

The Hennys, Middleton and Twinstead Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 16th January 2025

Present:

Parish Cllrs: *Cllr D Holland (Chairman), Cllr A Scattergood (Vice Chairman),
Cllr M Cracknell, Cllr L Boydell, Cllr A Smart, Cllr S Pinelli*

District Cllr: *Cllr D Holland*

County Cllr: *none*

Clerk: *Shelley Boydell*

Members of Public: *none*

MINUTES

48.2024/2025 Apologies for absence

Cllr Peter Schwier, Cllr Mo Baker, Cllr A Burns

49.2024/2025 Declarations of interest on agenda items

Cllr D Holland also District Councillor

Cllr D Holland 7b) as friends / neighbours, therefore has a non-pecuniary interest

50.2024/2025 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*

51.2024/2025 Public Speaking

none

52.2024/2025 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. It was discussed that a number of areas may merge under the devolution proposal and political change is likely – it was noted that this is a big deal and the County Council are driving this change with the consultation currently open – everyone is urged to look at this.

Cllr David Holland – the District Council is well through the budgeting process. The waste collection consultation is now open and everyone is urged to have a look – provision for households to have more bins located on their property might be required. Cllr Holland suggested that neutral-coloured bins with coloured lids to differentiate would not be as unsightly as the proposed full colour bins. The local plan development process continues.

53.2024/2025 Clerks Report

Report noted and processes discussed, including; email monitoring 2-3 times per week; planning comments submitted the evening of the meeting or the following day; draft minutes circulated within a week of the meeting. Contact list has been updated.

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54.2024/2025 Planning – Including Current Planning Applications for objection or approval

a) *National Grid – no update*

b) *New secondary access from road to existing detached house*

Conifers Church Road Twinstead Essex CO10 7NA

Ref. No: 24/02531/HH

The Parish Council supports this application. The secondary access will create greatly improved vision splay and enable the homeowners and visitors to safely exit the property forwards, without the need to reverse onto the road.

Solar farm discussion – it was discussed that the visual impact on landscape character caused by Solar Farms can be mitigated through the early installation of screening hedgerows.

Ref. No: 24/02144/OUT\Self Building Scheme - Outline planning application with all matters reserved for 2no residential dwelling. Meadow View Lower Road Middleton Essex CO10 7NS
Application refused 4th December 2024

Ref. No: 24/02355/COUPA Middleton Hall Farm planning for change of use to Commercial use for a Car Servicing / MOT Centre– this has been refused, however, if this application is put in again as change of use, as it has been working as a garage for 10+ years, the Parish Council would support this.

Ref. No: 24/01800/COUPA Confirmation of Permitted Development Rights application. Application for prior approval for the change of use of agricultural building to a dwellinghouse (Class C3), and for associated operational development - Change of use to 1 No. residential dwellings.,\Earlham's Losh House Lane Great Henny Essex CO10 7LX
Prior Approval Required and Given by Braintree District Council
Consent granted 12th November 2024

55.2024/2025 Highways Issues

Highways are improving roads by replacing some road signs.

Cllr Cracknell reported the road up to Applecroft was flooded and he notices lots of flashing lights, upon inspection there were 3 vans, 6 men, including an elderly gentleman in his 70s at the location, but they were unable to do anything due to not having wellington boots.

Light pollution causing potential hazard on roads from nearby properties was discussed, whilst also noting how light pollution can negatively impact wildlife, including rare bats.

56.2024/2025 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.

Co-option of Great Henny Parish Councillor – The Parish Council co-opted Sally Pinelli as the new Parish Councillor to replace Cllr T Humphreys.

HMTPC's application for a speed restriction on Henny Road was submitted in January 2024 and chased by Cllr Holland December 2024. Highways have requested the location for a speed survey to be carried out – this information has been provided and the PC are now waiting for this to be carried out and reported back to the Parish Council.

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57.2024/2025 Village Items No items for discussion.

58.2024/2025 Policies / Contracts For Review

- a) *Emergency Plan – approved with minor changes*
- b) *Financial Regulations – approved*
- c) *Risk Assessments – approved with minor changes*
- d) *Asset Register – move to next meeting – approved with minor changes*
- e) *Contractors – approved current internal auditor, payroll and grass cutting contractor.*

59.2024/2025 Parish Council Finance

- a) All payments noted.

The following payments have been met prior to meeting:

05/12/24	Direct Debit	Monthly Payroll	£10.80
09/12/24	Direct Debit	Tesco monthly phone bill	£10.48
20/12/24	Bank Transfer	Henny Parish Room 2024 Annual Village Hall Grant	£85.00
20/12/24	Bank Transfer	Middleton PCC 2024 Litter Picking	£150.00
20/12/24	Bank Transfer	PCC Twinstead 2024 Churchyard Maintenance Grant	£70.00
20/12/24	Bank Transfer	Liverton Grass Cutting	£120.00
20/12/24	Bank Transfer	Clerk's Salary December 2024	£682.79
20/12/24	Bank Transfer	Twinstead Village Hall 2024 Village Hall Grant	£85.00
20/12/24	Bank Transfer	Twinstead Village Hall 2024 Litter Picking	£150.00
08/10/24	Direct Debit	Tesco monthly phone bill	£10.48

- b) *Budget overview considered and precept demand amount was agreed at £12,195.20, which is a 3% increase to allow for increased costs.*

60.2024/2025 Items for next agenda

61.2024/2025 Meeting Dates

13th March 2025

TBC 8th May 2025 Parish Council Meeting and Annual General Meeting