

The Hennys, Middleton and Twinstead Parish Council

Minutes of the ONLINE meeting held on Monday 14th September 2020 using Zoom

Present:

Parish Cllrs: *Cllr A Lyster (Chairman), Cllr D Holland (vice Chairman),
Cllr T Humphreys, Cllr A Scattergood, Cllr A Burns,
Cllr A Smart, Cllr L Wotton & Cllr M Cracknell*

District Cllr: *Cllr W Scattergood*

Clerk: *Mrs S Boydell*

Members of Public: 1

38.2020/2021 Apologies for absence

Cllr David Finch – apologies accepted

39.2020/2021 Declarations of interest on agenda items

Cllr A Burns & Cllr G Morgan - planning at Lodge Farm

Cllr L Wotton – item 8 and also 14 due to connection with Twinstead Cricket Club

40.2020/2021 Approval of Minutes

Clerk to liaise with Cllr T Humphreys to make some minor alterations for approval.

41.2020/2021 Public Speaking

Member of public discussed phone mast proposal and thanked Parish Council for the response submitted.

42.2020/2021 District/County Councillors Report

This item was moved to later on in the meeting and Cllr W Scattergood notes that she was not in the room when the planning section of the meeting was discussed.

Cllr W Scattergood noted that the Parish Council needs to respond to the Local Plan and also needs to look at available information regarding the Planning White Paper.

Cllr W Scattergood notes that the government required housing number in the district was 716 compared to the Office of National Statistics which was 357 – this is due to the numbers being dealt with in a different way – the Office of National Statistics looks at the number of deaths in 2016, the number of children in the district in 2016 and also immigration.

Cllr W Scattergood confirmed that the HGV issues reported by the Parish Council went to validation and Essex County Council have made the decision not to proceed as the proposed route is considered to potentially create more issues – Cllr W Scattergood suggests the Parish Council dispute the decision and potentially suggest an alternative route.

43.2020/2021 Clerks Report – all items noted.

44.2020/2021 Planning

- a) *20/01436/FUL - no further comments*
- b) *20/00884/HH – PC noted application granted*
- c) *20/00958/FUL – PC unanimously notes conflict of interest so cannot comment*
- d) *20/00828/HH – PC Already supported this application*
- e) *20/00624/FUL – PC has already submitted comments*
- f) *19/00501/FUL – PC has already submitted comments*

The Parish Council noted a new application 20/01436/FUL received regarding a dwelling inhabited by a previous clerk – the PC acknowledges the change of use will go through. Cllr D Holland to respond to this application – Parish Council unanimously agree.

The Parish Council agreed to not respond to application 94/01270/TPO due to the rooks inhabiting the trees.

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45.2020/2021 2020/21 Phone Mast

Cllr D Holland gave thanks to the Parish Council for sanctioning the interim response to a letter to Waldon Telecom, which has now been sent. The proposers of the phone mast have started to write to residents with drawings showing the mast. Cllr Holland suggested going forward that the Parish Council should submit comments where appropriate – thus the Parish Council has written twice (02/09/2020 & 10/09/2020) asking for more information, once being a request for an environmental survey to be conducted; as yet the Parish Council has not had a reply.

Cllr Holland proposed a two stage response; the first stage to listen to the community and learn more to enable a larger picture of the objection to be formed, followed by the second stage; submitting a comment to the consultation. The comment would contain organised policy points and also points raised by the community – this would be a refined and shortened version and to go to the district council.

All Parish Council members were in agreement with Cllr Holland's proposal and it was agreed that Cllr Holland and Cllr Smart would speak to residents regarding the comments on the application.

46.2020/2021 Highways/PROW Maintenance

- a) HGV Vehicles on Pebmarsh Road – Cllr D Holland proposes the Parish Council works together to provide an alternative route and then to submit a revised proposal to Highways – this would also include speaking with local and also nearby district councillors for support.*
- b) Clerk to chase damaged signs and re-report these. The Parish Council are currently organising a solution to flooding near the church with the help of local residents. Cllr Scatter to confirm if any extra insurance is required regarding this work.*
- c) Clerk to liaise with Cllr T Humphreys with regards to Gt Henny to Applecroft bridleway mentioned in the minutes of the last meeting and alter the wording accordingly – the revised minutes to be agreed at the November meeting. It appears that the concrete area at the entrance of the bridle way might be owned by the church – further investigation is required to clarify this.*

47.2020/2021 Parish Upkeep

- Twinstead water pump refurbishment awaiting the end of lockdown.*
- Twinstead notice board refurbishment is awaiting the end of lockdown.*

48.2020/2021 Communication

- a) The Communications & Engagement Policy has been publicised and the next update will be produced when required.*
- b) The Parish Council now has a .gov.uk domain name and emails, therefore email addresses will be provided for all councillors to use for Parish Council work and personal email addresses will no longer be used – this will confirm with GDPR and confidentiality requirements.*

49.2020/2021 Local Government Reform

Parish Council noted that changes will likely be at higher levels and not County, District or Parish levels. Lots of possible issues being discussed but nothing for Parish Council to follow up on – to be added to next agenda.

50.2020/2021 Assets of Community Value (ACVs)

Cllr D Holland proposes discussing village halls at the next meeting, in particular Twinstead Village Hall – Cllr A Smart will work with Cllr Holland regarding this.

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51.2020/2021 Industrial Impacts on our Parishes

Parish Council agreed to remove this item from the agenda and future agendas.

52.2020/2021 Policies & Procedures

a) *Following a discussion amongst the members of Parish Council regarding the list of policies provided by the clerk, it was agreed that Cllr A Scattergood would suggest to the Parish Council which policies from the provided list would not required by the Parish Council due being covered in other policies. Cllr Scattergood will confirm with the Clerk a list of Policies that the Parish Council should have, indicating an order of priority – once this list has been agreed, the Clerk will then provide examples of one or two of the policies to each Parish Council meeting for the Parish Council to then agree to adopt.*

53.2020/2021 Parish Council Finance

- a) *Finance report noted and agreed.*
- b) *The Clerk will be liaising with Cllr T Humphreys regarding updating the financial regulations – once this work has been carried out the new proposed financial regulations will be presented to the Parish Council for agreement.*
- c) *Chairman to chase internet banking applications.*

54.2020/2021 Items for the next agenda

*Phone Mast
HGV Issues
Parish Upkeep
Communication
Local Government Reform
Village Halls
Policies & Procedures
Parish Council Finance*

55.2020/2021 Meeting Dates

To confirm – All Parish Council meetings are still to be held online until otherwise advised by the Government of changes to the new temporary legislation.

*9th November 2020
11th January 2021
8th March 2021
10th May 2021*

56.2020/2021 Clerk's Pension

It was noted that providing a suitable pension scheme is a legal requirement for an employer to offer an employee if the employee meets certain criteria, which the clerk meets. It was noted that as a Local Government Pension Scheme was not specified in the Clerk's contract, that this would not be offered. Cllr A Scattergood & Cllr T Humphreys have been gathering information regarding the pension options available to meet with the requirements and also the financial implications. On behalf of the Parish Council, Cllr's Scattergood and Humphreys will proceed in selecting and implementing a suitable pension scheme for the clerk, who formally requested a company pension on 19th June 2020.

Meeting closed at 9.45pm