

MENDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING – 22ND JUNE 2015

MINUTES

1. The chairman, Denis Pye, welcomed councillors Jimmy Kent, Tony Dawson, Kathy Ferrar, Peter Lee and Mark Shortt. Apologies were received from Richard Mattocks and Julie Honeybourne, also Lavinia Hadingham [MSD councillor]. The clerk, Caroline Cardwell, was in attendance. Three members of the public were present. The chairman expressed the thanks of everyone to Jimmy Kent and Tony Dawson for trimming up overgrown verges and making the lanes safer.
2. **Declarations of interest** – Mark Shortt with reference to item 8.
3. **Registers of interest** – the clerk informed councillors that the system used by MSDC to log on registers for all councillors, required the clerk to “approve” and click publish, after having checked the entries – the clerk told councillors that she had just clicked “publish” without any checking as she felt it was not her role to do this and registers are the responsibility of each councillor to provide accurate information.
4. **Have Your Say [Public Forum]** – there was a general discussion about the intended track racing event at Withersdale Street on Mr. Pretty’s land. The proposed event had caused a huge increase in traffic, noise and lots of people camping and had been cancelled on health and safety grounds. The chairman had contacted the police and it is legal to hold such races; however the noise nuisance and traffic problems were a matter of great concern and it is hoped that there will not be a recurrence of this type of entertainment. Councillors thanked the chair for gathering information and contacting police etc.
5. **Minutes of the previous meeting** [13-05-15] were approved and signed as a true record.
6. **Matters arising** – the old car had been removed from the council car park.

The meeting was closed briefly [7.45pm] for Colin Herbert to report on plans for the proposed Mendham Past and Present booklet.

7. Finances

- Balances as follows: C/acct [29-05-15] – £10,671.39; Sav/acct [25-03-15] – £3,967.54; **Total assets - £14,638.93**
- Cheques were approved as follows: - 078 – SALC [sub] – 243.00; 079 – MSDC [bin emptying] – 90.00; 080 - Six Sense [flyer] 12.00; 081 - Town and Country Printers - £100 [newsletter]

- Internal audit report [Heelis and Lodge] received and recommendations noted
- External audit [BDO Annual Return] – completed and annual governance statement signed.
- Internal financial controls and risk management – clerk presented papers detailing these plans, they were approved and signed.

8. Planning –

- 1361/15: Upper Barn, Mundy's Lane – councillors had no objection
- 1538/15: Walsham Hall – councillors had visited the site on the 20th June and had no objections to the proposed plans
- 008/15
- Alfred Munnings Hotel – *[Mark Shortt left the room]* - fish and chip sign, new – councillors discussed this and agreed that it was more suitable for a shop than for a hotel – the clerk to contact MSDC Planning Office and seek advice; the hotel owner had been contacted - he did not feel a change would be appropriate. After further discussion, councillors considered the possibility of registering the pub as a community asset – clerk to inquire about process. *[Mark Shortt returned]*
- Village Hall sign – this was commented on as being also very large – however it had been paid for by advertisers but councillors wondered if the size was really appropriate.

9. War memorial – the addition of WWII names was discussed and the need for accuracy considered most important; thanks were given to Colin Herbert for his excellent research and Tony Dawson would help to finalise the list of names; there was no problem about room on the memorial.

10. Phone Box [ex BT] – this is now owned by the parish council and councillors asked for an “ideas” flyer to be put in Six Sense for its future use. Clerk asked to add it to the insurance policy.

11. Village History – proposed booklet Past and Present – *[meeting closed for Colin Herbert to outline plans – 8.30pm]* – sample pages were shown to councillors; the project had grown with additional information found in Alfred Munnings Diary. About 100/150 copies were proposed and various options for funding and whether it should be free to villagers etc were discussed. Clerk asked to check for possible grants; however there was a time factor as the Mill in Mendham was having an open day (19 Sept) and it was hoped to have it ready by then. *[Meeting opened at 8.45pm]* Councillors asked the clerk to find out if it was within the council's powers to fund or partly fund this project.

12. Correspondence – received and discussed

13.Any other business - Kathy Ferrar gave a report on the Community Council's plans for the forthcoming events; after roadworks were completed on Sconch Beck Hill, it was hoped the sweeper lorry would go round, clerk to ask Highways, and also contact again re potholes in Mendham Rd.

14.Next meeting – 27th July 2015.