests.**

- Councillors were reminded of the need to notify any changes to their circumstances which may affect their Declaration of Members Interests. None were declared.

### **11/21 - 04 Public Open Session**

- There were no members of the public present.

### **11/21 - 05 Minutes of the Last Meeting (7<sup>th</sup> September 2021)**

- These were agreed and were signed as an accurate record by GW.

### **11/21 - 06 Action Points from the Minutes**

- The triangle between School Road and The Green (near the church) has been repaired.

### **11/21 - 07 Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting (5<sup>th</sup> October 2021) - DC/21/05285 & 05286**

- These were agreed and were signed as an accurate record by GW.

### **11/21 - 08 Action Points from the AVM**

- MSDC had been notified of the Counsellor's views , which have been on the planning Portal.

### **11/21 - 09 Police Report**

- GR stated that the Suffolk Police crime website for the period June to September 2021 showed one recorded crime on Low Road.in August. This was "criminal damage and arson" but no further details are shown.

### **11/21 - 10 Report of District & County Councillor (MH)**

- GR had previously circulated MH's written reports

### **11/21 - 11 Financial Update**

- There have been no receipts since the September meeting, but MSDC had failed to .pay the second half precept. This has been resolved by GR and payment of £1,125.00 is imminent. No other income in the current financial year is expected
- Payments so far since the meeting in September have been £120.00 to Robert Girling for Hungers Green work, £146.57 to CAS in respect of the 2021/22 insurance premium and the Clerk's first half year salary, PAYE, plus expenses amounting to £637.83, £147.45 and £43.08 respectively. In addition a payment of £17.00 to the Royal British Legion was authorized for the Remembrance Sunday wreath.
- GR produced a summary that showed a figure circa £1396.00 would be carried forward to the 2022/23 Financial year, without prejudice to any unforeseen circumstances.

- He also produced estimated income and expenditure figures of £2,265.00 and £,2325.00 respectively for 2022/23 and accordingly, it was unanimously agreed to keep the precept at £2,250.00 for the year.
- GR was still researching a new banking provider to replace HSBC as soon as possible but this was not proving very easy to source.

#### **11/21 - 12 Planning Applications**

- DC/21/03467 (Next to The Old Post Office - One Self-build House). Decision still awaited.
- DC/21/05285 & 6 (Monk Soham Hall – Listed Building alterations) – Granted by MSDC
- DC/21/05324 (Abbey House – Erection of Greenhouse) – Supported and still with MSDC.

#### **11/21 - 13 Countryside Group.**

JG summarised the activities of the Countryside Group and other village environmental issues, the salient points being:

- There had been an increase in caterpillars and mildew on the oak trees at Hungers Green but it is hoped that neither has damaged their long-term wellbeing.
- Robert Girling had cut the Green twice in parts, which served to restrict the spread of creeping thistles. JG to liaise with JS regarding the possibility of using a tines technique in future to improve the general growth on the Green.
- Fifty daffodil bulbs had been donated by Bedfield & Monk Soham Gardening Club and these had been planted next to the village sign, notice board and on Hungers Green.
- Graham Giles, the Tree Warden, was looking to hand over to someone else. JG asked if potential candidates could be made known to her.
- Footpaths in some places remained difficult to use due to excessive farming near or across them. However, the village was lucky to have such an extensive network of footpaths, which are well used.
- The trees and bushes to be supplied under the MSDC recent project would be arriving next week. JG hoped to organise the volunteer parties to plant them and to try and involve the village children in the project as part of an event. JG to liaise with Paula Booth.
- GR confirmed that nothing further had been heard from SCC Highways regarding their network footpath scheme.
- JG concluded by reminded everyone that volunteers to the Group will always be welcome.

#### **11/21 - 14 Other Correspondence and Any Other Business**

- A consultancy paper regarding a review of Lorry Routes within Suffolk had been received and circulated. After a brief discussion, it was decided that no further action would be taken by the Parish Council, as little of it affected the village.
- GR placed an item in the Parish Magazine about dog fouling but it seems to have had little effect. CJB agreed to produce flyers which would be laminated and affixed to posts on footpaths and the highway in the worst areas to see if that improves matters
- GR had reported several potholes around the village, which SCC Highways had responded to relatively quickly. Fly-tipping at Spring Hill (again) had been reported and subsequently removed.
- Details of a digital system being developed by SCC was briefly discussed. The final outcome is unclear so no view was formed by the councillors.

#### **11/21 - 15 Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting was fixed for 1900 Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at the Bedfield Community Pavilion, commencing at 1900.

The meeting closed at 2005.

Signed.....(Chairman)