



COLCHESTER ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Minutes of the Colchester Association of Local Councils meeting held on Thursday 1st. June 2017 at 7pm in the Marks Tey Village Hall

Present: Cllr John Gili-Ross (**JGR**) Chairman, Robert Johnstone (**RJ**) Vice-Chairman Myland Community Council, Mick Mead & Lance Williams Great Horkesley, Paul Smith (**PS**) & Pam Donnelly (**PD**) CBC, Alan Walker Marks Tey PC, John Lindsay Messing-cum-Inworth, Roger Mannion Tiptree PC, Chris Stevenson West Bergholt PC, Mark Graham Mount Bures PC, Susan Chamley Chappel PC, Stephen Scrase Wakes Colne PC, Alan Frost Langenhoe & Abberton PC, Brian Hindley Dedham PC and Kevin Money (Secretary)

The Chairman (JGR) welcomed everyone to the meeting especially Cllr Paul Smith and Pamela Donnelly from Colchester Borough Council.

1. **To receive apologies.** Apologies for absence were received from West Mersea TC, Cllr H. Stone West Bergholt, Cllr Neil Lodge Wivenhoe, Malcolm Bartier, Shaun Boughton Wivenhoe TC, Simon Dougherty Abberton & Langenhoe PC.

2. **Guest Speakers:** Pam Donnelly (**PD**) & Paul Smith (**PS**) Colchester Borough Council.

Questions received from CALC members prior to the meeting that they wished to be asked at the meeting were:

PS stated that he was pleased to see that so many Parish Councils are introducing neighbourhood plans. He went on to answer

- a) What is CBC expected time frames relating to the Local Plan and the milestone activities?

Local Plan Committee are due to consider the Publication Draft of the Local Plan on 12 June. If agreed then a public consultation will take place between 16 June and 28 July. There are a number of events being held – Stanway 17 June; Great Tey 27 June; Marks Tey 1st July; Abberton 3 July; Langham 6 July; Mersea 8 July – details will be sent imminently. Following consultation, the plan will be submitted in Autumn for independent examination which could commence as early as December. Dates will be set by the Planning Inspectorate. We are expecting the examination to proceed in two parts; the first will be a joint examination with Tendring and Braintree of Section 1 of the Plan which includes Garden communities. Part 2 will be the Colchester specific part of the plan and this is not likely to commence until Spring next year at the earliest.

Questions:

Alan Walker asked if following the consultation does the comments go straight to the Inspector. Is this correct? PS said Yes it does. However, if the inspector changes CBC local plan this may make Parish Councils Neighbourhood Plans needing to be amended. JGR. The CBC Local plan is being developed how does this tie all roads and garden villages together. PS said that the Highways agency is not tied to the CBC local plan. CBC is having to make do with the best option at this moment in time.

CBC has not picked up fully about additional junctions on the A12 and A120.

CALC Secretary/Treasurer: Kevin B. Money, 25 Boydin Close Witham Essex CM8 1PD: Tel: 07810781509
calc.clerk@gmail.com : <http://www.essexinfo.net/calc>

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



COLCHESTER ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Alan Walker said that this is the best opportunity to get the infrastructure right. PD said the better the dialogue with ECC and Highways England the better the outcome will be for all. PD also informed the meeting that the "Parish Clerk forum" is being re-introduced in September '17

- b) Has CBC agreed a Community Infrastructure Levy and how will this be applied to those Councils with a Neighbourhood Plan?

PS said that he will be taking b) and c) together

No, the Council has not agreed a Community Infrastructure Levy. The Government has announced it will be making changes to the system in the autumn Budget and until that time we do not know what those changes will be.

- c) If CIL is not going to be set how does CBC envisage the Councils with NP's will receive planning gain payments?

As above we are waiting to hear how the Government intends to change the system.

Q. If there is a Government change after election does this affect CIL?

PS answered that whatever Government is in power there may be a different person in the hot seat so CBC will await the outcome

- d) It is understood that CBC underspent on its budget projection ending March 2017. If this is correct what does CBC plan to do with the underspend?

No. It was that CBC had overspent by £400,000 especially on temporary housing responsibilities. In the last 8 months, more money was spent than in the first 4 months which was within budget.

- e) Is CBC planning to remove, upgrade or redevelop public owned garages located in villages.

CBC are currently in the 4th year of a refurbishment programme to their rentable garage stock, this includes a mixture of upgrade, demolition and rebuild of sites dependant on their condition and the demand in the area. Garages in a number of villages have been included in each of the 4 years of the programme; they include Aldham, Tiptree, Dedham, Fordham, Birch, Layer De La Haye, Great Tey as well as sites within Colchester, West Mersea and Wivenhoe.

The new council houses that were completed in 2015 were built on garage sites that were in very poor condition and low demand but held development opportunity; these were located in Colchester Town and Wivenhoe.

The uptake on the garages since they have been renovated has been very good and has also improved the overall appearance of the areas

RJ: What is the relationship between CBC and ECC Policy on Essex Highways regarding cycling on the pavement in Myland as being acceptable? Shared cycle ways on the pavement is not allowed in the Highway code so why can CBC and Essex highways allow this to happen? RJ went on to say that CBC has had no consultation with Myland over the cycle ways.



COLCHESTER ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

PS said that CBC had not worked well with the cycleway scheme in CBC area and he would be seeing the Councillor responsible for cycle ways to find out where CBC stands in the process.

JGR thanked PS and PD for answering all the questions thoroughly and listening closely to the members concerns. PS & PD then left the meeting

3. To receive the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2nd. March 2017

JGR proposed and RJ seconded that the minutes are a true and accurate record of the meeting. **This was agreed unanimously**

4. **Election of Officers & Representatives:** Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, LHP Representatives, Governance Board Reps, EALC representatives.

RJ proposed John Gili-Ross as Chairman for the forthcoming year. This was seconded by Susan Chamley. **This was agreed unanimously**

Alan Walker proposed Robert Johnstone as Vice-Chairman for the forthcoming year. This was seconded by Mick Mead. **This was agreed unanimously**

JGR proposed Kevin Money as Treasurer for the forthcoming year. This was seconded by RJ **This was agreed unanimously**

RJ proposed John Gili-Ross as LHP representative for the forthcoming year. This was seconded by M. Mead **This was agreed unanimously**

JGR proposed Susan Chamley and Malcolm Bartier as Governance Board representatives for the forthcoming year. This was seconded by Alan Walker. **This was agreed unanimously**

JGR proposed Brian Hindley as EALC representative for the forthcoming year. This was seconded by Alan Walker. **This was agreed unanimously**

5. To receive reports:

a) Treasurer' report

The Treasurer presented the accounts to members prior to the meeting. The accounts were accepted by the members. **The accounts were agreed unanimously**

b) Local Highways Panel

The next LHP meeting is next week under a new management. The new panel will be looking at school's zebra crossings, highways and community friendly. Parking continues to be an issue and must be reported to NEEP. Monies for Highway Rangers and other initiatives will remain. Money is spent to the fullest. LHP operates about a year behind. This year's projects money has already been allocated.

c) **Governance Board.** Nothing to report at this meeting

d) **EALC** Brian Hindley informed the meeting that the EALC Meeting was held on 25.05.2017. Finances.

The EALC is in a healthy financial position. All Councils have re-joined in 2017, bar ONE whom it is anticipated will join shortly.



COLCHESTER ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

CIF revenue and Charity funding. ECC are introducing two avenues of funding which will be launched later on this year by the Chair of ECC. These will be known as Communities Revenue Support Grant and Essex Small Charities Fund. Further details will be circulated in due course.

The EALC Buckingham Palace Garden Party and service award nomination form. This gives Councils an opportunity to nominate a Councillor (present Chair or past Chair) for attendance. Further details can be obtained via Linda Golding email linda.golding@ealc.gov.uk. Applications should be completed by 11.07.2017.

The EALC response to the NALC Governance review is available from EALC.

NALC – Being a ‘Councillor campaign’. This is a suggested list of the areas of publicity to be circulated.

The Vaughton Council of the Year Award can be entered. Applications to kery.wood@ealc.gov.uk. Closing date 26.07.2017.

Essex Matters. With the resignation of Cllr Mick Page efforts are being made to replace him on the EALC with a County Councillor.

Fly Posting/Tipping. This issue has been raised to formulate an Essex policy.

LHP. There is a distinct lack of a standard among Essex Councils of who should be eligible for attendance on these panels. Some have no representation. A meeting will be held with ECC Highways towards resolving this issue.

Emergency Plans. In view of the recent terrible loss of life in Manchester all Councils are urged to review their Emergency Plans.

Training. The EALC program of training is progressing extremely well and courses are filling up, the Saturday courses are very popular. It is proposed that advanced Councillor training will be included in November 2017.

The Police Conference. There are four **free** tickets available to any Council. (Normal cost £25.00)

6. Information Sharing:

Tiptree Pc informed the meeting of problems with travellers in the Parish. If any other Parish Council has problems, especially on Parish land, then please contact Tiptree PC who can assist with contact details of a professional company they have used to move travellers on.

On 14.06.17 it is Essex County Speedwatch day.

Date of next meetings:

All on Thursday's 7th. September '17, 7th. December '17, 1st. March '18, 7th. June '18, 6th. September '18, 6th. December '18 all at Marks Tey Village Hall at 7pm

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10pm and thanked everyone for attending

Signed.....7th. September 2017

John Gili-Ross

CALC Secretary/Treasurer: Kevin B. Money, 25 Boydin Close Witham Essex CM8 1PD: Tel: 07810781509
calc.clerk@gmail.com : <http://www.essexinfo.net/calc>

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