

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF LANGFORD & ULTING PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY
10th DECEMBER 2024 AT LANGFORD & ULTING VILLAGE HALL

Present: Councillors: Irene Allen, Jenny Clemo, Kathy Palmer, Lester Magness and
Colin Ashby
In the Chair: Councillor Irene Allen
Temporary Clerk: John Clemo
District Councillor: Simon Morgan
There were 3 members of the public present

24/166. Apologies for absence

No apologies were received.

24/167. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of 22nd October 2024 having been previously circulated were taken as read, agreed and signed by the Chairman.

24/168. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest received.

24/169. Matters for information from previous meetings

22/31. Refurbished Village Sign – Awaiting installation, new options being sought

24/43. Langford street lighting - emailed and phoned. There is an ongoing back-office issue.

24/140. Oak Trees planning application. Holding objection ongoing, due to insufficient baseline information on mandatory biodiversity net gains.

Tree felling opposite The Old Post Office, Maldon Road.

MDC had updated the Enforcement Case, reference '24/00013/CONSRV' with the information provided'. *Unauthorised felling of trees in a Conservation Area*

24/143. Hoe Mill - Overgrown vegetation blocking the raised footway. A Woodham Walter resident had complained to WW clerk about highways issues here which were reported by Woodham Walter Parish clerk earlier this year. <https://www.essexhighways.org/track-it?enquiry=2938211> Several reports of problems including the wall on the Ulting side too. No action appears to have been taken to date, except some thin double yellow lines re-applied in some places.

24/170. County and District Councillor's report

Councillor Morgan reported that:

- The government's Devolution White Paper yet to be published appear to suggest there would be a Mayor of Essex and unitary authorities to replace current district councils. Proposed reform to be NPPF not yet announced. These measures could compromise localism.
- Council Tax would be set with a 2.99% increase.

Councillor Colin Ashby joined the meeting at this point.

24/171. Public Question Time (limited to 15 minutes if required)

A resident requested details on how to apply for permission to do work on his trees in the conservation area.

24/172. Planning Matters

a) Planning applications received.

24/00839/VAR - [Removal of conditions 24, 25 and 26 on approved planning permission 22/00840/FULM \(Erection of building for Sui Generis purposes, together with car parking, servicing areas and landscaping\)](#) - Maldon Salt, 2 Oval Park, Hatfield Road, Langford.

The Parish Council decided to object to the removal of the above conditions for the following reasons: a) Removal of condition 24 which requires improvements to the bus lay-bys and a footway from the site to the

bus stops is contrary to Policy T1 of the Maldon District Local Development Plan as this condition enhances sustainable transport to the site and improves accessibility in the locality. b) Removal of condition 25 which would require a review for the need of an extension to the 40mph speed limit is contrary to the Parish Council's previous applications to the Local Highways Panel to extend the 40mph speed limit towards Hatfield Peverel. It should be noted that vehicles enter and leave the site from a road where the national speed limit is in force. There are several accidents every year on this stretch of road. c) Removal of condition 26 to augment existing Passenger Transport services to achieve an hourly bus service (07:00 to 10:00 and 15:00 to 19:00) between Hatfield Peverel and Maldon from Monday to Saturday is shortsighted. More people would use the buses if they were more frequent and this would reduce the need to travel by car not only for those employees at the site but also residents of Langford, Ulting and the wider District. d) Provision of a minibus does not contribute to sustainable transport, and is not for the general public to use. In addition, the Parish Council commented as follows: These improvements to the bus service and lay-bys and extension of the 40mph speed limit would not only benefit the employees at Oval Park but also those living in Langford and the surrounding area. It was understood that the planning permission would provide something for the community to offset the intrusion of extra vehicle movements, air pollution, noise pollution and the industrialisation of a rural area.

b) Planning decisions received.

24/00749/TCA - [T328 - Sycamore - Crown reduce by 5m in height and 3m in spread. T962 - False Acacia \(Robinia pseudoacacia\) - Crown reduction by 4m in height and 3m in spread.](#) Langford Waterworks, Hatfield Road, Langford was allowed to proceed.

24/00735/WTPO - [T1 on TPO 6/24 - Cedar - Crown reduction by 1m.](#) Chesterton, Maldon Road, Langford. Application was approved.

c) Planning appeal notification

APP/X1545/W/24/3354510 - S73A application for the change of use of one acre of Land South West Of Stammers Farm, Ulting Lane, Ulting was noted.

24/173. Correspondence

a) 20's Plenty for Essex news had been received.

b) Highway flooding opposite Langford Mill - Resident had asked for advice on contacting Highways.

c) Pensions Regulator – Re-enrolment duties to be completed by 1st October 2025

d) Chelmer Valley Landscape Group meeting to be held on 14th January 2025 at 10.15am.

24/174. Finance

a) Authorisation of payments to:-

	Net	VAT	Gross	
Mr J Clemo	£444.75		£444.75	Clerical services
Tracy Clarke Tree Consultancy Ltd	£420.00	£84.00	£504.00	Tree surveys – closed churchyards

b) Confirmation of direct debit payments to:-

	Net	VAT	Gross	
SSE	£TBC	£TBC	£TBC	Streetlight electricity
SSE	£TBC	£TBC	£TBC	Streetlight electricity
A&J Lighting Solutions Ltd	£17.12	£3.42	£20.54	Streetlight maintenance November 2024
A&J Lighting Solutions Ltd	£17.12	£3.42	£20.54	Streetlight maintenance December 2024
Information Commissioners Office	£35.00		£35.00	Data Protection Renewal Fee

c) Ratification of payment to :-

Maldon District Council	£131.25	£26.25	£157.50	Grass cutting Ulting churchyard
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d) Bank Reconciliation - Cllr Palmer confirmed that she had undertaken internal control to verify bank reconciliations produced by the RFO for months of October and November 2024.

e) The quarterly finance report showing actual spend against budget for the period 1st April to 30th September 2024 was noted.

24/175. Budget 2025/26 and Precept

The Parish Council discussed the 25/26 Budget and agreed the Annual Parish Precept at £14,500. It was noted that the recent tree survey required works which although spread over a number of years were extra unforeseen costs.

24/176 Double Yellow Lines / Clearway – Hoe Mill

Cllr. Clemo who had attended the partnership meeting with MDC, SEPP, Essex Waterways and Woodham Walter Parish Council on 6th November reported that SEPP technicians will carry out an assessment in Spring and Summer next year. In relation to this area and the possibility of upgrading the temporary “fencing off” of the actual lock from the footpath; the question was raised do we need to continue to budget for the Community Engagement Team?

24/177. Tree Surveys

- a) Consideration was given to the tree surveys received for the two closed church yards carried out on 26th November. The pollarded Lime trees in Langford Church were of particular concern as it would be necessary to close the road during the work. Councillor Ashby agreed to deal with the dead elder tree in Ulting Churchyard
- b) It was agreed that the clerk would submit applications to carry out the work on the trees before getting any quotations.

Councillor Morgan left the meeting.

24/178. Ulting Lane Green

The Parish Council agreed there could be replacement trees on Ulting Lane green. Residents had agreed to be responsible for the after care. This could be in conjunction with the trees coming from the Woodland Trust.

24/179. Dates of Meetings in 2025

Confirmation was given to the dates for next year’s Parish Council meetings:

14th January	20th May	16th September
25th February	17th June	21st October
25th March	15th July	18th November
22nd April	19th August	9th December

24/180. Items from the councillors

None received

24/181. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 14th January 2025 at Langford & Ulting Village Hall.

24/182. Exclusion of the Public and Press

It was resolved that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the Meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it includes information relating to individuals.

24/183. Recruitment

It was agreed to offer the position of Parish Clerk and RFO to a candidate interviewed last month.

24/184. NALC Pay Agreement

- a) The Local Government Services pay agreement for 2024-25, was noted
- b) Agreement was given to an adjustment to temporary clerk’s service charge in view of above.

The meeting closed at 9.01 pm.

Signed:

(Chairman)

Date: