

# Asheldham & Dengie Parish Council

Parish Clerk / RFO: Kevin B. Money

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## Minutes of the Asheldham & Dengie Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup>. November 2022 at 6.30pm in Dengie village hall

Present: Cllrs D. Henson (Chairman), L. Brown, R. Griffiths, N. Kelly, S. Russell and Kevin B. Money (Parish Clerk). There were also 5 members of the public present

### 111/2022 Chairman welcome to the Asheldham & Dengie Parish Council meeting

A reminder to everyone participating in the meeting that they may be filmed, recorded, photographed or otherwise reported about

**112/2023 To confirm the appointment of Mr. Kevin B. Money as Parish Clerk / RFO from Monday 24<sup>th</sup>. October 2022** – Cllr D. Henson proposed and Cllr L. Brown seconded the appointment of Mr. Kevin B. Money as Parish Clerk / RFO to the Council. **All Agreed**

The Chairman and the Clerk then signed the contract of employment

**113/2022 Apologies for Absence** were received from ECC Cllr W. Stamp

### 114/2022 Declaration of Interest

To declare any Pecuniary, Registerable or non-Registerable Interest relating to items on the agenda Councillors to check that their ROI are up to date

Cllr D. Henson reported he had applied and was granted a dispensation to speak on item 121/2022 (b)

### 115/2022 To approve the Minutes of the last Council meeting of Asheldham & Dengie PC

To receive and agree the minutes of the last A&DPC meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup>. October 2022. **All Agreed**

To receive and agree the minutes of the extraordinary A&DPC meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup>. October 2022

**All Agreed**

**116/2022 Essex County Councillor report – ECC Cllr W. Stamp.** No report was given

**117/2022 District Councillors report** - To receive a report from the District Councillor

No report was submitted

### 118/2022 Questions from the Press and Public – First Session

The defibrillator has been checked some time ago and a problem was found with the hinges. This will be rectified and the defibrillator will be checked again. A training session will be organized as soon as possible with the First Responders.

Cllr D. Henson. The training for using the defibrillator is behind schedule

**119/2022 Asheldham Residents Group** – Update from the ARG and to make any decisions necessary. A maximum time of **15 minutes** was allowed

Colin Cooper supplied a report prior to the meeting. It read

After a herculean effort by ARG members and with the assistance of G&B Finch's grab lorry driver, an area of land bordering the road between the quarry entrance and the house known as Broomfield has now been cleared of the fallen branches and trunks as well as some dead or dying trees. We now await the imminent arrival of the 420 wild life saplings on order under the Green Canopy Scheme. ARG will be calling for members to form a work party to plant the same after they have been delivered. The two wooden posts next to the salt bin on the ground opposite "Sandlings" have been reset once again. Cllr. Russell had mentioned at the Extraordinary Meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> October that they were in position when she drove past but down again in the evening. Since then, they were repositioned but again pulled over. Let's hope that the culprits get tired of their japes before ARG does in all of this!

The Winter litter Pick organised by ARG and Adrian Fluker has been scheduled for the morning of Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December. Meet at Dengie Village Hall at 9.30am for tea/coffee before a 10.00am start. Courtesy of Megan Fluker a stew lunch will be provide at about 12 noon to participants. Fuller information will be in December edition of The Parish Paper.

ARG has put up the WWI Tommy wooden silhouette up next to the village sign and affixed the large artificial poppies on various items of street furniture, all in connection with the current Remembrance period. The ARG hopes the village looks good during this time of the year.

## 120/2022 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.

1) Essex Highways Devolution Pilot – It was decided at the Parish Council meeting, held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September that once the new clerk has been appointed that they would be requested to investigate the return of the £1,000 funds. To receive an update of any correspondence received by Councillors from the representatives of the Essex Highways Devolution Pilot. Councillors agreed to leave this item with the Parish Clerk

2) Update on the Asheldham Bends Project to be reviewed by ECC Highways and the LHP Panel and make any decisions required. Councillors agreed to leave this item to the next meeting.

3) Update regarding Asheldham Brook Bridge and to make any relevant decisions.

John Morgan from Essex Highways sent this report prior to the meeting. It read

We would like to update you on the status of the progress on Asheldham Bridge.

We have recently tried to locate a high-pressure foul sewer as its location may affect the foundations of the new structure, unfortunately we have not been able to find its exact location therefore we will have to carry out additional investigation work to discover its location and the only safe way of doing this is by road closure.

We are planning to carry out a bore hole investigation for 2 days which will be in February and then trial holes across the full width of the carriageway to establish the location of the foul sewer, approximately 5 days in April. The closure dates will be confirmed nearer the time.

4) Update on the 30mph signs (Ref: 2752071) and the give way sign (Ref: 2752040) facing the incorrect way. No update received

5) Update regarding FP10 and FP12 (Ref: 2752089). No update. Cllr D. Henson to liaise with the Clerk to resurrect this item

6) Update on the litter picking in the Parish by MDC and the FOI request for details of the regularity it is carried out and to make any decisions required. Nicola Syder from MDC sent an email on this matter. It read I have also emailed Carol Love our contract manager for Appleton's who are responsible for Street Cleansing / Litter Picking in the District. [Carol.love@maldon.gov.uk](mailto:Carol.love@maldon.gov.uk)

7) Update on the clearing/sluicing of gullies and the FOI request for details of the regularity it is carried out and to make any decisions required. See item (6) above

## 121/2022 Planning Application/s

No planning applications were received affecting Asheldham & Dengie

a) Councillors to discuss approving delegating power to the Clerk for minor planning applications to save unnecessary extraordinary meetings.

Cllr D. Henson proposed and Cllr L. Brown seconded to approve delegating power to the Clerk for minor planning applications to save unnecessary extraordinary meetings. **All Agreed.** The Clerk also mentioned that a Zoom meeting may take place if required.

b) Solar Farm Planning application.

Residents reported back that they felt the meeting was lack lustre, they would like to know how negotiations were conducted for Bradwell wind farms that pay an annual fee and if we could use that information to help us to put together suggestions to the solar farm.

A working party was suggested to look at all of the above and was agreed by Councillors

## 122/2022 Planning Appeals affecting Asheldham & Dengie

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 APPEAL UNDER SECTION 78

Site Address: Asheldham Grange Rushes Lane Asheldham Essex

Proposal: Proposed detached annexe for home working/leisure facilities, including games room, tv room and outside dining.

Application Ref: 21/01134/FUL Appeal Ref: APP/X1545/W/22/3297490 Appeal Start Date: 2 August 2022. An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State against MDC decision to refuse to grant planning permission. The appeal will be determined on the basis of written representations  
Councillors noted the above Planning Appeal

1) **Enforcement** - Reference No. 21/00180/BC – adj. Endway Farmhouse – new build fence interfering with line of sight on the carriageway.

Nicola Syder from MDC sent an email stating that she has sent A&DPC emails to William Coleman MDC Principal Planning Enforcement Officer [william.coleman@maldon.gov.uk](mailto:william.coleman@maldon.gov.uk) who will be in touch with you to discuss the planning matters.

Colin to speak with resident then, if not successful, the Clerk to write to resident

2) To receive an update on the letter sent to Maldon District Council regarding the length of time that

Enforcement cases are taking to progress/resolve. No update has been received

3) **United Dengie Councils** – To receive an update. The Clerk to send an email from Mark Raffray to Lyn

### **123/2022 Planning Decision/s made by MDC affecting Asheldham & Dengie**

No planning decisions have been made by MDC affecting Asheldham & Dengie

**124/2022 Dengie Village Sign** - To receive an update and to make any decisions necessary. The sign has been delivered and looks wonderful. It is securely locked away in Lyns' outbuilding and will be pleased for anyone to view it.

### **125/2022 The Grass Verge - Asheldham**

a) Update on the planters' project regarding the licence and to make any decisions necessary. The licence has had to be amended, this has now been signed and Olive Porter at ECC has stated that the licence has been approved. Cllr R. Griffiths to liaise with the Clerk for ordering the bench. A conversation took place regarding a suitable base that requires constructing to fix the bench down. Cllr D. Henson to bring ideas to the December meeting.

b) Update on the damaged posts which require cementing in and to make any decisions necessary. A discussion took place on how to repair the damaged posts. It is under the ARG report and to be removed from the December agenda

### **126/2022 Green Canopy Project/jubilee Bench Project**

a) Update on the Green Canopy project and to make any necessary decisions. Trees have been purchased and have been delivered

b) Locality Funding – to receive an update on the licence for the bench and if delivery of the bench has been made. To make any decisions necessary. The licence has had to be amended, this has now been signed and Olive Porter at ECC has stated that the licence has been approved

### **127/2022 Asheldham & Dengie Beacon**

a) Update on the Public Consultation and to make any necessary decisions from the findings. Residents want an A&D Beacon. The problem is where is it to be sited? Cllr D. Henson to speak to the landowner and Bullfinch

### **128/2022 Councillors to discuss changing email providers from Yahoo to Gmail**

Cllr D. Henson proposed and Cllr R. Griffiths seconded to change email server from Yahoo to Gmail. **All Agreed.** The Clerk to set up new A&DPC Gmail account and circulate to everyone

### **129/2022 Councillors to agree meeting dates for 2023**

06.02.23: 06.03.23: 03.04.23: 05.06.23: 03.07.23: 04.09.23: 02.10.23: 06.11.23: 04.12.23

Councillors agreed to the 2023 meeting dates. The Clerk to contact village hall and book the dates

### **130/2022 Questions from the Press and Public – Second Session**

Does the Quarry liaison committee exist? Cllr D. Henson said yes it does but no meetings have taken place. The Clerk to contact ECC Minerals committee to get future meeting dates. G. B. Finch – Phil Stanley. Lisa and Colin to attend.

### **131/2022 Finance**

1) To receive the Bank reconciliations as at 31<sup>st</sup>. October 2022  
Councillors noted the Bank reconciliations as at 31<sup>st</sup>. October 2022

2) To receive the comparison of Actual to Budget 2022/23  
Councillors noted the comparison of Actual to Budget 2022/23

3) To agree a donation of £40 to Royal British Legion for Remembrance Day  
Cllr D. Henson proposed and Cllr S. Russell seconded to donate £40 to the RBL. **All Agreed**

4) To approve the payment of Accounts for November 2022 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the Parish Council's financial requirements.

Cllr D. Henson proposed and Cllr R. Griffiths seconded to authorise the November payments. **All Agreed**

5) Councillors to discuss changing banking arrangements from Barclays Bank to Unity Trust Bank  
Councillors discussed changing Parish Council bank from Barclays to Unity Trust Bank. The RFO explained the benefits of the change and the security of payments. Cllr D. Henson proposed and Cllr R. Griffiths seconded to leave the banking arrangements with Barclays for the immediate future unless the RFO experiences any further problems from Barclays Bank. **All Agreed.**

The RFO also requested that the Aylett's money of £440.50p be transferred to the Community account at Barclays. The Community account be renamed "Aylett's" account. £21.10p be transferred from the Community account to the Premium account. The Premium account now becomes the current account to be used for the daily running account of the Council. **All Agreed**

**132/2022      2023/2024 Budget**

Councillors to discuss the Council's anticipated expenditure for 2023/2024

Councillors discussed the 2023/2024 expenditure of the Council. This item to be finalised at the December meeting

**133/2022      Items for Next Agenda**

**134/2022      Date of Next Full Council meetings – Monday 5th. December 2022 at 6.30pm**

**135/2022      Closure of the Meeting**

To Close the meeting having considered and determined all items of business

The Chairman then closed the meeting at 8.30pm and thanked everyone for attending

Signed

*D Henson*

5<sup>th</sup>. December 2022

**D. Henson  
Chairman**