

## MOLLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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### Draft Minutes for the Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 23<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at 8.00pm

#### **Present:**

Councillor Peter Gorman  
Councillor Phil John (Chairman)  
Councillor Steve Lapper  
Councillor Banister  
Councillor Sullivan  
The Clerk  
Residents and Public – 3

#### **Welcome and introductions**

Members are reminded that this is a meeting in public, not a public meeting, and all points, questions and comments should be addressed through the Chair.

#### **Apologies for Absence**

Received from District Councillors Phil Chapman and Chris Brant.

**Declarations of Interest** *Members are asked to declare any personal interest and the nature of that interest which they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting.*

#### **1159 Minutes of the meeting held 28<sup>h</sup> May 2024 (previously circulated) and Matters arising.**

The minutes had been circulated in advance of the Meeting. It was agreed that there were no matters arising that were not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

#### **1160 Clerks Report Financial Statement**

The Clerk reported that 6 cheques had been raised in the period May to June 2024

755	Elaine Anstee	Internal Audit	150.00	In Budget
756	Thomas Fox	Grass cutting 4+5	647.20	In Budget
757	Clerk	Salary	754.50	In Budget
758	HMRC	PAYE	169.00	In Budget
759	Vision ICT	Website	78.00	In Budget
760	Treetops	Tree work	936.00	In Budget

There was £625.99 VAT outstanding at the end of June 2024 which has not been claimed.

Taking the above into account, the expected bank balance is £22,851.79 which is reconciled to Bank statement sheet No.231 at 30th June 2024. This balance contains the remaining reserves of £2857.50 for Orchard Piece Community Play Area. The General Fund at the end of June stands at £19,994.29.

Resolved: To accept the financial report

## 1161 Consultations

The Parish Liaison meeting was held at Bodicote House on the 12<sup>th</sup> July, and was attended online. The meeting welcomed the new leader of the Council, David Hingley, who is also a parish councillor for Bodicote. He confirmed the future move to offices in Castle Quay, explaining that the premises at Bodicote House were too big and the move would represent a net saving in terms of the outlay of the cost and the running of the building.

Planning and new housing in Cherwell's 5 year plan continues to concern many parish councils. Communication with, and support from, CDC and OCC, and the potential support for parish councils with the introduction of the Oxfordshire Councils (Parish) Charter was also discussed. The flood toolkit for villages is to be updated.

## 1162 Planning matters

### Applications

- **24/01451/AGN Agricultural building** The Yews, Southam Rd *It is recommended that MPC visit the site once a complete application is published*
- **24/01704/DISC Discharge of condition 5 (materials 23/02671/F)** Amenity building, Corner Meadow

### Applications after Agenda Published

- **24/01870/F 13 The Holt** Remove existing garage, new single storey extension to the side and rear *It is recommended that MPC visit the site before commenting on this application*

### Decisions

- **24/01236/TCA Tree works** Puddocks Priors **Permitted**
- **24/01497/TCA Tree works** Garden House Main St **Permitted**
- **24/00711/F Office** Anitas Caravan Site **Permitted**
- **24/01300/OUT Agricultural Worker's Dwelling** Barn Hill, Farnborough Road **Refused**

### Decisions after Agenda Published

- **24/01976/TCA Tree work** Sunnybank Main Street **Permitted**

## 1163 Councillors Reports

### Councillor Banister

Councillor Banister has covered planning matters under the previous agenda item. He further advised that he was seeking ideas for the content of this Autumn's Mollington Matters.

### Councillor John

It was reported that the quiz night was cancelled due to sporting events and will be rescheduled for October. The monthly Munch took place approximately 35 people in attendance and continues to be a popular event in the calendar. The Monday morning Coffee for Community also continues with reasonable attendance.

There is a Cocktail event planned for mid September and posters and Facebook posts will provide more information nearer the time.

The Christmas Fayre is planned for end of November / early December.

Bookings are improving with a focus on family events.

The VH AGM is planned for late August, delayed due to holidays planned by members of the VH committee members. Financial information has been provided to an independent accountant to review the transactions only. Financial statement from banks is also being provided.

Trustee status and areas of responsibility between VH and PC will be discussed and clarity will be the main focus going forward.

Grass cutting continues to be undertaken by Thomas Fox, with discussions ongoing about additional hedge cutting.

Quotations have been received for works at Cow Lane (tree overgrowth), the entrance to Mollington Playing Fields / car park area (tree canopy) and maintenance of Church Lane next to the lamp post.

An OCC subcontractor undertook clearing of an area around the lamp post on Church Lane and this has left an area which is “scruffy” and needs clearing up and future maintenance. Further discussions with OCC are required to agree the scope of responsibilities and ascertain PC cost impacts - PC members will arrange to meet at the site. Other works quoted for to be reviewed and agreed once Church Lane work has been resolved and the ownership of any land in question has been ascertained.

### **Councillor Lapper**

It was reported that following a recent site visit to the Orchard Piece play a proposal was made that the wooden slide structure be removed and the tunnel filled in using the soil and waste from the surrounding mound. This would create a small hill; a small slide could be sourced to add to the existing climbing frame. By removing the wooden structures in the play area, maintenance costs would be reduced.

The wooden bench needs to be permanently fixed into the ground, so that it doesn't get moved to unsafe locations, eg near the swings.

Quotes are to be sourced for hedge trimming and tree work around the edges of the play area, as this has not been done for some time.

A work party will be needed to weed and tidy up the area and to complete as much of the proposed work as possible.

The RoSPA inspection was completed in early July and highlight areas where small maintenance jobs need to be completed – these have been added to the proposed job list.

### **Roads**

There are still two leaks on Main Street which have been reported; one has now been marked up by the allotment. The road surface is continuing to break up which if not repaired soon will become a hazard for cars, bikes etc.

Resolved: To undertake the proposed work in the Orchard Piece Play area, and to use the remaining reserves in the Orchard Play Area Community Fund to enable this work to be done and a new slide to be purchased.

### **Councillor Gorman**

It was reported that the police were able to attend the fete to answer questions on safety and local operations.

A couple of drainage soakaways have been cleaned out in School Hill to improve drainage, but there are no further reports to the ongoing water leakage on Main Street.

The wooden posts have been replaced on the Green, and more will be purchased for the Church Green in due course.

### **Councillor Sullivan**

Councillor Sullivan advised that the only issue regarding Footpaths and Dogs is the footbridge on the path to Warmington, where a plank is missing. This has happened before and has been repaired promptly in the past. Oxfordshire County Council are aware and have put up a sign to the effect that the bridge is damaged, but it isn't clear what they propose to do. The position will be monitored and further information sought.

### **1164 Councillors Points of Interest:**

Clarification is to be sought regarding the role of the Parish Council as Trustee of the Village Hall.

### **1165 Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 24th September 2024 Mollington Village Hall at 8.00pm

### **Parish Council meeting closed at 8.50pm**

Chairman, Mollington Parish Council

### **Public Participation Session**

It was reported that the Fete was a resounding success raising over £4000 towards the Church Restoration Fund. Thank you to the Committee for their hard work in organising this event.

The state of the roads continues to be a concern to residents and is constantly on the agenda of the Parish Council. Pot holes and drainage issues are regularly marked and reported by our “superuser” at FixMyStreet, Bob Wadsworth, which should ensure that they are dealt with promptly. He will try to keep the Parish Council updated with what has been reported and the progress of outstanding tasks.

DRAFT