

**MINUTES OF ASHELDHAM AND DENGIE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
PARISH COUNCIL HELD on Monday 24th May 2021 at 6.30 p.m. in Dengie
Village Hall, Manor Road, Dengie.**

Present: - Cllr Carole Faulkner, Cllr Nick Kelly, Cllr Lisa Brown, Cllr Sally Russell & Cllr David Henson

In attendance: Mrs. S Sayer (Clerk)

Members of the public: 10

019/21-22 ELECTION OF CHAIR

- a) Cllr Faulkner volunteered to continue as Chair and it was agreed by all members and signed the Acceptance of Office form.

020/21-22 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

- a) Members agreed that in the absence of the Chair that they would vote in a Chair as and when required.

021/21-22 ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES

- a) Finance – Cllr Faulkner
b) Transport – ad-hoc
c) Dengie Hundred Group of Parish Councils (DHARMIC) – Cleer Faulkner
d) Bradwell Power Station Local Community Liaison Committee (LLC) & Bradwell B Forum - ad-hoc
e) Police – ad-hoc
f) Tree Warden – Mrs J Griffiths has kindly agreed to carry on.
g) Footpaths/PROW – Cllr Brown
h) Asheldham Quarry Liaison Committee (AQLC) –Cllrs Faulkner and Brown
i) Highways – Cllr Kelly
j) Personnel Committee (requires 3 members) – Cllrs Kelly, Brown & Russell

022/21-22 CHAIR'S WELCOME

Chair welcomed everyone present.

023/21-22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

County Cllr Wendy Stamp sent her apologies due to training at ECC.

024/21-22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- Cllr Henson declared an interest in the Clay Shoot as it affects his business.
- Cllr Faulkner declared a non-pecuniary interest regarding the Clay shoot as it is owned by her son.
- Cllr Brown declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Planning Application 21/00416 as the applicant is known to her.
- All members stated that they had checked their Register of Interest on the Maldon District Council website and are happy as they stand.

025/21-22 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - 12th April 2021

The minutes from the meeting on 12th April 2021 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

Proposed: Cllr Faulkner and Seconded: Cllr Brown

SIGNED.....CHAIR

ASHELDHAM & DENGIE PARISH COUNCIL

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026/21-22 QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS AND PUBLIC – FIRST SESSION

- Resident asked if during the Highways Surgery meeting on Zoom was anything raised about the problems experienced with the gullies – Clerk replied that it was only a 20 minute meeting and this was not covered.
- Clerk reported that a recording of the meeting was being sent by Cllr Scott's Assistant and that notes would be typed up and circulated and made available on the website.
- Cllr Scott replaces Cllr Bentley as Highways Cabinet member and he stated that he would like to come along and have a meeting and listen to what everyone has to say regarding the problems with Highways with a few people– Clerk to arrange.
- Discussion regarding the Asheldham Bends took place and it was suggested that members look at re-entering a lesser version of the original plan as there are funds available that are not being tapped into and now would be an opportune time to push the project and also get the footpath repaired all at the same time. Next meeting on 11th June.
- It was raised as to whether a reply was received from the 3 letters that were sent. Clerk stated that MDC has replied and that they had visited on 2 to 3 occasions to survey the noise and have issued a Noise Abatement Notice and waiting to see what happens. Clerk stated a short response had been received from Fisher Farms as below:-
Thank you for sending us this information. We are disappointed that this situation has caused concern for so many of our neighbours. As you may know Bradley also borders the land, we farm on Asheldham Hall Farm. When he approached us with his proposal of the Clay Pigeon shoot it seemed to be a good plan. It now seems that it possibly, may not be. We are hoping that by giving Bradley some time he may be able to come up with a solution that would resolve the situation.
We appreciate your concerns and your patience on this matter, With kind regards,
The Fisher family
- Also after some debate it was stated that a reply had been received from Bradley Faulkner as below: *Thank you for contacting me, I have met with MDC, BASC and the Firearms Officer of Essex Police, gone through the issues and will proceed as advised. Regards Brad*

027/21-22 HIGHWAY & PUBLIC FOOTPATH ISSUES

To receive updates on outstanding highways issues *and* an opportunity for members to raise any new highways issues and make decisions accordingly.

- i) Clerk stated that the next LHP is 11th June and waiting to see if the request made to the Local Highways Panel for a reduction in the speed limit to 40mph on the Tillingham Road (Dengie Straight) from Reddings Lane to the start of the existing 40mph speed limit before entering Tillingham Village.
- ii) Update on ECC Highways Meeting. This was covered during the Questions from the Press and Public First Session.
- iii) Update regarding the bad condition of the pavement from Rushes Lanes to just before Bend opposite Sandlings. This was also covered during the Questions from the Press and Public First Session and was suggested during the highways meeting that it was made part of the lessened LHP project for the Asheldham Bends.
- iv) Cllr Henson cleared the footpath by the Gravel Pit and a vote of thanks was given.
- v) No update regarding the closure, but the report had been requested.

028/21-22 PLANNING MATTERS

a) Planning Application(s)- To review and make a decision on the following application:-

i)

HOUSE/MAL/21/00418 **Asheldham (P)** **Tillingham (W)**

Proposed replacement garage building. Rushes Farm Rushes Lane Asheldham CM0 7NY (UPRN – 100091260376) Case Officer: Jade Elles

Members discussed this application and it was supported 4:1

ii)

FUL/MAL/21/00416 **Dengie (P)** **Tillingham (W)**

Proposed relocation of garage / store building which was approved under 19/00857/FUL -3 East Ware Cottages Bridge Wick Lane Dengie Essex (UPRN – 200000914678) Case Officer: Annie Keen

Members discussed this application and it was supported by 4 Councillors and one Councillor had already declared an interest.

b) Planning Decision(s) – No decisions at the time of writing.

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

- List of planning applications – 15-20 - NOTED
- List of planning decisions and appeals – 15-20 - NOTED

d) Enforcement Cases

- i. No news received regarding the enforcement issue with Homelands at the time of writing.
- ii. No news received regarding the decision notice on application reference: FUL/MAL/20/00766 Asheldham and the non-adherence pertaining to the entrance. These items will be left on the agenda until such time news is received from Maldon District Council.
Members noted the above concerning enforcement cases.

029/21-22 FINANCE

a) Clerk detailed the list of payments for the month of May totalling £399.02 which were agreed.

May-21							
FOLIO	DATE	REFERENCE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	Net Amount	VAT	Gross Amount
21/22/005	24/05/2021	Bill Payment	Sarah Sayer	Salary	£262.05	0.00	262.05
21/22/006	24/05/2021	Bill Payment	Sarah Sayer	Expenses	£63.23	0.00	63.23
21/22/007	24/05/2021	Bill Payment	HMRC	Tax Mth 2	£4.20	0.00	4.20
21/22/008	24/05/2021	Bill Payment	Sarah Sayer	Zoom	£4.00	0.79	4.79
21/22/009	24/05/2021	Bill Payment	Data Protection	Annual GDPR	£40.00	0.00	40.00
21/22/010	24/05/2021	Bill Payment	Wave	Cemetery water Keelings Road	£24.75	0.00	24.75
					£398.23	0.79	399.02

b) Members agreed Barclays bank statements to the bank reconciliation to 29th April 2021 and signed the bank statements and initialled the bank reconciliation.

SIGNED.....CHAIR
ASHELDHAM & DENGIE PARISH COUNCIL

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030/21-22 REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

No report available.

031/21-22 TRAINING

a) No training has been undertaken by members of Clerk.

032/21-22 SUPER FAST BROADBAND

No update available, clerk to chase and update at the next meeting.

033/21-22 DENGIE VILLAGE SIGN

An update regarding the progress of the Dengie Village sign was given by a resident and the sign has been ordered, but there is a 12/15month wait. The mock up drawings have been done. ECC gave a grant of £1000 which had to be used by 31st March 2021 otherwise it would be lost, therefore the sign was commissioned and this grant paid for the post and preparation of drawings. G&B Finch heard about the sign and the committee were trying to raise funds offered to pay the rest of the cost. A huge vote of thanks to them. The sign is double-sided and depicted on the sign is the Church at the top, and then underneath, a dairy cow being milked on one side, a sheaf of corn and an owl in flight. Also it was stated that the colour picture of the sign will be brought to the next meeting.

The question of where the sign would be installed was raised and there are two possible sites, the Village Hall, Manor Road, or at the top of Manor Road junction with Keelings and Hall Road on what is perceived to be Highways land. Enquires are being made.

034/21-22 CLAY SHOOTING -HALL ROAD

This item was discussed during the course of the public forum and continue to liaise with MDC and informing them and let it go through the steps it has to go through. Clerk will keep the website updated regarding any news from MDC regarding the shoot.

035/21-22 REQUEST BY RESIDENT TO PUT ON THE AGENDA – RECORDING OF MEETINGS FOR PUBLISHING IN THE PUBLIC FORUM.

Resident sent in an email on 4th May 2021 “Please put the matter of audio recording on the Agenda for the meeting.... “ members decided that they still felt that they did not want the meetings recorded and wish to continue as before. Cllr Henson did state that there is not an appetite for it at the moment as only one person with a recording, but if the situation changed that residents would write to the Clerk and then it can be re-discussed. A decision was not made regarding allowing the Clerk to record the meetings purely to help with the minutes and once the minutes have been agreed at the following meeting to destroy the recording.

036/21-22 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

a) Clerk informed members that the Freedom of Information Request – Correspondence between EALC and Ashledham and Dengie Parish Council pertaining to the legality of the Clerk recording the Zoom meeting and then once minutes are approved deleting the recording on file had been sent to the person who had requested it on 21/5/2021. On the one hand the EALC agreed that the

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Clerk can do this as long as the recording was destroyed once the minutes of the meeting had been approved. However , there was some ambiguity involved as it stated that if there was a contentious subject e.g. planning this may not be the case. However, although the Clay shoot was the contentious subject at the time the recording was made on 12th April 2021, it was not about planning.

- b) With regard to the Freedom of Information Request for correspondence between EALC and Asheldham and Dengie Parish Council pertaining to the legality of the members discussing the applicants for the vacancy in closed session then announcing the successful applicant in the Parish Council Meeting on the 7th December 2020. The Clerk stated that unfortunately an email had not been sent as she said she would, until recently and EALC had not as yet replied.

037/21-22 ELECTIONS – 6TH MAY 2021 – MEMBERS NOTED

Cllr Wendy Stamp has now been elected as Asheldham and Dengie's County Representative.

Roger Hirst was re-elected as Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner.

038/21-22 QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS AND PUBLIC – SECOND SESSION

- Clerk to look into the possibility of having a hybrid meeting.

039/21-22 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- Monday 14th June 2021 at 6.30 p.m. in Dengie Village Hall – changed from 7th June due to Clerk holiday.

040/21-22 ALL BUSINESS HAVING BEEN TRANSACTED – THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING IS CLOSED &THE CHAIR THANKS EVERYONE FOR ATTENDING.