

**MINUTES OF ASHELDHAM AND DENGIE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD on
Monday 2nd March 2020 at 7.00 p.m.**

Present: - Cllr C Faulkner, Cllr A Fluker, Cllr Lisa Brown, Cllr Sally Russell & Cllr Nick Kelly

In attendance: Mrs. S Sayer (Clerk)

Members of the public: 5

19-20/181 - WELCOME

Cllr Faulkner welcomed everyone to the meeting.

19-20/182 – APOLOGIES

- No apologies.

19-20/183 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- a) No declaration of interest were made at this point in the meeting, other than the usual global declaration that all councillors live and/or work in the Parish.
- b) Members noted that it was their responsibility to register any changes in their Register of Interests on the Maldon District Council website.

19-20/184 – MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING(S)

- a) The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd February 2020 were proposed by Cllr Lisa Brown and seconded by Cllr Sally Russell. **RESOLVED.**

19-20/185 – QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

- A resident was disgusted at the way the hedges had been flailed into oblivion, especially as the landowner had already cut his hedges.
- A resident raised the problem he was experiencing finding the new website and said it was not turning up readily. Ashconnect explained that once the old site was closed, this would no longer be an issue as the volume of people going to the old website would reduce.
- Cllr Faulkner to contact a friend regarding the details of the landowner of Wallesea Farms in order to be able to address the fly tipping of pink bags at Bushey Piece.
- The salt bin has been placed by the mail box/notice board on Southminster Road and filled with 10 bags of salt. Thanks to Cllr Brown and Mr. Cooper.
- ARG wrote to ECC Highways about the 14 months delay in resurfacing and also brought their attention to the dangerous bridge over Asheldham Brook on B1021, in that the narrow brick work is obscured by vegetation. Clerk to reiterate to ECC Highways the dangers involved as vehicles could hit the bridge and concerns were raised that the vegetation could be the only thing keeping the brickwork together, so could be dangerous to remove. Needs some reflectors so drivers can see.
- Animal Sanctuary has trimmed the hedge on the grass verge with the mound and Asheldham Village Sign.
- A discussion took place regarding the proper naming of Green Lanes and Foxhall Road and where both should begin and end. It was suggested that the Clerk contact Google to correct, once having the proper details from Ordinance Survey.

19-20/186 – ESSEXINFO.NET WEBSITE CLOSING 31/03/2020

- a) Clerk informed members again that information was gradually being transferred over to the new website and assured them it would all be finished in time for the Essex info closure on 31st March 2020.

SIGNED.....CHAIR
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19-20/187 – HIGHWAYS & PUBLIC FOOTPATH ISSUES

- i) The application has been completed. Therefore awaiting outcome from the Local Highways Panel. Ref No: DC1746.
- ii) Clerk informed those present that the application to the Local Highways Panel for a request in the reduction of the speed limit along the Tillingham Road from Reddings Lane along the Dengie Straight to the start of the existing 40mph speed limit was partly completed.
- iii) TruCam sites still not sorted. Clerk requested that the form is filled in after the meeting.
- iv) The Salt bin was delivered and placed as per note in public forum.
- v) A response had been received by the Clerk regarding the 14 month delay in the promised resurfacing along Southminster Road. Julie Martyn stated that patching works would be going ahead in the next few weeks.
- vi) Clerk informed those present that a response is still awaited from Highways regarding the reinstatement of the pavement but reiterated that the Highways map showed the pavement stopping where it currently is.
- vii) The application to the Local Highways Panel (LHP) requesting a pavement from opposite Brooks Lane to join up with existing pavement has not been started yet.
- viii) Clerk had liaised with Cllr Ron Pratt/Members/Bob Turner of Dengie Crops regarding a meeting about the danger of the junction on Hall Road/Southminster Road. Discussion also took place about whether to enter another LHP request where the surveys would be carried out. Clerk to action as Thomas Eng stated the following and members agreed:-

“I have researched the particular junction and no personal injury accidents have taken place within the last 3 years.

All Local Highways Panel requests are statistic lead and therefore without knowing the problem at this junction it would be hard for our engineers to ascertain a suitable solution. My background is in liaison and not engineering and I therefore feel that I would provide no benefit to the meeting without an engineer present. The first step would be for you to submit an LHP request via your County Councillor so that I can instruct an engineer to look at the site on your behalf.

It may be that your concerns are covered in the Asheldham bends Feasibility study which has been undertaken by our Major Projects team, Cllr Pratt would be able to source an update on this via our Member Enquires team.”

- ix) The Clerk has written to Lee Finch and effective Monday 2nd March, the light would no longer be on in the evening and only between 6.30 to 7 p.m. in the mornings. The timings have been adjusted and should not be back on until October.

19-20/188 – PLANNING MATTERS

a) **Planning Application –**

The following planning applications were received during the course of February 2020:-
20/00157/FUL PP-08474837

Application to carry out ground investigations, load test and associated works in connection with a proposed new Nuclear Power Station at Bradwell-On-Sea, together with the creation of two site compound areas and associated parking areas.

Location: Land East of Bradwell Power Station Downhall Beach, Bradwell-On-Sea. Essex.

Dead line for comments – 19/3/2020. Enquiries to Anna Tastsoglou.

A discussion took place and members resolved to support this application.

Proposed: Cllr Fluker and Seconded Cllr Faulkner.

b) Correspondence received over the course of the month and circulated via e-mail:

- i List of planning applications -5/6/7/8 – **noted**
- ii List of planning decisions and appeals – 5/6/7/8 - **noted**
- iii Decisions made in relation to Asheldham & Dengie – none at time of writing.
- iv Update on correspondence with Chelmsford City Council whether the Parish Council can apply for a grant from the monies raised. **No response received to date.**

c) Planning enforcement updates

- i No update available from Enforcement team regarding Planning application ref: 16/00421/CU at this time.

19-20/189– THEMATIC STRATEGIES

Clerk sent completed form and awaiting a response about collaboration with Thematic Strategies.

19-20/190 – FINANCE

- a) Members reviewed the payments for March 2020 - **RESOLVED**
- b) Members reviewed and signed off the Barclays bank statements to the bank reconciliation at the end of February 2020 – **RESOLVED**
- c) Bank mandate changes – no news.

19-20/191 – INSURANCE

Members resolved to continue with Zurich Insurance at the price of £257.60 as there had been no increase since last year.

19-20/192 DEFIBRILLATOR PROJECT

- a) Clerk informed members that the defibrillator and cabinet would be fitted on Tuesday 3rd March and John Cleary had sent over the link to contact the ambulance service.

19-20/193 - REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR FLUKER

- MDC Budget has been passed
- MDC council tax up .42p per month to cover inflation based on Band D.
- £100,000 of reserves to be used to support waste contract & new vehicle.
- £1.5 m of savings paid into the Pension Scheme.
- Getting credit back on the recycled glass will help too.
- There is a waiting list for the Green Bin service and a new vehicle to deal with this.

SIGNED.....CHAIR

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- Parking Charges have been increased by 10%.
- Transformation Project Stage 1 has been completed and saved £1.8 million.
- Maldon is the 5th Best Place to Live in the Country.
- Stage 1 consultation on Bradwell B starts on 4th March, you are able to respond as a Parish Council or as individuals.
- Generic Design Assessment expected by Jan 2022.
- MDC passed housing delivery test. Happy with the 5 year land supply
- Director of Resources – 151 Officer has been appointed.
- The Crouch Valley Festival of Drink on Riverside Park – Free Entry
- Fantasia Festival in Promenade Park doing 70's music – Tony Hadleigh to appear.
- Discussion between MDC and ECC concerning the Coronavirus taking place not sure how to mitigate.
- Attending LCLC on Wednesday at Steeple and will be bringing up the footpath alongside the power station
- NHS Hub in Maldon imminent. NHS have done a lot of work around viability. There is an issue with the preferred site.
- St Peters Hospital Maldon to mend and make do and there is an idea of moving services to take pressure off Basildon and Broomfield.

19-20/194 VILLAGE BEACON

A response from Highways is still awaited regarding a request for permission to site the Beacon on the grass verge of the junction with Hall Road/Manor Road and Keelings Road. However, a local resident had found a free-standing model that was powered by a gas bottle for about £300. Clerk to look at website and get more information, but members thought that this was a good idea. (The resident brought this to light in the second pubic forum)

19-20/195 – DENGIE VILLAGE SIGN

No further news regarding the Village Sign.

19-20/196 - TRAINING

- a) DHGPC has requested if Councillors were interested in attending Planning Training further to Matt Leighs visit to the DHGPC meeting, a couple of Councillors had lodged their interest.

19-20/197 –LOCAL COUNCIL AWARD SCHEME

- a) Clerk reiterated that this project would not be progressed until the changeover of the website, as the award is mainly based on the content of the website. This will be progressed at the end of March/beginning of April

19-20/198 – VE DAY 8TH MAY 2020

- a) No further news at this point.

19-20/199 - “HAPPY TO CHAT” BENCHES

It was resolved that the Clerk continue to work with Ben Page in order to try and obtain two “Happy to Chat” Benches.

19-20/200 – CORRESPONDENCE

No further correspondence received other than what has already been included as an agenda item.

SIGNED.....CHAIR
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19-20/201- BRADWELL B PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Clerk informed of all the list of various consultations being held in the area. It is up to individuals to respond and make comments by the various ways provided. The Members to review the consultation during the course of a Parish Council meeting or public meeting.

Various points raised:

- 5-6 thousand people working everyday
- pressure on the sewage works
- Abberton reservoir – easier to run a pipe for cooling.
- Development Consent Order for Pylons is needed as higher voltage running through so need to be higher in air.
- Bradwell B affecting local business and the mitigation of that
- Bradwell B consultation on Notice boards/website and send to ARG for circulation.

19-20/202 - SECOND PUBLIC FORUM

- A resident mentioned that Bullfinch on-line do gas powered Beacons for approximately £300.00
- It was stated that there is a floor in the Green Bins system. The collection was registered as missed and because it had been put on the system as “bin not presented” it could not be actioned. The footage on the truck is only held for 10 days and could not be checked, but the bin was presented. The question was asked when this happened and it two Wednesday before the meeting.
- A resident reported that he was stonewalled for 3 weeks by the Bradwell B communications team and were not interested whether they gave an answer or not.
- A resident raised with Cllr Fluker that he was still awaiting an answer to his question.

19-20/203 - EXTERNAL MEETINGS

Mr. Alex Ash reported on the Broadband/Superfast Essex.

- There are vouchers available
- Open Reach time-frame clarified as open-ended so no real limit to push the time-frame.
- Existing customers can not get the vouchers as already under contract.
- Section of the website will have area for updates.

Cllr Faulkner to let Clerk know about details of company that can connect up through 3G mobile phone that costs a business £65.00.

Resident spoke about the request to get a pavement installed from opposite Brook Lane and was doubtful that it would be passed as HGV broke down outside “Homelands” and there is a fire hydrant at the corner of the field.

Asheldham Brook Bridge needs reflexive paint, two posts have rotted and gone and if you remove the ivy it will probably fall apart. The weight limit on Asheldham Brook Bridge is 7.5t.

19-20/204 – INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Dengie Hundred Group of Parish council meeting taking place on 18th March at 7.30 p.m. and will be held in Dengie Village Hall.

SIGNED.....CHAIR

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19-20/205 DATE OF NEXT MEETING –

- a) The next meeting will be held on Monday 6th April 2020 at 7 p.m.

19-20/206– All business having been transacted, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 8.40 pm