

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 6 th . January 2025 at 6.30pm in Dengie village hall	ACTION
<p>Present: Cllrs D. Henson, R. Griffiths, S. Russell, A. Snowdon and Kevin B. Money (Parish Clerk). There were also 2 members of the public present</p> <p>001/2025 Apologies for Absence were received from Cllr L. Brown no other apologies were received</p> <p>002/2025 Declaration of Interest To declare any Pecuniary, Registerable or non-Registerable Interest relating to items on the agenda. None Declared</p> <p>003/2025 To approve the Minutes of the last Council meeting of Asheldham & Dengie PC To receive and agree the minutes of the last A&DPC meetings held on 2nd. December 2024 All Agreed</p> <p>004/2025 Questions from the Press and Public – (This session will 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 and press to speak about items on the agenda and to raise other issues. No questions from the public</p> <p>005/2025 ARG Report – Colin Cooper A successful Winter Litter Pick took place on Saturday 14^h December 2024. The number of participants on the day was down from the usual due a combination of factors, including the postponement of the project from the previous preferred Saturday due to adverse weather. Some residents had done their Pick prior to both the 7th and 14th dates. A delicious meat or vegetarian stew was provided by Adrian and Megan Fluker after the event. A new date for finishing the project of the stripping out the remaining ivy on the land opposite Sandlings is yet to be determined. Similarly, a new date is yet to be determined for the planting of saplings at Silver Lake, the previous one being postponed due to bad weather. No response has been received, despite a reminder, from ECC Councillor Wendy Stamp to the video taken by a local resident of the rubbish left by EH or their contractors when Southminster Road was closed outside the Animal Sanctuary on 14th November last, and to other matters raised with her including other road closures in the parishes and an answer to the question as to exactly what work was carried out at the time, (apart from some work of trimming back vegetation at Asheldham Brook Bridge and the erection of two Road Narrow signs) and why was the longstanding problem of the blocked drains in Southminster Road Asheldham not dealt with during the road closure which is what EH had said they were waiting for. Mrs Hindmarch kindly gave ARG permission to remove a bush and trim back some others so as to improve visibility on the corner for motorists going across from Southminster Road into Hall Road. The PC Chairman and myself have subsequently attended to the matter. And some improvement has been reported back. ARG has erected a new Union Flag for Mrs. Hindmarch in her car parking area but further work is needed as the main rope is rotting and some new clips to securely attach the flag to the rope are needed. ARG wish the Parish Councillors, the Clerk and all residents of Asheldham and Dengie a Healthy and Happy New Year,</p> <p>006/2025 Village Hall Report – Lyn Moull. No village Hall report given</p> <p>007/2025 Flag pole and Flag co-ordinator. No update on this item</p> <p>008/2025 Formation of Dengie Residents Group. No update on this item</p>	

009/2025 Planning Application/s**24/00941 - Land West Of David Fisher Way David Fisher Way Southminster Essex**

Outline planning application with all matters reserved except for primary means of access from Scotts Hill, for the development of up to 249 dwellings, public open space, together with associated landscaping, highways, drainage and other infrastructure works.

RESOLVED: Asheldham and Dengie Parish Council **OBJECTS** to Application 24/00941 "Land West of David Fisher Way, David Fisher Way, Southminster, Essex for the following reasons:

1. The development is outside the existing settlement boundary on good quality agricultural land.
2. The proposed access onto Scotts Hill is very dangerous. It is likely that most traffic from residents will seek to turn right out of the development, meaning that it has to cross a lane of oncoming traffic. This road is a notorious local race track and very accident prone. Should MDC decide to permit the development, it is urged that the access to the site be made onto David Fisher Way, and thence onto the roundabout at the end of the village.
3. NPPF clause 2.11 states a "presumption in favour of sustainable development". This development does not represent sustainability due to insufficient local infrastructure (health care, drainage, sewerage, transport, education etc). It is noted that the homes will not be built to "net zero homes standard" meaning that homes would need retrofitting in the near future to meet the new standards.
4. In relation to Biodiversity Net Gain, this development would need to provide a minimum of 10% BNG. We would ask MDC to insist that any such BNG units not be offset out of the area, but that they should be made within a set local radius so that those directly impacted by the development should be able to benefit from them.
5. In particular reference to Education, the area has already struggled to extend education capacity by expansion of existing schools. Unless there is a serious expansion of school facilities such as provision of a brand new school catering for primary right through to sixth form, this issue is going to cause constant issues, with pupils being sent well out of the local area for education.
6. In reference to medical care, the nearest hospital is Broomfield, a significant distance away. Further, it is noted that the NHS plans for a new surgery which was linked to the existing development on David Fisher Way has still not been built, and that the NHS has observed that this development would absorb all new capacity, assuming medical staff are available to man the surgery.
7. Whilst each planning application has to be judged on its own merits, it is impossible to consider this application without reference to the application by Taylor Wimpey UK for 220 dwellings only a mile or so east, application ref 23/01244, currently out at appeal to The Planning Inspectorate. It would be very unwise to decide on 24/00941 before the outcome of this application is determined. If 249 homes present an overload of infrastructure, it is nothing to that caused by 469.
8. A specific item of infrastructure liable to be directly affected by any Southminster development is Asheldham Brook Bridge. This lies on the direct rout from the local sand Quarry to both potential sites. The Parish Council has been trying to get clarity on the state of this bridge for well over 2 years, it is known to be old and damaged. To date Essex Highways have refused to provide any clarity after surveys suggested that action was required. Indeed, there is also the issue of a significant likely increase of heavy traffic through what is locally known as "The Bends" in the centre of Asheldham, again ECC Highways is aware of the issues but has failed to consider any improvement even though ECC Officers have themselves remarked on the dangers of that stretch of road.

010/2025 Planning Decision/s made by MDC affecting Asheldham & Dengie

No planning decisions made by MDC affecting Asheldham or Dengie villages

011/2025 Planning Appeal

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 APPEAL UNDER SECTION 78

Site Address: Land North Of Homefield Southminster Essex

Proposal: Outline application for a residential development of up to 220 dwellings and associated infrastructure, public open space and highways access

Application Ref: 23/01244/OUTM PP-12612236 Appellants Name: Taylor Wimpey UK Ltd

Appeal Ref: APP/X1545/W/24/3351697 Appeal Start Date: 29 November 2024

An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State against the Council's decision to refuse to grant planning permission. The appeal will be determined on the basis of a hearing

012/2025 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.

Further questions about the appeal application were discussed

013/2025 Budget 2025-2026. To finalise the 2025-2026 budget

Cllr D. Henson proposed a 2025-2026 expenditure figure of £7746. Resulting in a Precept demand of £7295 from MDC. This equates to a Band D property figure of £63.33p, being an increase of £1.24p pa (or 1.95%) from 2024-2025. Cllr R. Griffiths seconded. **All Agreed**

014/2025 To receive reports from External meetings, outside bodies and future meetings

Dengie Hundred meeting on 8th. January '25 at 7pm

015/2025 Items for Next Agenda

FOI request: Asheldham Bridge report

016/2025 Date of Next Full Council meeting – Monday 3rd. February 2025 at 6.30pm**017/2025 Closure of the Meeting**

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

The Chair then closed the meeting at 7.45pm and thanked everyone for attending

Signed

D Henson
David Henson
Chair

3rd. February 2025