



COLCHESTER ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Minutes of the Colchester Association of Local Councils meeting held on Thursday 2nd. March 2017 at 7pm in the Marks Tey Village Hall

Present: Cllr John Gili-Ross (JGR) Chairman, Robert Johnstone (RJ) Vice-Chairman, Stephen Scrase Wakes Colne, Sheila Beeton Dedham, Mark Graham Mount Bures, Allan Walker Marks Tey, Brian Hindley Dedham, Neil Lodge Wivenhoe, Mick Mead and Lance Williams Gt. Horkesley, Alan Frost Abberton & Langenhoe, Harry Stone West Bergholt, Peter Thompson Stanway, John Lindsay Messing-cum-Inworth and Kevin Money (Secretary)

The Chairman (JGR) welcomed everyone to the meeting

1. Apologies for absence were received from Simon Dougherty and Lawrence Alexander
2. To receive reports:
 - a) Treasurer' report.

The treasurer reported that, after paying for this year's hall account, the CALC is still in credit to £1354.30p. The treasurer also informed the meeting that he had not taken his December payment due to illness. JGR proposed and Brian Hindley seconded that this payment be made. **This was unanimously agreed.**

- b) Local Highways Panel

The LHP had met since the last meeting and the meeting minutes and latest project scheme list appears on the ECC LHP web pages. JGR advised Councils to check the status of projects for their respective communities which should hold the latest information. Any queries relating to schemes should be sent to the LHP officer Joe Hazelton - Joe.Hazelton2@essexhighways.org and copied to JGR as the LHP representative. This will help provide continuity and the CALC to work on Councils behalf.

The next LHP meeting is planned for 29th March.

- c) Governance Board – This was nothing to report

d) EALC – Saturday training sessions are now being held and are proving popular and very successful. PC's were reminded of the importance of training for all Councillors and Officers particularly with the constant changes within our sector.

The EALC has had two changes of staff before Christmas and whilst these vacancies have been filled there is reduced resource currently as a result of maternity leave.

An MP lobby day organised by the NALC will take place in Westminster on 28th March.

The EALC Chair and Vice Chair will attend to promote -

- How Local Councils can help achieve housing targets
- How to prevent Local Authorities from blocking communities forming a Parish Council.
- LA charging schemes for waste centres is adding to fly tipping across the County.

- 3) CALC meeting with CBC

A follow up meeting is planned to take place at the CALC meeting on 1st June. Both Cllr Paul Smith and Pam Donnelly will attend the meeting.

CALC Secretary/Treasurer: Kevin B. Money, 25 Boydin Close Witham Essex CM8 1PD: Tel:01376 521616

calc.clerk@gmail.com : <http://www.essexinfo.net/calc/>

CALC Chair: Cllr John Gili-Ross Tel: 01206 242236, email: john.giliross@gmail.com



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4) Community Initiative Fund

The 2017 CIF funds were discussed and Councils were reminded that when making an application they are advised to sell the benefits to the community of receiving a grant from this very successful scheme. Both the emergency scheme and the major project schemes will continue for 2017 and reinforces the commitment by ECC to help communities help themselves.

ECC has announced the formation of two new funding initiatives, which will supplement community project support initiatives to that already provide by the Community Initiative Fund. The two new funding streams will be:-

- The Supporting Communities Fund, £1 million available to support getting new, locally-focussed services which support local communities off the ground, and also to support 'local action' with smaller amounts of money available to local groups, organisations or individuals.
- The Essex Lottery a funding stream for local Essex-based charities.

Both new schemes are due for launch at the EALC Annual Meeting with further information to follow. The Chair of the EALC is working with ECC to help develop these funding streams.

5) Information Sharing:

There are three consultation programmes being undertaken across Essex, which will affect everyone across the County. These consultations were discussed and all are encouraged to take part and have their say. The consultations are:

The A12 Enhancement Consultation – closed 3rd March

The A120 Road Widening Consultation – Closes 14th March

Proposals for combining Essex Police and Fire & Rescue services by the Police Commissioner – Closes 10th May. Video available on line at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w6m4fPcVmQ4>

6) Date of next meetings:

Thursday 1st. June 2017 at Marks Tey Village Hall at 7pm

Thursday 7th. September 2017 at Marks Tey Village Hall at 7pm

Thursday 7th. December 2017 at Marks Tey Village Hall at 7pm

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9pm and thanked everyone for attending

Signed.....1st. June 2017

John Gili-Ross