

**MINUTES OF ASHELDHAM AND DENGIE PARISH COUNCIL  
MEETING HELD on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 7.00 p.m.**

**Present:** - Cllr Mrs C Faulkner, Cllr A Fluker, Cllr Nick Kelly, Cllr Lisa Brown & Cllr Sally Russell

**In attendance:** Mrs. S Sayer (Clerk)

**Members of the public:** 7 (including Mr. Bob Turner from Dengie Crops Ltd)

**19-20/107 - WELCOME**

Cllr Faulkner welcomed everyone to the meeting and requested that if anyone was recording the meeting to let them know.

**19-20/108 – APOLOGIES**

- District Councillor Dewick.
- Mr. Rik Pond sent his apologies and Mr. Snowdon had sent a text to Cllr Brown sending his apologies but this was not received until after the meeting.

**19-20/109 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- a) No declaration of interest were made at this point in the meeting, other than the usual global declaration that all councillors live and/or work in the Parish.
- b) Members noted that it was their responsibility to register any changes in their Register of Interests on the Maldon District Council website.

**19-20/110 – MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING(S)**

- a) The minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2019 were proposed by Cllr Lisa Brown and seconded by Cllr Sally Russell. **RESOLVED.**

**19-20/111 – QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

- It was stated that the Asheldham Residents Group has the highest membership to date.
- Discussion took place regarding the Essex Minerals and Waste planning application reference number ESS/88/19/MAL which is an application for a licence to handle 75,000 tonne of waste, but their agent attaches a letter stating that in reality it is only likely to be in the region of 6,000 tonnes as they will be selective in the waste they collect which will require hand sorting and there will be no food and only non odorous waste. Abaco is understood to be a hirer of skips and doubts were cast as to the guarantees regarding no food and non odorous waste, as with the best will people are asked not to place these items in a skip but still do.

It was understood that there is already some form of contamination on the land.

It was proposed that a letter be drafted in response to this application which was found by chance and not sent to the Parish Council for official consultation, but affects its residents.

The letter to cover; that this application includes the inappropriate transfer of waste, next door to a residential dwelling. Environmentally close to amenity and local residents who will suffer, noise from the HGV's, dust and air pollution. The Nitrous Oxide (N2O) levels in the area are already reaching danger levels and all these points need to be taken into consideration when considering this planning application. Copy of the letter to be sent to Jo Jeffery the Clerk and Southminster and Essex County Cllr Ron Pratt. Draft letter to be approved by members before sending. Clerk to put a link on the website to the planning application.

- Also the problems still being experienced with internet and the speeds

SIGNED.....CHAIR

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**19-20/112 – ESSEXINFO.NET WEBSITE CLOSING 31/03/2020**

Members discussed and decided to use Ashconnects for the new website as the quotes were very similar in monetary value and provided the same content, however Mr. Sams had offered a further discount at the previous meeting voiced by the Clerk. Clerk to write and let Mr. Sams know and move the project forward as soon as possible. Prop: Cllr Fluker and Sec: Cllr Brown.

**19-20/113 – HIGHWAYS & PUBLIC FOOTPATH ISSUES**

- i. Clerk informed those present that a response had been received from Thomas Eng the liaison officer for Local Highways Panel who had requested that a decision is made as to where the reduction of the 30mph limit to 20 mph should start and end and had attached a map. Members were forwarded the map and requested to mark. It was decided that this should be as per attached plan and clerk to send back to Thomas Eng to progress the project.
- ii. Clerk informed members that Tillingham Village Council could not revisit the decision made by them regarding our request for support with the speed reduction along the Dengie Straight within six months of having made it. The next available time to review this would be during the course of their November meeting. The Clerk to contact Tillingham Village Clerk Sheila Welham after the meeting.
- iii. The Clerk informed those present that research had been carried out and email sent to Thomas Eng. It was discovered that this surfacing is very costly and is only guaranteed for 5 years and can be very noisy. It was therefore decided not to pursue and to try and progress the speed reduction route.
- iv. Members and residents were given the opportunity to complete a spreadsheet to write down the areas that suffer with the speeding traffic and where they think the TruCam operator(s) can stand. No areas were identified, but people will email the clerk, who will collate a list of places and send off to Adrian Rayner for him to send to the police for them to health and safety check, then a timetable can be set up of days and times in these approved areas.
- v. It was resolved to purchase a salt bin to go in the vicinity of the notice board in Asheldham to how it works out.

**19-20/114 – PLANNING MATTERS**

- a) **Planning Application – no planning applications for decision for November.**
- b) **Correspondence received over the course of the month and circulated via e-mail:**
  - i) List of planning applications 40/41/42/43/44/45/46
  - ii) List of planning decisions and appeals 40/41/42/43/44/45/46
  - iii) Decisions made in relation to Asheldham & Dengie – none at the time of writing.
- a) **Planning enforcement updates**
  - i 16/00421/CU – Clerk received a response from Charlotte Elderton at MDC after copying in her email to Richard Holmes. The response was that the case was on-going but nearly at a close.

SIGNED.....CHAIR

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**19-20/115 - FINANCE**

- a) Members reviewed the payments for November 2019 - **RESOLVED**
- b) Members reviewed and signed off the Barclays bank statements to the bank reconciliation at at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019 - **RESOLVED**
- c) Members handed the Clerk the personal information forms for the change of the bank mandate. Clerk to action.

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**19-20/116 - DEFIBRILLATOR PROJECT**

- a) Clerk stated there is one more pledge of £200 to be collected, but a total of £1900 had been received. The last £100 received is not showing on the bank reconciliation as it was not paid in until early November.
- b) Clerk stated that the defibrillator should arrive the first week in December however, the cabinet has been sent ahead so that it can be installed. Still not received a quote for the connection of the electricity supply. The Village Hall have agreed to pay the annual insurance cost of £25.00 and the minimal cost of electricity supply. A vote of thanks was made to the Village Hall Committee for this generous gesture on behalf of the community..

**19-20/117 - REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

Cllr Fluker stated that the big part of the full Council transfer was finished and there are now 22% less staff. £1 million efficiency savings have been made. There is a new website allowing self service, allowing payment of bills, there will be over 120 processes when finished, currently able to provide 30. If these changes had not been made, it would have meant joining with another authority.

It is considered controversial moving council offices but the building is now disproportionate to the needs of the District Council.

The Maldon District Council Annual Accounts for 2018/19 have not as yet been published but are showing a £1.5 million underspend.

The Financial Director resigned

There is now a triage type phone system which tries to get you to use the website, however for those people with no computer access, phone contact is still available.

A residential development in North Fambridge going ahead now that the problem has be solved regarding the waste water.

Alderman and Freeman Scheme proposed.

Maldon Medical/Hospital Centre – between two sites.

MDC deciding whether to pay the £48,000 ECC for providing Broadband as they have not delivered what they said they would, which was 91% of houses could get it, which is not the case. ECC have been asked to prove the provision so far.

A discussion took place on the connection, or the lack of it in the area and Mr. Alex Sams was designated the Asheldham and Dengie Broadband Champion. Clerk to send the email detailing the next meeting.

The newly built South Woodham Ferrers Medical Centre will have 3 surgeries amalgamated in one.

**19-20/118 – JOHN MARDON QUIZ NIGHT - 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

Asheldham and Dengie are sending a team. Lyn Moull to let Clerk know the numbers so can let Miriam Holden know. Tickets are £6.00 each.

**19-20/119 VILLAGE BEACON**

A discussion took place regarding the Village Beacon. The clerk was waiting for local company to go and have a look at the beacon and quote for the refurbishment of it, and the cost of putting in the ground at the location that is eventually chosen and approved by either private land owner or Essex County Council. It was thought that it could be done by members and residents, but the Clerk did point out that it would probably be better for a professional outfit to erect the beacon, to cover all health and safety angles and for the public liability insurance to be valid if something went astray. Clerk to pursue quote and members and residents to decide on where to place it. The most favoured position being opposite the Triangle at the top of Manor Road junction with Hall Road and Keelings Road, as this seems to be one of the highest points in the village. Clerk to speak to Olive Porter at Essex Highways regarding what needs to be done. Telephone call booked for Tuesday morning. Clerk to speak to Sarah Grimes at Burnham On Crouch Town Council as they have just gone through the process. Also try to get some information from insurers again.

**19-20/120 - SECOND PUBLIC FORUM**

Mr. Bob Turner made a public apology to Councillor Fluker for the confusion that had arisen in regard to the Dengie Crops Ltd request for a gas main in Dengie. He was sorry for the misunderstanding but didn't know that Cllr Fluker was unaware of this. However, he stated that Dengie Crops had no control over the traffic diversion and apologised to all residents for the disruption it had caused them.

Mr. Cooper informed those present that Mr. D. Morris had informed him that GB Finch had reinstated the ditch near his home (Broomfield).

**19-20/121 - TRAINING**

- a) Cllr Faulkner has attended the first day of Chairman's Training and was to attend the second day on 12<sup>th</sup> November.

**19-20/122 –LOCAL COUNCIL AWARD SCHEME**

- a) Clerk informed members that all the relevant forms had been printed off, but as a lot of the work is displayed on the website, felt it was better to wait until the new website was set up and can ensure that the set up to will fit in with the award scheme and legislation laid down.

**19-20/123 – VE DAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2020/SILHOUETTE OF TOMMY**

- a) Lyn Moull stated that the Village Hall had been booked for Sat 9<sup>th</sup> May for a 40's Themed dance and there will be a live band playing. On Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> a Cream Tea will also take place in the Village Hall, tickets will be limited, so advised to keep an

eye out. Lyn also said that the Village Hall Committee are happy to organise this. Clerk stated that if there were any expenses, a budget had been set for this.

- b) Andrew Burnett and Cllr Faulkner to put up Tommy.

**19-20/124 – REMOVAL OF SCHOOL TRANSPORT – ST. LAWRENCE TO BRADWELL**

Item deferred until further information is available.

**19-20/125 - “HAPPY TO CHAT” BENCHES**

It was resolved to apply for a bench for each Village – one to replace the one outside the church and one to be placed in Asheldham where the phone box used to be. Clerk to apply to Ben Page at MDC.

**19-20/126 - CORRESPONDENCE**

- a) There was no other correspondence other than those items that were already an agenda item.

**19-20/127 - EXTERNAL MEETINGS**

- Next LCLC 4<sup>th</sup> December – see below.

**19-20/128 – INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

- i. Clerk has signed up for Bradwell B updates and requested attendance at a meeting.
- ii. Question arose about the footpath running at the side of Magnox Power Station. Cllr Fluker attending a LCLC on 4<sup>th</sup> December and will raise it there. He stated this meeting was open to any residents that wish to attend and starts at 8.30 a.m. Clerk to also contact the Bradwell On Sea Parish Clerk for information.
- iii. Mr. Cooper requested to let him know how many people will turn up for the litter pick scheduled for 7<sup>th</sup> December for equipment and catering purposes. Also a request for the black bag hoops which made putting litter in the bags much easier. Cllr Fluker volunteered to have a look for these items.
- iv. Dengie Village Sign.

**19-20/129 - DATE OF NEXT MEETING –**

- a) The next meeting will be held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019 at 7 p.m. - Cllr Adrian Fluker sent his apologies.

**19-20/130 –** All business having been transacted. The meeting closed at 8.55 p.m. and The Chair thanked everyone for coming.