

Asheldham & Dengie Parish Council

Parish Clerk / RFO: Kevin B. Money

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www. <https://e-voice.org.uk/asheldham-dengiepc/>

Minutes of the Asheldham & Dengie Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 6th. February 2023 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 3 members of the public present

001/2023 Chairman welcome. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

002/2023 Apologies for Absence. Apologies were received from ECC Cllr W. Stamp

003/2023 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 declared an interest in item 010/2023

004/2023 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 5th. December 2022. **All Agreed**

005/2023 Essex County Councillors report - To receive a report from Essex County Councillor
No report was given

006/2023 District Councillors report - To receive a report from the District Councillor
No report given

007/2023 Questions from the Press and Public – First Session

(This session should not exceed 15 minutes – unless otherwise directed by the Chair - no individual to speak for longer than 3 minutes on any one issue) An opportunity for members of the public to speak and raise issues.

A resident asked about the new EXX Recycling Centre booking appointment of disposing of rubbish. It was agreed that more fly-tipping will take place and it is not a well thought out solution to a non-existing problem.

The Parish Council will write to MDC, ECC Councillors and Waste department objecting to this new proposal. An information flyer from ECC can be found at

<https://e-voice.org.uk/asheldham-dengiepc/ecc-recycling-centre/>

a) Training for residents using the defibrillator

Future training sessions will be arranged.

b) King's Coronation event

An event will be held similar to the Jubilee events on the day/evening where it does not clash with Tillingham

c) Election 4th. May 2023 – Update from the Clerk

1) All SLPC Councillors are up for election on 4th. May 2023

2) Photo ID's will be required for all residents to vote at the May election. ALL voters at a polling station MUST show photo ID before being given their ballot paper – prescribed list of suitable ID e.g. passport, driving licence and bus pass. Doesn't matter if evidence expired as long as a suitable likeness.

3) Poll cards are changing – be A4 letter – enveloped – will list acceptable ID on reverse. Postal and Proxy poll cards are also likely to be same style. There will be more polling staff in order to check ID at stations.

▪ the polling staff will NOT record what ID has been seen. Their decision is final

▪ They have to record details of anyone who is refused a vote

4) Publication of Notice of Election (and the day pre-Election Purdah starts!)– no later than Tuesday 28th. March (MDC Returning Officer may decide to publish earlier)

5) Delivery and withdrawal of Nomination(s) – between day after publication of Notice of Election to 4pm on Tuesday 4th. April 2023

6) Publication of Statement of Persons Nominated – no later than 5pm on Wednesday 5th. April

7) Notice of Poll & Situation of Polling Places – by Tuesday 25th. April. Combined notice – District/Parish. Polling hours – 7.00am to 10.00pm – Thursday 4th. May

Minutes for Full Council meeting on Monday 6th. February 2023 in Dengie Village Hall

8) Pre-election Purdah is the period between publication of Notice of Election and election day. It does NOT stop the Council working – it's business as usual but places restrictions on local authority publicity which may imply public support for a candidate or political party. There is a Code of practice published by Secretary of State DCLG and EALC guidance

LGA summary <https://www.local.gov.uk/our-support/purdah/what-purdah-means-practice>

Sitting Councillors with key responsibilities may comment in an emergency or where their views are needed in response to an important event. Proactive events should not involve members standing for election. Avoid publishing newsletters and annual reports in the pre-election period.

9) All Nominations must be proposed and seconded and be hand delivered to MDC. A proposed Councillor may take numerous Nomination forms. The deadline of hand delivered nomination forms is at 4pm on 4th. April 2023

10) Candidates elected in contested and uncontested elections take office on the fourth calendar day after the day of poll (Monday 8th. May 2023) it is now Tuesday 9th. May 2023 due to the Bank Holiday

11) If elections are uncontested due to insufficient candidates all validly nominated candidates are declared elected – the Principal Council e.g., District will publish a notice on its website and send to the Clerk. If quorate, Parishes will be authorised to co-opt to fill any remaining vacancies – after 9th. May

12) Before and after the election the Clerk must Display notices – e.g. Noticeboards and website. Notice of Election - Statement of Persons Nominated - Notice of Poll - Declaration of uncontested election - Declaration of Result

13) After the Election the Clerk will need to arrange for ALL elected/re-elected and co-opted candidates to sign a Declaration of Acceptance of Office (at or before 1st meeting) - complete a Register of Interests form – send to principal council i.e. District/Borough/City - Set dates for the first Parish Council meeting - Annual Parish meeting (between 1st March and 1st June) - Fill balance of any seats by Co-option.

14) Purdah starts 6 weeks from the date the Notice of Election is published by MDC

15) All elected candidates MUST complete Return of election expenditure and Declaration by Candidate – even if NIL within 28 days of the election – Friday 2nd. June

To be submitted to the proper officer of MDC for which the election is held a return of all election expenses incurred by the candidate vouched (except in the case of sums under £10) by bills stating the particulars and receipts and accompanied by a declaration by the candidate as to election expenses. The form can download from the Electoral Commissions' website

008/2023 Asheldham Residents Group – Update from the ARG and to make any decisions necessary. A maximum time of **15 minutes** will be allowed

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

For those who are unaware, some very sad news to report. Both ARG member Richard Thick of Sandlings and a lady called Lisa of 3 Brook Lane died shortly before Christmas. Our condolences to their families.

We have been informed by the Woodland Trust that the 420 saplings we ordered so as to complete our project between the Quarry Entrance and Broomfield will be delivered between 6th. and 17th. March 2023.

ARG will be organising a work party of volunteers to prepare the area in question.

The Parish Council sent their condolences to Richard Thick family.

009/2023 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) Update on the Asheldham Bends Project to be reviewed by ECC Highways and the LHP Panel and make any decisions required. No update

2) Update regarding Asheldham Brook Bridge and to make any relevant decisions. No update

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

4) Update regarding FP8, FP10 and FP12 (Ref: 2752089) Footpath No 12.

This runs south from the Hall Road, Southminster Road junction. Matters started when the way marker (finger post) was removed, about the same time the field suddenly sprouted a new gateway. Next move was the placement of a large No Entry sign on the gate, clearly intending to put walkers off. The latest activity is the placement of a large steel ring feeder just inside the gate, within a few feet of the fence where the footpath runs. Clearly the intention is that the horses and feeder will put walkers off, and in addition actually render the area fairly mucky. All matters have been reported to ECC Highways PRoW department.

FP No. 10.

This section of path runs from Glebe Road south along a field boundary and then crosses east over a ditch, then south again along the back of the Old Manse, owned by Mr Mee, then should take a route following the domestic boundary of The Wheat Barn, Keelings Road, and thence out onto Keelings Road. At some past point the bridge was replaced incorrectly, taking the path on a route outside of the boundary of the Old Manse, where it should in fact have continued dead straight until reaching the boundary between The Old Manse and The Wheat Barn. There is currently a complicated legal debate with Mr Mee as he maintains the path has never taken the route through his property. Awkward, as at one point I was in discussion with the gentleman from ECC who actually put the bridge in wrong, and he does recall the old route.

Where it meets the northern corner of what is now Mr Fluker's field, it should turn 90' to the right, and follow the boundary out to the road along the wall of the garden.

There is on record a message to the council stating that he had re routed the path along the edge of his land, to make life easier. Problem 1, it's outside his land boundary, not on his land. Problem 2, Mr Fluker during early Covid lockdown took it upon himself to lock access to the proper path at Keelings Road, the excuse being the paths proximity to his mothers annex, except that was not a legal move, nor was there any risk to Mrs Fluker senior as it doesn't enter the garden. Problem 3, he removed and repositioned the way markers onto the new route making it look official.

010/2023 Planning Application/s

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (as amended)

Application No: ESS/125/22/MAL

Location: Asheldham Quarry, Asheldham, Essex

Proposal: Retrospective full planning application for the installation of a mixed construction and demolition soils wash plant with associated infrastructure including relevant recycling activities such as screener, crusher, concrete bays and stockpiles

RESOLVED: Support the application subject to a condition that requires the removal of the wash plant after completion of application upon cessation of mineral & waste activities at the site

011/2023 Planning issues affecting Asheldham & Dengie

- 1) **Enforcement** - Reference No. 21/00180/BC – adj. Endway Farmhouse – new build fence interfering with line of sight on the carriageway – to receive an update.
- 2) **United Dengie Councils** – To receive an update. Councillors noted all emails from UDC

012/2023 Planning Decision/s made by MDC affecting Asheldham & Dengie

Councillors noted the planning decisions below made by MDC

FUL/MAL/22/00804 - The Cottage Tillingham Road Asheldham Essex

New storage barn for machinery used to maintain the land. **APPROVE** subject to conditions

FUL/MAL/22/00896 - Land At Homelands Southminster Road Asheldham

An erection of 4 bedroom bungalow, detached garage and new vehicular access.

GRANT PERMISSION for the said development subject to the attached Section 106 Legal Agreement and compliance with the conditions appended to this Notice

HOUSE/MAL/22/01141- The Wheat Barn Keelings Road Southminster Essex

Construction of garden produce and garden equipment store on existing concrete base

APPROVE subject to conditions.

013/2023 Planning Appeals affecting Asheldham & Dengie

Councillors noted the planning appeals

21/01134/FUL (Appeal Ref: APP/X1545/W/22/3297490)

Address: Asheldham Grange, Rushes Lane, Asheldham, Southminster, CM0 7NY

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

21/01159/FUL (Appeal Ref: APP/X1545/W/22/3298163)

Address: Buildings And Land South Side Of Keelings Road, Dengie

Proposal: Proposed demolition of existing barn and erection of a new bungalow. **APPEAL ALLOWED**

014/2023 Update on the Solar Farm working group

No update reported

015/2023 Dengie Village Sign - To receive an update and to make any decisions necessary. Can the Parish Council find out who owns the ditch by the village hall? The Clerk was asked to contact Land Registry for the information?

016/2023 The Grass Verge - Asheldham

a) Update on the planters' project regarding the licence and to make any decisions necessary. This project is now completed

b) Update on the damaged posts which require cementing in and to make any decisions necessary.

017/2023 Green Canopy Project/Jubilee Bench Project

a) Update on the Green Canopy project and to make any necessary decisions. This project is now completed

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. As the invoice has been paid the Clerk will submit the necessary forms for the funding of £1200 to be released from ECC Locality Fund department

018/2023 Asheldham & Dengie Beacon

a) Update regarding communication with landowner and Bullfinch and to make any necessary decisions. Cllr D. Henson has chased Bullfinch but has not had an update from them.

019/2023 Questions from the Press and Public – Second Session

(This session should not exceed 15 minutes – unless otherwise directed by the Chair - no individual to speak for longer than 3 minutes on any one issue) An opportunity for members of the public to speak and raise issues. Code of Conduct consistent with “Nolan Principles” set out in Appendix 1 and the provisions of S29(1) Localism Act 2011.

A resident spoke about the parking on the grass by the salt bin. A suggestion was made to move the salt bin forward by 18” to stop the parking on the grass. Another suggestion was to have sleepers to be placed on the grass verge. Cllr D. Henson to liaise with Andrew to obtain the sleepers and get them made. The clerk checked the licence which has been approved by ECC Highways and it was decided that the Bench should be placed on the grass verge ASAP. Cllr R. Griffiths to organise the installation with Cllr D. Henson. The Clerk will circulate the licence regarding positioning of the bench

ECC Minerals Terry Burns should have spoken to G B Finch over the condition of noise tracking and monitoring reports not coming out in time. Why was a retrospective application submitted to ECC.

020/2023 Councillors to discuss meeting date in May for Annual Parish meeting / AGM / Election of New Councillors

After the election report from the Parish Clerk, it was agreed to hold a meeting on Monday 15th. May 2023 at 6.30pm (the hall was booked at the meeting). This will be the Annual Parish Meeting followed by the A&DPC AGM then A&DPC Full Council meeting

021/2023 Finance

1) To receive the Bank reconciliations as at 31st. January 2023
Councillors noted the Bank reconciliations as at 31st. January 2023

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

3) To approve the payment of Accounts for January & February 2023 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 January and February 2023 payments. **All Agreed**

022/2023 Items for Next Agenda

023/2023 Date of Next Full Council meetings – Monday 6th. March 2023 at 6.30pm

024/2023 Exclusion of the Public and Press

Councillors to Resolve that by virtue of the provisions of Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public be excluded during discussion of the following business on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

Cllr D. Henson proposed and Cllr L. Brown seconded the motion. **All Agreed**

025/2023 To Provide an Update on Staffing Matters

026/2023 Closure of the Meeting

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

The Chairman then closed the meeting at 8.10pm and thanked everyone for attending

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. Henson". The letters are cursive and fluid.

6th. March 2023

D. Henson
Chairman