

# Mount Bures Parish Council

Approved Minutes of Mount Bures Parish Council Meeting held remotely through the use of Video Conferencing as permitted by the Coronavirus Act 2020 on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020. The meeting started at 7.30pm.

Notice: Under the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014, members of The Public and Press were welcome to be present and to raise any issue pertinent to items on the Agenda also filming and or recording of this meeting was open to members of the press and public.

Reference	Description
20/47	<p><b><u>Welcome by Chairman</u></b>            Cllr Woodman, Chairman welcomed Cllrs O'Neill, Graham, Baird and Bufton and also Ward Cllr Chillingworth.</p>
20/48	<p><b><u>Declaration of Interests</u></b>            There were no Interests Declared.</p>
20/49	<p><b><u>Confirmation of Minutes</u></b>            Cllr Baird proposed and Cllr Graham seconded that the Minutes of 9<sup>th</sup> September 2020 were a true reflection of the Business Conducted and all agreed.</p>
20/50	<p><b><u>Public Participation session with Respect to Items on the Agenda and Other Matters that are Mutual Interest</u></b>            Although there were no members of the public present a resident had sent in a complaint which the Chairman considered would be best addressed under correspondence received later on the Agenda.</p>
20/51	<p><b><u>Ward Councillor's address</u></b> Cllr Chillingworth had submitted a written report for the meeting but felt that he should address the issues around the Gliding Club which had been raised at the previous meeting. He said that planning officials had clarified that on the day that a member of the public had complained about the use of powered aircraft the club had informed the Borough Council that they were holding one of the four 'power days' allowed under planning consents. This meant they were not governed by the constraints imposed on Touring Motor Gliders. Cllr Bufton asked if anyone knew how many Tow Planes the club were allowed as a number of light aircraft had been seen on the airfield on the day in question. (Post meeting note: Cllr Chillingworth subsequently clarified that there is no restriction under the planning consents on the number of tow planes that can be used.) Cllr Baird noted that it is the noise of the Tow Planes climbing to the necessary height while over houses that seems to cause the greatest concern and that the Tow Plane seems to be labouring to achieve the height needed. In discussion it was noted that concerns over noise or low flying might be matters for the Borough Council environmental protection team or the CAA and residents could contact these organisations if they wished to do so. Cllr Chillingworth asked if the situation was getting worse. Cllrs noted that they had only received one complaint from a member of the public and that the problem might be most acute for the relatively small number of houses directly under the flight path of the aircraft.             The Chairman suggested that the Council might engage with the Gliding club to build a relationship between them and village residents. Cllrs noted that it appeared that</p>

	<p>the Gliding Club had informed Colchester Borough Council of their power days as per the planning conditions and that it would be helpful if CBC could pass this information on to Mount Bures Parish Council so that it could be shared around the village ensuring people were forewarned. Cllr Chillingworth undertook to take this up with Council officers.</p>
<b>20/52</b>	<p><b><u>Review of Assets</u></b></p> <p>The Clerk apologised for failing to send the complete set of documents in respect of Assets however Cllr O'Neill was able to share his screen whereupon the council could see the monetary value attributed to each of the Parish's assets for insurance purposes.</p> <p>The Physical Risk Assessment Checklist for 2020/21 was completed verbally over the call to enable Council to have an understanding of what funds should be attributed to the assets when setting the budget later.</p> <p>The Clerk apprised the council of the state and condition of the Laptop and the Printer in preparation for a new Clerk to take over. It was unanimously agreed that the Laptop would have a sort of MOT to check for any possible issues.</p>
<b>20/53</b>	<p><b><u>Set the Budget</u></b></p> <p>The Clerk had pre-prepared a draft budget in order to assist the council. The Chairman worked his way through each item in agreement with the Cllrs and the budget was partially set. The outstanding element of the budget was the Clerk's salary. The current Clerk does not pay NI or Pension contributions and it was felt that the Council should establish an estimate of what future costs might be. Cllr O'Neill offered to investigate what might be required.</p> <p>The total budget requirement without NI allocation and or Pension contributions equates to £3830.</p>
<b>20/54</b>	<p><b><u>Chairman's Report</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Chairman informed Council that for personal reasons the Clerk had tendered her resignation with effect from 18 October and her last working day would be 18 February. There would be an opportunity formally to thank the Clerk for her work with the Council at the Council meeting in January. A job advert for a successor had been agreed and had been circulated by EALC and to Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC). He asked that Cllrs consider if they know of anyone who might want to become MBPC Clerk</li> <li>2. Cllr Woodman referred to the Planning White Paper. Consultation on the White Paper had ended at the end of October. He had seen what he considered to be a very balanced response by the Rural Community Council of Essex. He had submitted a personal response supporting some of the ideas around using digital technology to enhance participation in the planning process but raising a number of concerns about other elements which appeared to diminish local participation in planning decisions. Cllr Chillingworth informed the Council that the Officers and the Administration – Cross Party - had drafted a very robust but negative response and a motion was put which was voted for unanimously asking all MP's to put their weight behind improving the proposals. Cllr Chillingworth said that the proposed Housing Need algorithm would increase housebuilding in the Borough by 60%.</li> </ol>

	<p>3. EALC – Cllr Woodman said that regrettably he had not been able to participate in the EALC AGM which had been held virtually and therefore could not report back on anything to do with it but hoped to be in receipt of the minutes shortly.</p> <p>4. The village held a Remembrance Sunday Event in full compliance of Covid-19 rules ensuring all involved were socially distanced with a minimal number of participants. A number of villagers had watched from a distance.</p>
<b>20/55</b>	<p><b><u>Clerk’s Report</u></b></p> <p>Earlier the Clerk had circulated an email from a resident complaining about Fireworks being set off without due consideration to animals. The Council felt that it might be that residents need to be reminded that if they intend setting off Fireworks in their back gardens then it would be helpful if they informed their neighbours of same. This could be communicated via the Mount or via the Village WhatsApp Group. The Council recognised that residents should realise that there would be fireworks on 5<sup>th</sup> November and take necessary precautions.</p> <p>Cllr Baird took the opportunity to inform Council that he had spoken to the police about drivers speeding through the village, his complaint was passed to the traffic Police but to date nothing has happened.</p>
<b>20/56</b>	<p><b><u>Planning Register</u></b></p> <p>202396 – Mrs Lisa Spence, Hush Wing Farm, formerly, Meadow Green Farm, Mount Bures Road, Wakes Colne Colchester CO6 2AP, Alteration to size &amp; shape of manege, additional parking area, new path between hardstanding &amp; manege; extension to mound &amp; planting on East boundary to originally consented application 200694.</p> <p>There was a lengthy discussion concerning the footpath that runs through the farm yard of Hammonds Farm which still does not have the appropriate signage which had been agreed with ECC Cllr Brown and Mr Laurence Page. Without the appropriate signage the council feels that insufficient heed is being paid to Health&amp; Safety. The Clerk was tasked with following the matter up with Cllr Brown and Mr Page. With regard to the planning application it was felt that that the shielding had to be appropriate with regard to the size of the plot and that if the proposed mound was of the correct height with trees on the top then this would be an appropriate level of shielding from what could be described as not attractive farm buildings.</p>
<b>20/57</b>	<p><b><u>To Receive, mend and or agree Mount Bures:-</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Code of Conduct</li> <li>2. Electronic Communications</li> <li>3. Complaints</li> <li>4. GDPR – this item was cancelled since much of GDPR is held in the above Documents</li> </ol> <p>It was agreed that the Clerk and the Chairman would go through the documents and merge where appropriate and possible and then would circulate the documents for the next meeting in January2021</p>
<b>20/58</b>	<p><b><u>Financials</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Confirm changes to bank signatories</li> </ol> <p>Cllr Baird informed the Council that he was experiencing severe problems with accessing and downloading the correct forms, having made 3 attempts he was fast coming to the end of his tether. The Chairman offered to help even if it meant downloading a blank form, completing it the old-fashioned way and taking it into the</p>

	<p>bank.</p> <p>2. To accept Payment Schedule as per attached and Bank Balances The payment schedule was accepted by all as were the Bank Balances and although it was agreed to transfer funds from the Current Account the signatories of the Business Reserve account were unknown. It was agreed therefore that no money would be transferred until such time as the signatories had been checked and updated if necessary.</p> <p>1. Copy of Expenditure and Income Statement. This was received unanimously by the council.</p>
<b>20/59</b>	The Chairman reminded all that the next meeting was 13 <sup>th</sup> January 2021 and then closed the meeting at 21.26

*Signed by* .....*Chairman*

*Date* .....

