

MONXTON PARISH COUNCIL – 21 JANUARY 2025 @ 7.30 PM

VENUE - MONXTON VILLAGE HALL

MINUTES OF MEETING

<p>Welcome & Apologies</p>	<p>Attendees:- Mike Cleugh – Chair Hugh Corroon – Vice Chair Cathy Barbone – Councillor Camilla Elmwel – Councillor Rupert Staines – Councillor Suzanne Hasselman – Test Valley BC Councillor Karen Nadin – Clerk</p> <p>Apologies:- Councillor Chris Donnelly – Hampshire CC Councillor Maureen Flood – Test Valley BC</p>	
<p>Declarations of Interest</p>	<p>None</p>	
<p>Members of the Public</p>	<p>Paul Bench – update on Black Swan car park Judy Bench – update on village hall booking system</p>	
<p>Minutes of Previous Meeting – sign off & any matters arising</p>	<p>Minutes of meeting held on 8th October 2024 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.</p>	
<p>Reports:-</p>		
<p>Village Hall Update</p>	<p>Cllr Cleugh advised that the rebuild of the village hall is progressing well and is expected to open for public use by the end of March 2025.</p> <p><u>Financial Update:-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current funding deficit approx £25K • Balance of 5% to be paid to Huttons Builders 6 months after handover date – approx £25k • MPC/MAVH cash in bank £46K incl £7K reserves <p>Major items still required:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toilets - wall tiles/tiling £2K • Kitchen/installation - £13.2K • Second fix electrics £6.8K • Second fix plumbing/sanitary ware £3K • Internal wood works £4K • Hard Landscaping FOC donated by Kieron Beattie Landscaping 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PA System/CCTV/Alarm system FOC donated by Mickey Opacic <p><u>Grant Applications Update:-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSE – solar equipment £17,345.00 100% funding received 09/01/25 • REPF – ASHP grant awarded £7,824.52 (75%) funding received Dec 24 • REPF Kitchen, Tiles, Lighting £17,225 (75%) not funded • Current CAF grant application (Tiles & Tiling) £10K, 50% of £20K (now received) <p><i>Cllr Cleugh requested £3,000 be released from the reserves in case this is required to finish the fit out of the village hall. This leaves £4000 in the reserves. All approved.</i></p> <p><u>Ongoing Work</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Octopus account – Export requested, import tariff reduced by approx 60% • Water account Business Stream (SW) needs water meter installing. • New Treasurer required (ideally from Amport) • Events/PR manager required – Judy Bench may have someone interested. Discussion ongoing. • Target opening March 2025 subject to funding, donations, grants & potentially some soft loans. • Appointment of new trustees & committee members required. • Demo of the booking system by Judy Bench – there are a couple of issues to iron out on the system and some clarification on pricing structure etc, but system will be going live shortly. <p>On a separate note Cllr Cleugh updated that the Tesla Powerwall activated during the powercut on 20th January and the village hall still had power – great to know that this works as it should do.</p>	
<p>Planning Applications & Updates since last meeting</p>	<p>24/02369/FULLN – erection of dwelling on former car park – Black Swan former car park – application is still current and Cllr Cleugh advised that he had been informed by TVBC Cllr Flood that the application would be called to Planning Committee (Northern Area). He advised that this would allow the PC to attend and comment/object on the planning application. Paul Bench updated the meeting that there may be a possibility that SSE have a way-leave over a large part or all of the car park in relation to the power sub-station</p>	<p>ACTION</p> <p>Cllr Cleugh to contact SSE to establish whether they have a way-leave over the</p>

	<p>at the rear bordering the Pill Hill Brook which would need to be highlighted as part of any representation at the Northern Area Planning Committee. Any vehicle required to bring in replacement sub station at some point in the future would need to be a certain size/type and would need a large area in order to manoeuvre as required.</p> <p>24/02549/50 FULLN – repair & replace existing boundary wall – Monxton Manor, Amport Road – no objection from PC - Refused by TVBC – going through appeal process.</p> <p>24/02963/FULLN – Remove conservatory, add rear extension, replace windows and doors, removal of door & window – The Willows, High Street – No objections from PC</p> <p>25/00074/CLPN – Cert of proposed lawful development for single storey rear extension – Upper Mill House, Andover Road – No objections from PC</p> <p>24/02463/TREEN - tree works – Newcott, Amport Road – No objections/comments from PC – Permission granted by TVBC</p> <p>24/02575/TREEN – tree works – Holly House, Green Lane – No objections/comments from PC – Permission granted by TVBC</p> <p>24/02640/TREEN – tree works – The Old Cottage, Abbots Ann Road – No objections from PC – Permission granted by TVBC</p> <p>24/02852/TREEN – tree works – Windemere House, Chalkpit Lane – No objections from PC</p> <p>Discussion took place around whether notice of tree works require Parish Council discussion – was decided that it was useful to have sight of them and opportunity to comment to TVBC although understood that unless a TPO is placed on the tree unlikely to be any grounds for objection.</p>	<p>entire car park.</p>
<p>Finance & Admin Reports</p>	<p><u>Finance Report</u></p> <p>The Clerk summarised Parish Council finances 2024/25 (as at 20th January 2025):-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balance in bank accounts 1st April 2024 - £90,208.25 • Total Income since 1st April 2024 - £270,559.54 • Total Expenditure since 1st April 2024 - £319,835.39 • Balance in bank accounts - £40,932.40 	

	<p>Cllr Cleugh highlighted the fact that once the village hall build was complete the amounts of income & expenditure would be greatly reduced as there won't be the same high levels of grants, donations, building costs etc that we have seen over the last couple of years.</p> <p>It was also confirmed that the Village Hall have their own separate bank accounts. Monies in relation to the running of the village hall will not be seen coming in/out of the Parish Council bank accounts and the VH accounts are managed separately by their own Treasurer (post to be filled).</p> <p><u>Admin Report</u></p> <p>Last year the Parish Council agreed to commit to using a dedicated email hosting platform (one.com) rather than continuing to use personal email addresses for council business and a new website hosting platform (Hugo Fox). One of the reasons behind this decision was that it had become difficult to update the old Monxton Matters website. In the meantime both the village hall and the Pill Hill Pan Parish Forum have also set up their own dedicated websites but continue to also post on the Monxton Matters website. In order to streamline the process we need to establish the best way forward both from an administrative perspective and for members of the public to navigate their way around important community information. The Parish Council are currently paying for domain names and hosting via 2/3 different platforms.</p> <p>Expert advice to be sought on the best way forward & further discussion to take place between relevant parties. Cllr Staines mentioned that an Amport resident Mark Barrett built websites and it was agreed that contact would be made with him for some advice.</p>	<p>ACTION Cllr Staines speak to Mark Barratt for advice</p>
<p>Environment</p>	<p>Cllr Cleugh updated those present on the pumping station failure that occurred on Monday 20th January. This failure caused issues near the pumping station at the junction of Chalkpit Lane and Monxton High Street/Andover Road and potential pollution to gardens nearby and into the Pill Hill Brook for which both Southern Water and, in line with protocols, the Environment Agency will be investigating further. There was also a flooding issue at Manor Farm on Abbots Ann Road once the power was reinstated at approx 1pm that day. It has been established that Southern Water were advised of the planned electricity outage by SSEN in November 2024 (both by phone & email) – discussion will take place at Pill Hill Pan Parish Forum (PPPF) meeting on</p>	

	<p>Wednesday 22nd January as to why plans had not been put in place that could have prevented this happening. This previously scheduled meeting includes senior members of management of Southern Water and members of the PPPF, along with Parish Council Chairs. Cllr Cleugh will represent owners of Monxton Mill who's garden and driveway were flooded.</p>	
<p>Sunnybank, Footpaths & Lengthsman</p>	<p>Cllr Barbone provided an update on ongoing costs for Shaun Rushton gardener – spending for this financial year is currently at approx £2k and is likely to be nearer £2300 by end of the financial year. As there is no opportunity to request an increase in the Lengthsman income (will be remaining at £1k next year).</p> <p><i>Council agreed that we would need to budget nearer £2500 for these costs during the next financial year.</i></p>	<p>ACTION Clerk to note on budget plan for 2025/26</p>
<p>Traffic Monitoring</p>	<p>Cllr Elwell updated the meeting on the data taken from the Sunny Bank, as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Max Speed – 75mph 16/01 20.30! • Peak weekday traffic times remain 9-10am (av 96 vehicles) and 4-5pm (av 92 vehicles) • Highest 85th percentile speeds (40+ mph) – early hours of the morning, obviously tiny volume • Medium volume but next highest 85th percentile speeds 7-8am 38/39 mph. Over 50% of vehicles speeding. • Highest number of speeders in peak hours, around 36% vehicles speeding but 85th percentile speed 34mph (which is as low as it gets). <p>Discussion took place around potential use of speed guns – in the past members of the community have been verbally abused whilst undertaking Community Speedwatch activities. Cllr Elwell to consider requesting Hampshire Constabulary to send out speed enforcement officer during peak hours. Data from the speed sign at Sunny Bank can be used as evidence in this request.</p>	<p>ACTION Cllr Elwell to contact Hants Police with data & request</p>
<p>HCC & TVBC Reports</p>	<p>Cllr Hasselman provided update as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hampshire County Council have applied to be on the priority list for Devolution - this should be confirmed by the end of January. Whether they are on the priority list or not there will be lots of work taking place during 2025 and many departments will be the subject of 	

	<p>reorganisation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been a proposal made to delay all County Council elections until 2026 for this reason. This is yet to be confirmed. • Cllr Chris Donnelly (although not able to attend this meeting in person) will be holding a briefing meeting for all Parish Councils on the Devolution process date to be confirmed possibly early February – details of which will be sent to the Clerk when known. • Cllr Chris Donnelly had sent an email confirming that some overnight closures of the A303 for resurfacing would be taking place but that Monxton would no longer be a planned diversion route for this. 	
Council Tax Precept Requirement	<p>TVBC have requested our proposed figure for precept for the next financial year 2025/26. Form to be completed and returned by 31st January 2025. Considerations:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last year's precept figure was £8000 • Precept is paid in 2 x equal instalments in April and September 2025 • Clerk advised estimated cost of running Monxton Parish Council for the financial year 2025/26 is £9000 (excluding any emergency/additional works) • Lengthsman Income is £1000 pa (There is no opportunity to request any increase at this time) <p><i>Following discussion Cllr Cleugh proposed we request a 10% increase in precept for the coming financial year ie increasing last year's £8000 to £8800. All agreed.</i></p>	<p>ACTION Clerk to complete return requesting precept amount of £8800 for financial year 2025/26</p>
Any Other Business	<p>Community Right to Bid (in relation to village green) update:-</p> <p>Cllr Elwell advised that no response had yet been received but that she would chase this up. Cllr Hasselman will also request a response.</p>	<p>ACTION Cllr Hasselman & Cllr Elmwell to chase up a response</p>
Date of Next Meeting & Close	<p>The next meeting will be due to take place in April 2025 and will also be the AGM. Clerk will look to get dates booked for remainder of 2025 in order to secure village hall for these via the village hall bookings system.</p>	<p>ACTION Clerk to arrange 2025 meetings</p>