

The Hennys, Middleton and Twinstead Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 20th November 2024

Present:

Parish Cllrs: *Cllr D Holland (Chairman), Cllr A Scattergood (Vice Chairman), Cllr M Cracknell, Cllr L Boydell, Cllr T Humphreys. Cllr A Burns Cllr Mo Baker, Cllr A Smart*

District Cllr: *Cllr D Holland*

County Cllr: *none*

Clerk: *none*

Members of Public: two

MINUTES

38.2024/2025 Apologies for absence

Cllr Peter Schwier

39.2024/2025 Declarations of interest on agenda items

Cllr D Holland also District Councillor

Cllr M Baker knows both members of the public

40.2024/2025 Approval of Minutes

All members of the Parish Council present at the last meeting were in agreement with the minutes from the last Parish Council meeting.

ACTION: Clerk to post agreed minutes on website

41.2024/2025 Public Speaking

The two members of the public wished to speak with regard to their planning application, it was agreed to bring this agenda item forward for discussion; the application was for change of use of a building at Middleton Hall Farm in order to allow the to host an MOT Station and grow their business. The building has been a workshop for some time prior to this application and employs 3 members staff and an apprentice, the proposed MOT station will carry out 8 or 9 Mots per day. Questions were asked by the PC about increased traffic on the Middleton Road as a result of this growth; it was explained that at present cars that need an MOT are driven to a local station and this change would eliminate these journeys. The PC gave advice to consider the following points in their application;

- *Clarity is needed over previous use of the building*
- *Has it been a workshop for 10 years or more?*
- *Conversion of an agricultural building to a new use may cause concern with the Planning Department*
- *It might be wise to consult a planning consultant.*

The Parish Council support this application subject to regularisation of the use of the building.

42.2024/2025 District/County Councillors Report

County Councillor Peter Schwier noted in his email giving his apologies that the updates he provides via email should be noted.

District Councillor David Holland reported that much time was being spent on budgets. Spending plans are known year figure should be known followed by one for 3 years. The charge for green bins will remain at £55.00 per annum. There has been great take up of this scheme resulting in an income of £1.6 million against a cost of £850,000.00. This surplus will go towards service provision. Our District Councillor receives an annual allocation of £1,250.00 to be distributed locally. This year it has been donated to the Educational Centre at Dawes Hall. Police spending has focused on hate crime, domestic violence and violence against women whilst burglary appears to be unaddressed. Police communication with the public is riddled with 'new speak' making it difficult to understand the points they are trying to put across.

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43.2024/2025 Clerks Report

Report noted

44.2024/2025 Planning – *Including Current Planning Applications for objection or approval*

- a) *National Grid – Roads leading to Wickham St Paul are covered in mud. It has been reported by Dh, if there is no response then a letter will be sent reminding them of their duties. A road sweeper supplied by Braintree DC has been seen on the affected roads.*
- b) **Self Building Scheme - Outline planning application with all matters reserved for 2no residential dwellings**
*Meadow View Lower Road Middleton Essex CO10 7NS
Ref. No: 24/02144/OUT
This planning item is only for outline planning consent covering access and the principals of the development. Environmental have concerns about hedgerow removal. Highways have concerns about road safety and visibility.
The Parish Council strongly object as the application is contrary to the local plan.*
- c) *Old Applecroft – No comment*
- d) *Henny Cottage – No further comment*

45.2024/2025 Highways Issues

No change, shocking road conditions continue.

46.2024/2025 Village Items

Defibrillators in Middleton – It is not practical to provide more defibrillators unless funding can be arranged for purchase and maintenance. There is also demand in Twinstead and Great and Little Henny. Unfortunately our precept is not large enough to cover these requests.

To consider pond restoration funded by Natural England.

47.2024/2025 Policies / Contracts For Review

- a) *Emergency Plan – move to next meeting - Clerk*
- b) *Financial Regulations – move to next meeting - Clerk*
- c) *Risk Assessments – move to next meeting – Clerk & Cllr Smart*
- d) *Asset Register – move to next meeting - Clerk*
- e) *Contractors – move to next meeting - Clerk*

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48.2024/2025 Parish Council Finance

a) All payments noted.

The following payments have been met prior to meeting:

18/09/24	Direct Debit	Payment to NEST Pension (employer & employee)	£75.91
18/09/24	Bank Transfer	Clerk's Salary September 2024	£655.27
18/09/24	Bank Transfer	Clerk expenses July & August	£46.55
25/09/24	Direct Debit	Payment to NEST Pension (employer & employee)	£75.91
04/10/24	Direct Debit	Monthly Payroll	£10.80
08/10/24	Direct Debit	Tesco monthly phone bill	£10.48
18/09/24	Direct Debit	Payment to NEST Pension (employer & employee)	£75.91
24/10/24	Bank Transfer	Clerk's Salary October 2024	£655.47
06/11/24	Direct Debit	Monthly Payroll	£10.80
08/11/24	Direct Debit	Tesco monthly phone bill	£10.48
18/11/24	Bank Transfer	Clerk expenses September & October	£25.85
20/11/24	Direct Debit	Payment to NEST Pension (employer & employee)	£75.91

The following payments have been received prior to meeting:

26/09/24	Direct Debit	Braintree District Council – 2 nd half precept	£5,910.00
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b) *To consider and review budget overview – discussions around the budget, this will be finalised at the January 2025 meeting*

49.2024/2025 Items for next agenda

50.2024/2025 Meeting Dates

16th January 2025
TBC 13th March 2025
TBC 8th May 2025