



COLCHESTER ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

MINUTES OF THE REMOTE ZOOM MEETING HELD ON: Thursday 27th August 2020 at 7pm

PRESENT: John Gili-Ross (Chairman), R. Johnstone (Vice-Chairman), Petra Palfreyman (CALC Clerk), Chris Stevenson, Simon Dougherty, Alan Frost, Dan Jordan, Karen Thompson, Julie Baker, Andrew Savage, Brian Butcher, Mick Mead, Susan Chamley, Peter Banks.

1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Clerks – Carol Harbach Langham, Jo Beighton-Emms Wivenhoe, David Lines Stanway, Kathryn Cameron Fordham, Liz Malvisi Mount Bures

Councillors – John Akker West Mersea, Peter Dawson Langham, David William Marks Tey, Gerald Wells Marks Tey, Stephen Scrase Wakes Colne

2. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON: 18th June 2020. All agreed.

3. MEETING TOPICS & GUEST SPEAKER

Consultation on proposals for reform of the planning system in England.

Speaker – Karen Syrett Lead Officer Planning, Housing & Economic Growth, Colchester Borough Council.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-the-future>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/changes-to-the-current-planning-system>

Karen presented her take on the proposals and suggested there are some fundamental problems with the White paper and the changes proposed.

The Local Plan committee have agreed to write to all 3 MP's with their concerns for the changes.

The intention is that the changes to the planning system will be implemented quickly.

Karen presented highlights from the report below which is a summary of the highlights of the two papers being consulted on.



White Paper LP
Cmtee 24.8.20.docx



COLCHESTER ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Karen then took numerous questions from attendees regarding Neighbourhood Plans, Rural exception sites, Protected areas and CIL/S106. JGR thanked Karen for her time and professionalism and Karen left the meeting

4. TO RECEIVE REPORTS

a) TREASURES REPORT

The subscriptions have remained at £35 this year. The chairman's letter and invoice was sent out in July and 15 council have paid so far with others stating the payment would be approved at their September meeting.

The current bank balance is £1067.50, including 12 of the 15 subscriptions made.

Invoice to Petra Palfreyman for August 2020 £218.00 – All agreed

b) LOCAL HIGHWAYS PANEL

The next meeting will be on 27 August 2020. Roger Manion will attend and report at the December 2020 meeting. Robert Johnstone stated the documents published by The Department for Transport LTN 120 about Cycle Infrastructure Design and by Essex County Council called Transforming Active Travel in Essex, contradict each other and wanted the LHP to be aware.

c) GOVERNANCE REPORT

Nothing to report

d) EALC EXECUTIVE

The EALC AGM is on 24 September 2020 and JGR requested Councils attend if possible.

<http://www.ealc.gov.uk/upload/files/NoticeofEALCAGM.pdf>

The EALC will be appointing another Vice President and the Lord Lieutenant of Essex, Mrs Jennifer Tolhurst has indicated she is willing to stand.

5. INFORMATION SHARING

Karen Thompson, Clerk from Boxted advised that ECC had not consulted the parish regarding decisions made on a small mill bridge in Boxted and wanted advice. It was recommend that Cllr Kevin Bentley and Sir Bernard Jenkin were advised.

JGR advised that the winter salt delivery has started and Councils should be aware they may turn up without warning.

JGR suggested Town and Parishes should look at environmental action planning and consider areas left for wildlife and natural beauty.



COLCHESTER ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Chris Stevenson advised that if any towns and parishes have a Neighbourhood Plan in place with co-operation from ECC & CBC, there may be issues when a planning application is submitted and communication is poor. West Bergholt have had some issues with this.

6. DATES OF NEXT MEETING:

Thursday 3rd December 2020 – by Zoom
Charlene Slade – CEO Essex Association of Local Councils
Peter Davey – Chairman Essex Association of Local Councils
A talk about the structure of the EALC, future plans, what is currently happening in the sector and news from the NALC

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.25pm and thanked everyone for attending and providing valuable feedback.

Signed..... Date.....
John Gili- Ross, Chairman