

Asheldham & Dengie Parish Council

Parish Clerk / RFO: Kevin B. Money
 7 Roach Vale Colchester Essex CO4 3YN
 Tel: 07810781509 email theclerk.asheldhamanddengiepc@gmail.com
 www. <https://e-voice.org.uk/asheldham-dengiepc/>

Minutes of the Asheldham & Dengie Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 5th. June 2023 at 6.30pm in Dengie village hall

Present: Cllrs L. Brown, S. Russell, A. Snowdon, MDC Cllr M. Neall and Kevin B. Money (Parish Clerk). There were also 1 member of the public present

100/2023 Chairman welcome to the Asheldham & Dengie Parish Council meeting

101/2023 Apologies for Absence were received from ECC Cllr W. Stamp and Cllr R. Griffiths,

102/2023 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. **None Declared**

103/2023 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 15th. May 2023. **All Agreed**

104/2023 Co-Option. Councillors are requested to receive written application for the office of Parish Councillor. To co-opt a resident onto the Parish Council

Cllr L. Brown proposed Co-Opting Mr. David Henson as a Parish Councillor for A&DPC. Cllr S. Russell seconded. **All Agreed.**

David Henson then signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, E Consent form and was asked to complete his register of interest form on line at <https://www.maldon.gov.uk/registerofinterests>
 Cllr D. Henson then took his seat as a Parish Councillor

105/2023 Essex County Councillors report - To receive a report from Essex County Councillor
 No report was given but all emails from Cllr W. Stamp have been circulated to Councillors

106/2023 District Councillors report - To receive a report from the District Councillor

Cllr M. Neall introduced himself and gave his background.

Cllr Neall stated he is going to be more proactive from past MDC Councillors

107/2023 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.

No questions were raised by the public

Cllr D. Henson proposed a vote of thanks to Cllr A. Fluker for his kind donation towards the defibrillator pads. **All Agreed**

108/2023 Asheldham Residents Group – Update from the ARG and to make any decisions necessary.

There is not much to report this month due to the fact that it has not proved possible to organise in the reasonably near future a working party to clear more land for the planting of the 420 wildlife saplings. On Tuesday 23rd May a traffic survey was organised on behalf of the PC so that we have some up-to-date data to use in submissions/arguments with ECC Highways, MDC and others if and when necessary. The site of the survey was on the green next to the Asheldham Village sign, outside the Animal Sanctuary in Southminster Road. The time period of 10.5 hours from 7am in the morning to 5.30pm in the afternoon was covered by volunteers.

Due to pressure of other commitments, it has not been possible yet for the committee to fully analyse the data but the headlines prepared are:

Traffic from Tillingham direction 1,273: Traffic to Tillingham direction 1,481: Total 2,754

For the period, this works out at 262 vehicles per hour.

Further data will be forthcoming as soon as possible and will include individual totals of the type of vehicle eg, HGVs, LGV, cars, tractors and trailers and whether those travelling in the direction of Tillingham came from the Southminster direction or from Green Lane. There will also be data on vehicles coming from Southminster direction and proceeding along Green Lane and vice versa, without actually passing the Village sign.

109/2023 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.

The Clerk read out an email from Cllr Scott regarding the Asheldham Bends. It read Having further looked into the matter of the Asheldham bends scheme, I can now advise as follows:

- September 2021 - Scheme appears as 'In Validation'.
- December 2021 - Scheme Validated and recommends 'Design Only' (Not funded by LHP)
- March 2022 – Scheme remains on scheme awaiting funding list (panel choose to fund)
- July 2022 – Scheme listed for delivery in Q4
- October 2022 – Scheme remains on track for delivery Q4
- December 2022 - Scheme remains on track for delivery Q4
- March 2023 – Scheme is reported as being cancelled due to road safety concerns.

The concerns that lead to the scheme being cancelled were as follows:

- It was identified during the safety audit that widening the bends would only increase the speed of road users, which would increase the risk of collisions.
- The scheme would require significant land purchase which would be well outside of the LHP remit.
- There would also be a large number of stats diversions required that would only increase the already prohibitive cost.

Despite the fact that this scheme would be far too costly to deliver, the overriding factor is that it would not be acceptable from a road safety perspective.

I am sorry that we could not take this scheme forward, however I trust that the above clarifies the reasons why.

Councillors agreed to send Cllr W. Stamp an email stating that the response received from ECC was not good enough. Stating on their email that the reason to cancel the scheme was down to cost and road safety issues. They also wanted it noted that speed is an issue and required information as to who, when and why was this decision made. The Clerk to send an email to Cllr W. Stamp for clarification.

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

No update received, but to chase up the report on the investigation

3) Update regarding FP10 and FP12 (Ref: 2752089)

No update received

4) Tarmac on Highway by planters

Cllr L. Brown supplied pictures of the planters area to have the area repaired with tarmac. The Clerk to forward the pictures and request to Cllr. W. Stamp and MDC Cllr M. Neall to have Essex Highways repair the area for public safety reasons.

110/2023 Planning Application/s

No planning applications have been received affecting either Asheldham or Dengie villages

111/2023 Planning issues affecting Asheldham & Dengie

No planning issues have been made affecting either Asheldham or Dengie villages

112/2023 United Dengie Councils – To receive an update. No further updates received

113/2023 Planning Decision/s made by MDC affecting Asheldham & Dengie

No planning decisions have been made affecting either Asheldham or Dengie villages

114/2023 Planning Appeals affecting Asheldham & Dengie

No planning appeals have been made affecting either Asheldham or Dengie villages

115/2023 Dengie Village Sign - To receive an update and to make any decisions necessary.

A resident spoke on behalf of the Village Hall trustees.

Would like to organise a work party to clear the ditch thoroughly to establish the boundary line and clear the shed, removing the contents and asbestos roof.

Support from PC and ARG volunteers will be required to clear

A future date for the sign to be erected will be provided to the PC

116/2023 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.

No questions were asked

117/2023 Finance

1) To receive the Bank reconciliations as at 31st. May 2023

Councillors noted the Bank reconciliations as at 31st. May 2023

2) To receive the comparison of Actual to Budget 2023/24

Councillors noted the comparison of Actual to Budget 2023/24

3) To approve the payment of Accounts for June 2023 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the Parish Council’s financial requirements. **All Agreed**

118/2023 Items for Next Agenda

119/2023 Date of Next Full Council meeting – Monday 3rd. July 2023 at 6.30pm

120/2023 Closure of the Meeting

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

The Chairman then closed the meeting at 7.10pm and thanked everyone for attending

Signed

D Henson

**David Henson
Chairman**

3rd. July 2023