

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF LANGFORD & ULTING PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 16th MAY 2023 AT CROUCHMANS BARN, ULTING

Present: Councillors: Irene Allen, Jenny Clemo, Lester Magness and Kathy Palmer
In the Chair: Councillor Irene Allen
Clerk: Justine Atterbury
Also present: 5 members of the public

23/64. Election of Chairman

Cllr. Palmer proposed and Cllr. Magness seconded Cllr. Allen as Chairman. As there were no other nominations Cllr. Allen was elected Chairman for the forthcoming year. Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Chairman was signed.

It was noted councillors had signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

23/65. Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr. Allen proposed and Cllr. Palmer seconded Cllr. Magness as Vice Chairman. As there were no other nominations Cllr. Magness was elected Vice Chairman for the forthcoming year.

23/66. Co-option of councillor

Cllr. Allen proposed and Cllr. Magness seconded the co-option of C Ashby onto the parish council. All were in agreement and C Ashby was co-opted.

23/67. Appointments to committees

The following appointments were made:

Langford Planning representatives: Cllrs. Allen and Magness

Ulting Planning representatives: Cllrs. Palmer and Clemo

Emergency Planning Officer: Cllr. Ashby

Newsletter: Cllr. Allen

Footpath Representative: Cllr. Ashby

Village Correspondent: Cllr. Allen

23/68. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. Ashby and District Councillor Morgan

It was resolved that Cllr Ashby could sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office before the next meeting on 20 June 2023.

23/69. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of 18th April 2023 having been previously circulated were taken as read, agreed and signed by the Chairman.

23/70. Declarations of Interest

None declared.

23/71. Matters for information from previous meetings

22/130. Dog Waste Bin site –Northumbrian Water were progressing with the purchase of the dog waste bin. They had agreed to keep the parish council informed of timescales.

23/72. County and District Councillor's report

The report circulated from Cllr. Morgan was received. It was noted -

- There was currently no overall majority at Maldon District Council (MDC). The Council Statutory Annual meeting would be held on 18th May.
- The MDC 5 Year Housing Land Supply was now 5.1 which was a significant improvement

than the 3.6 last April.

- There are changes to the Local Highways Panel funding which means there will be less funds available for local schemes.
- The MDC Corporate Plan 2023-27 has been agreed.

23/73. Public Question Time

A question was asked - what is the 5 Year Land Supply?

Under the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), the council is required to identify and update annually a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide a minimum of five years' worth of housing against their housing requirement, this is known as a five-year housing land supply.

23/74. Planning Matters

a) Planning applications received.

23/00408/RESM - Reserved matters application for the approval of access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for the construction of 246 residential units with associated access, parking, servicing and landscaping (Parcels 3, 6 and 7 only) of outline application **15/00419/OUT Land At Broad Street Green Road And Langford Road And Maypole Road Great Totham Essex**
There were no comments on this application.

23/00381/AGR - Prior notification for the erection of an agricultural grain and machinery store
Land At Langford Hall Witham Road Langford

It was noted that a previously built grain store on this site did not appear to have been used for the storage of grain.

b) Planning decisions received.

The planning decisions received were noted.

23/75. Correspondence

a) University of Essex invitation to the Annual Meeting and Summer Reception 29 June from 2:00.

b) Community Networking Breakfast invitation 18th May 9-10 from Maldon CVS. Memorial Hall Southminster.

The correspondence was noted.

23/76. Finance

a) The following payments were authorised:-

	Net	VAT	Gross	
Mr N Spooner	£75.00	0.00	£75.00	Internal audit
Zurich Municipal	£347.36	0.00	£347.36	Insurance

b) The following direct debit payments were confirmed:-

	Net	VAT	Gross	
SSE	£73.28	£3.66	£76.94	Streetlight electricity (April 2023)
SSE	£9.70	£0.48	£10.18	Streetlight electricity (April 2023)
A&J Lighting Solutions Ltd	£17.12	£3.42	£20.54	Streetlight maintenance (May 2023)

d) Internal Audit – The report from the Internal Auditor was received and noted.

e) Bank Reconciliation - Cllr Palmer confirmed that she had undertaken internal control to verify bank reconciliation produced by the clerk for the month of April 2023.

f) Income and Expenditure – The annual finance report showing actual spend against budget for the year to 31st March 2023 was noted.

g) Annual precept – Receipt of £10,500.00 from Maldon District Council was noted.

h) The following cheque was raised and will be ratified at the next meeting:-

	Net	VAT	Gross	
SLCC Essex	£25.00	0.00	£25.00	SLCC Essex AGM and Training Day 7 June.

23/78. Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2023

- a) It was agreed that the accounts for year ending 31st March 2023 should be approved.
- b) Approval of Certificate of Exemption - Income and expenditure for the year were both under £25000 and it was agreed that the Certificate of Exemption – AGAR Part 2 should be signed by the Chairman and clerk.
- c) Annual Governance Statement, (Section 1) was approved by the Parish Council and then signed by the Chairman and clerk. The variances sheet was reviewed.
- d) The Annual Accounting Statement, (Section 2) was approved by the Parish Council and signed by the Chairman.
- e) To note Public Rights dates - It was noted that public rights dates would be 12th June to 21st July 2023.

23/79. General Power of Competence

It was resolved that the council meets the criteria set out in the schedule of the Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012 for the 2023/24 municipal year and is therefore able to exercise the general power of competence as set out in part 1 of the Localism Act 2011.

23/80. Standing Orders.

The Standing Orders were approved.

23/81. LED Upgrade of Parish Council owned Streetlights in Langford.

The offer of Northumbrian Water to fund the LED upgrade of 8 parish council owned streetlights in Langford was received. An offer of thanks was given to Northumbrian Water for their donation.

23/82. Parish Laptop.

The quotes to improve the performance of the parish laptop were considered. It was agreed to award the work to Mr PC (£160 for installing a solid state hard drive, memory upgrade and cloud storage).

23/83. Fixed Asset Register.

The fixed asset register for 2023-24 was agreed.

23/84. Tree Survey.

It was agreed to obtain quotes to survey the two trees timetabled for re survey in Ulting Church yard.

23/85. Replacement Saplings.

The offer of replacement saplings for the green and other areas in the parish was considered. It was noted that any trees planted by the parish council would require ongoing surveys and maintenance. On this basis it was agreed not to take up the offer of the replacement saplings. It was however hoped that other residents could take up the offer. The parish council thanked the resident for their kind offer.

23/86. Speeding Langford and Witham Roads.

It was noted several complaints on speeding vehicles had been raised with Cllr Magness, and he had witnessed an incident first hand. It was noted the speeding between Does and the 40mph speed limit in Langford was worse at off peak times (10-2:30). It was noted the issue of speeding vehicles was compounded by poor visibility due to non cutting of the verges for local residents moving to and from properties. The congestion at peak times meant it was not possible to speed.

It was noted that speedwatch had been speed checking at John Thresh Way. Speed watch would like more volunteers and Cllr Magness volunteered. It was noted that a previous request to change the speed limit on the Witham Road had not met the criteria set by Essex County Council and had been refused. It was agreed to report the issue in the Langford and Ulting Newsletter and to request more volunteers for speedwatch.

23/87. Ulting Annual Parish Meeting.

Councillors considered the issue of flooding outside The Old Schoolhouse in Ulting, which had been raised at the Ulting Annual Parish Meeting. It was agreed to contact Essex Highways to report the issues of the broken pipe and the non-draining ditch. It was agreed to contact Essex Flood Team to ascertain again whether they were able to offer any support to resolve the issue. It was further agreed to circulate the photos and the video of the flooding to all councillors so that they could see the extent of the issue.

23/88. Items from the councillors (NEXT AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

There were no items.

22/89. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 20th June 2023 at Langford & Ulting Village Hall. Cllr Clemo have her apologies for the June meeting.

The Chairman thanked the Tomlins for their hospitality.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Signed:

(Chairman)

Date: