

**MINUTES OF ASHELDHAM AND DENGIE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD on
Monday 6th December 2021 at 6.30 p.m. in Dengie Village Hall, Manor
Road, Dengie.**

Present: - Cllr Nick Kelly, Cllr Sally Russell, Cllr David Henson & Cllr Rebecca Griffiths.

In attendance: Mrs. S Sayer (Clerk)

Members of the public: 7

Meeting commenced at 6.30 p.m.

133/21-22 ELECTION OF CHAIR TO RUN MEETING & CHAIR'S WELCOME

Cllr Dave Henson was proposed to act as Chair and all members agreed.

134/21-22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Lisa Brown due to a family bereavement.

135/21-22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- a) No declarations declared at this point in the meeting.
- b) Members noted it is their responsibility to check that their Register of Interests are up to date i.e. if any changes occur, then they are updated within 28 days, on the MDC website which is linked to the Asheldham and Dengie Parish council website.

136/21-22 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

- a) The minutes from the meeting of the Parish Council on 1st November 2021 were approved and signed.
- b) The minutes from the Extra Ordinary meeting held on the 22nd November 2021 were approved and signed.
Prop: Cllr Sally Russell Seconded: Cllr Nick Kelly.

137/21-22 QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS AND PUBLIC – FIRST SESSION

- A resident attended the super broadband on-line event and asked Cllr Russell whether it was as good as the one attended previously. The resident was referred back to the interactive map and the resident was asked what makes you think there is a programme. There is a direct contact number that was given to Cllr Russell. Resident spoke to one of the engineers and said that there is no reason why he should not be able to be connected up to the same telegraph pole like his neighbours, but would have to ask for a survey and would be interesting if can be connected without paying out £30,000. Cllr Russel stated that usually the additional cost is due to the onerous task of having to dig and going through peoples land. It was suggested contacting Cllr Wendy Stamp in her County Council capacity for help regarding connectivity.
- Fly tipping - before ARG spring litter pick three different loads of rubbish were collected and went with all the other rubbish that was collected. A few weeks ago which had been cleared previously was another pile of rubbish. It was reported to Cllr Adrian Fluker and MDC did come out and look at it but it was not shifted as on private land. MDC did look for evidence, but we have had this thing before where sometimes there is evidence and don't hear any more. It was stated that this is due to data protection and the resident said he was not interested in knowing who, but would like to know the outcome of the case and what did the Parish Council think about it. It was suggested to maybe place some CCTV signs to try and put fly tippers

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off. Clerk stated that a licence would still be required for signs. Acting Chair stated that if the land owner gave permission on their land. Clerk to write to land owner to ask permission to put up a CCTV sign.

- Resident stated that MDC do offer a good deal of support of who to use etc.
- ARG winter litter pick on Saturday 11th December 2021 and time had been advertised incorrectly and should start at 9.30 a.m.
- Appletons do clear up at Southminster and Burnham, but never seen a litter picker, never seen one, clerk stated that there should be a fortnightly pick - Clerk to chase MDC in this regard.

138/21-22 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) Essex Highways Devolution Pilot was discussed and what to spend the £1000 grant on.

Drainage is scheduled to be done twice a year.

Resident felt that money would be better spent on a survey on the drains and gullies as a survey was promised at the Highways meeting with Cllr Scott and a report was supposed to forthcoming. Clerk to chase ECC Highways.

It was suggested that ECC Highways might not do anything until the Asheldham Bends project is sorted out.

Small earth bank was suggested on the grass verge owned by Highways.

Further suggested to plant small trees, but it might be more difficult to maintain.

Minimal maintenance - Clerk to add devolution scheme to the EO meeting for planning to be arranged.

- ii) Clerk got the break down of what would be carried out for the £9,500 design fee:

- Utility Services Technician to attend site to carry out a survey to determine traceable utilities within the site area. This will either require two-way traffic lights or a road closure to complete due to the lack of visibility around the bund.
- Trial holes to determine the depths of utility apparatus that cannot be traced via the UST, also under two-way traffic lights or road closure.
- Raise enquires with BT over the diversion of their apparatus to accommodate the scheme. BT require funding to arrange detailed estimates for construction.
- A full review of the draft drawings which were completed by Jacobs, and make amendments to the design to accommodate the scheme into the proposed land take.
- Once the design is completed, a full target costing exercise will be undertaken to provide prices for construction, which will then be shared with the Panel.

- iii) No update on Asheldham Brook Bridge - no report received to date.

- iv) **Items iv/v and vi** have all been reported and all have the same note on them, that they will be dealt with after other higher priorities have been actioned. The 30mph signs (Ref: 2752071) and give way sign (Ref: 2752040) facing the incorrect way.

- v) See above regarding FP 10 (email from one of the Land owners with update) and FP 12(Ref: 2752089) as raised at previous meeting. Clerk read out an email from one of

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the landowners. Resident stated they would take a look to see if it can moved during the course of the litter pick.

- vi) See item iv -regarding fallen tree trunk by Asheldham Brook Bridge (Ref: 2752104)

Cllr Griffiths reported that a bridleway sign has fallen down on the bend by the pigs.

139/21-22 PLANNING MATTERS

- a) Planning Application(s)-
 - i) None at the time of writing.
- b) Planning or Planning Appeal Decision(s)
 - i) None at the time of writing.
- c) Correspondence received over the course of the month and circulated via e-mail:
 - a) List of planning applications – 44-47 - NOTED
 - b) List of planning decisions and appeals – 44- 47 - **NOTED**
- d) **Enforcement Cases**
 - i. Reference No. ENF381976857 - adj Endway Farmhouse - new build fence interfering with line of sight on the carriageway. No news.

140/21-22 FINANCE

- a) Members approved the payments for December 2021 - £1454.44

Dec-21

FOLIO	DATE	REFERENCE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	Net Amount	VAT	Gross Amount
41/21-22	06/12/2021	Bill Payment	Sarah Sayer	Salary Mth 8	£254.55	£0.00	£254.55
42/21-22	06/12/2021	Bill Payment	Sarah Sayer	Expenses Mth 8	£50.30	£0.00	£50.30
43/21-22	06/12/2021	Bill Payment	HMRC	Tax Mth 8	£2.40	£0.00	£2.40
44/21-22	06/12/2021	Bill Payment	Sarah Sayer	Zoom Dec 21	£4.00	£0.79	£4.79
45/21-22	06/12/2021	Bill Payment	MSJ Garwood	Annual Grass Cutting	£952.00	£190.40	£1,142.40
				TOTAL DECEMBER 2021	£1,263.25	£191.19	£1,454.44

- b) Members agreed Barclays bank statements to the bank reconciliation to 30th November 2021.
- c) Clerk still having problems with Barclays about the mandate change.
- d) Members had been circulated all the information pertaining to the draft budget for 2022/23 and after some discussion made the decision to increase the precept by 1.8% as the tax base figure had increased thereby reducing the cost for a Band D property to the same cost as 2021/22. The amount to be requested is £6296.00 which will cost a Band D property £1.07 per week.
Proposed: Cllr Henson and Seconded: Cllr Griffiths.

141/21-22 REPORT FROM DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCILLOR

- a) No report available from the District Councillor.
- b) No report available from the County Councillor.

142/21-22 TRAINING

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- a) Clerk stated that she would book a Saturday in for the Chairman & Councillor training from EALC in New Year.
Cllr Griffiths noted an interest in attend the EALC AGM next year.

143/21-22 DENGIE VILLAGE SIGN

- a) Clerk stated that an email had been received detailing the land that is owned by ECC highway and a decision about the position of the sign needs to be made so that a licence can be requested. Clerk to follow up on location marked by Cllr Russell and all members in favour. Clerk to double check with Mrs Moull.

144/21-22 CLAY SHOOTING -HALL ROAD

A brief update was given by Cllr Henson that Maldon District Council sent via email as follows: MDC can advise that Simulated Game Essex Ltd lodged an appeal of the Noise Abatement Notice served upon them. After carrying out investigations and gathering evidence we reviewed the case along with our Legal Officers and the decision was taken not to proceed with defence of the Notice. As such, this concludes the current actions taken in relation to noise nuisance however, the Council continues to monitor the shoot and its impact on the locality. Members decided to take this item off the agenda for the time being.

145/21-22 PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON DRAFT LIBRARY PLAN 2022-26

Members noted the County Council intends to transform the Library service over the next four years into a modern, vibrant and sustainable service that everyone can access and benefit from. Members of the public can have their say on the following link:-
<https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/everyoneslibrary/> - deadline 21/1/22.

146-21/22 QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS AND PUBLIC – SECOND SESSION

Resident raised the lack of the Dengie sign which is currently two rusty posts.

147/21-22 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 7th February 2022 at 6.30 p.m. in Dengie Village Hall

148/21-22 ALL BUSINESS HAVING BEEN TRANSACTED – THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING IS CLOSED at 7.20 p.m. & THE CHAIR THANKS EVERYONE FOR ATTENDING & INVITED EVERYONE TO JOIN THEM FOR REFRESHMENTS.