

MONKS ELEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 9th MAY 2018

The Parish Council Meeting was held on 9th May 2018 at 7.30pm in the United Reformed Church Hall, Monks Eleigh. Chairman Cllr J Clarke welcomed the following Parish Councillors – C Eames and P Day.

In accordance with the changes in legislation, the public and councillors were permitted to film, record, photograph or use social media in order to report on the proceedings of the Meeting, subject to complying with certain provisions. ***A full transcript of the statement is available from the Parish Clerk upon request.***

(For information- this meeting followed a meeting with public present to discuss the Asset of Community Value status of both The Swan Inn and the Community Shop which was attended by 46 parishioners (excluding the Parish Councillors in attendance – Cllrs Clarke, Day and Eames) . That earlier meeting was attended also by Stephanie Osborne Communities Officer of Babergh District Council and Ann Hunter, Corporate Manager for Communities of Babergh District Council.)

1. Apologies for absence

- i. Apologies for absence – Cllrs P Derry, D Reynolds and Forrest (County Councillor Robert Lindsay and District Councillor Clie Varthey had also sent their apologies)
- ii. Cllrs consented to accept the apologies of the absent Parish Councillors listed above..

2. To receive Members' Declarations of Interest

- i. No disclosures of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests for the agenda under discussion
- ii. No declarations of gifts of hospitality;
- iii. No requests for dispensation for pecuniary interests.

3. Public Forum

~~Forty six~~Forty-six members of the public had been present at the meeting that took place immediately prior to the Parish Council meeting, three of whom only stayed for the Parish Council meeting. Views had been expressed by members of the public at that earlier meeting as per note attached and those were taken into account by the Parish Council at this meeting.

4. Consideration of Assets of Community Value with regards to the community shop and the Swan public house

In accordance with the earlier meeting Councillor Clarke proposed that she or the Clerk should write to Richard Clark of Suffolk Country Inns Limited after the meeting confirming that as she had reported to the meeting that Suffolk Country Inns had buyers for the pub who are keen to proceed with their purchase of it, to run it, we are told as an owner occupied business, that the villagers who had attended the meeting had voted unanimously not to submit a Notice of Intention to Bid for the pub.

Furthermore, as Suffolk Country Inns Limited had offered to grant an extended lease of five years to MECSAL that committee did not wish to submit a bid for the freehold of the shop premises, and no one else had expressed the wish to do so. It was considered appropriate to request SCI to grant the new lease to MECSAL by 20 May , prior to the next Parish Council meeting, given that the six week moratorium for submission by community groups of a Notice of Intention to Bid (or Notices) expires on Tuesday 29 May. That option had been suggested by Councillor Clarke at the public meeting and was unanimously agreed by parishioners as a good idea. She had specifically asked if anyone disagreed with the proposal or wished to suggest an alternative plan and no-one said they did. ALL COUNCILLORS ~~PRESENT AGREED~~PRESENT AGREED. RESOLUTION MADE IN THESE TERMS.

Meeting closed 8.20pm

* Date in letter to SCI re item 4 changed to Monday 21 May given that 20 May was a Sunday.