

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF LANGFORD & ULTING PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY  
17th MARCH 2020 AT LANGFORD & ULTING VILLAGE HALL.

Present: Councillors Allen, Ashby, Palmer and Magness  
In the Chair: Councillor Allen  
Clerk: Jenny Clemo  
Also present: No members of the public attended

**20/38. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence received from Cllr. Anfilogoff.

**20/39. Minutes of the previous meeting**

- a) The minutes of 11th February 2020 having been previously circulated were taken as read, agreed and signed by the Chairman.  
b) The minutes of 28th February 2020 having been previously circulated were taken as read, agreed and signed by the Chairman.

**20/40. Declarations of Interest**

None declared.

**20/41. Matters for information from previous meetings**

20/27. Community Orchard Interpretation Board – Reminder to Cllr. Ashby to organise photographs while the trees are in blossom.

**20/42. District Councillor's report**

Apologies received from District Cllr. Jarvis. The Chairman read out his report as follows:

- Finance – Interim Section 151 Officer appointed
- Budget – Agreed at a full Council meeting on 13th February 2020
- Maldon Yacht Club – Lease renewed for a further 7 years
- Bradwell B consultation – Comments to be received by 27th May 2020
- A12 to A120 widening scheme – Meeting for Parish Councils organized by Maldon District Council held 11th March 2020
- Performance, Governance and Audit Committee – Looking in particular at S106 agreements and the A12 to A120 widening scheme.

**20/43. Public Question Time** (limited to 15 minutes if required).

- Ulting Lane green – Residents had received a letter from Savills asking for a contribution of £75 from each household to remove moss from the paths
- Bird scarers – If causing a nuisance contact Environmental Health

**20/44. Planning Matters**

a) Planning applications received:

TCA/MAL/20/00093 - T1 Walnut - reshape by one metre on each side. T2 Cherry - Crown reduction of approx. 2.5m. T3 Red Prunus - Reduce by approx. 1.5m. T4, T5, T6 & T7 Leylandii - Reduce by approx. 4m. T8 Pine - Reduce by approx. 2m. T9 Chestnut - Crown reduction of approx. 2m. T10 Cedar - Reduce by approx. 3m. T11 Bay - Crown reduction of approx. 2m. T12 Oak - Crown reduction of approx. 3m. T13 Maple - Crown reduction of approx. 3m. T14 Lime - Reduce by approx. 3m. T15 Separate branches between Lime & Chestnut. T16 Sycamore - Fell and remove. T17 Cherry - Reduce crown by approx. 2m. T18 Bay - Reduce by approx. 2.5m. T19 & T20 Copper Beaches - Reduce by approx. 3m. T21 Sycamore - Reduce by approx. 2.5m. T22 Eucalyptus - Take approx. 5m from height. T23 Silver Birch - Reduce by approx. 3m. T24 Sycamore - Fell & remove. T25 Red Prunus - Reduce by approx. 2m. T26 Silver Birch - Crown reduction & canopy lift of approx by 2.5m, Luards Farm, Ulting Lane, Langford had been allowed prior to tonight's meeting. HOUSE/MAL/19/01063 - Erection of a gazebo. Southlands Farm, Ulting Lane, Ulting. Councillors agreed that no comment was required.

HOUSE/MAL/20/00089 - Proposed demolition of garage and erection of side and rear extensions with associated works. Old Post Office, Maldon Road, Langford. Councillors agreed that no comment was required.

HOUSE/MAL/20/00120 - Demolition of existing garage and construction of replacement garage. Grove Farm, Ashfield Farm Road, Ulting. Councillors agreed that no comment was required.  
 FUL/MAL/20/00157 - Application to carry out ground investigations, load test and associated works in connection with a proposed new Nuclear Power Station at Bradwell-on-Sea, together with the creation of two site compound areas and associated parking areas. Land East Of Bradwell Power Station, Downhall Beach, Bradwell-on-Sea. Councillors agreed to defer making any comment.  
 AGR/MAL/20/00219 - Prior notification for a new hay storage building. Land South East Of The Museum Of Power, Maldon Road, Langford. It was noted that the proposed hay storage building is located in Flood Zone 3.

b) Planning decisions received:

TCA/MAL/20/00024 - T3 Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) - Remove deadwood exceeding 5cm in diameter and/or greater than 1m in length over the car park. Remove hung-up, broken branch. T5 Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) - Reduce crown by 4m all around to alleviate weight. Reduce remaining lateral branch work in accordance with newly established top height. Remove all deadwood from the crown. All Saints Church, Ulting was allowed to proceed.

TCA/MAL/20/00025 - T1 Alder (*Alnus cordata*) - Remove deadwood throughout. T2 Lime (*Tilia cordata*) - Remove deadwood throughout crown. G1 x 4 Lime (*Tilia cordata*) - 1) Remove deadwood throughout canopies of all trees within group where this overhangs the carriageway. 2) Crown lift lowest lateral branch work on all trees within group to 5.2m over the carriageway. St Giles' Church, Langford was allowed to proceed.

TCA/MAL/20/00027 - T9 Tag 249 Robinia - Fell to ground before end of Feb. T11 Tag 972 Norway Maple - Reduce crown by 2 m. T12 Tag563 Horse Chestnut - Reduce faulted northern limb by 9m. Langford Waterworks, Hatfield Road, Langford was allowed to proceed.

#### 20/45. Correspondence

- a) Chelmer Valley Landscape Group – Next meeting which was to be held on 6th April 2020 had been cancelled due to the current situation.
- b) Clean Air Zone – Have your say by 13th April – see: [www.maldon.gov.uk/cleanair](http://www.maldon.gov.uk/cleanair)
- c) RCCE Essex Village of the Year Competition –Closing date for entries was noted.
- d) Chelmsford City Council Local Plan 2013-2036 – Inspector's Final Report on the Examination had been received. Formal adoption was to be considered at a Full Council meeting on 31st March 2020 was noted.
- e) Temporary road closure notification – Closure of Maldon Road, Hatfield Road and Langford Road from 3rd May 2020 for 4 days between 10am – 3pm for surface dressing was noted.
- f) Home Start – Request for donation was noted. The Parish Council does not have a budget for donations to charities.

#### 20/46. Finance

a) The following payments were authorised:-

	Net	VAT	Gross	
Lavenham Press	£315.00		£315.00	Spring newsletter
Mrs J Clemo	£715.00		£715.00	Salary (January – March 2020)
Mrs J Clemo	£72.19	£0.43	£72.62	Clerk's expenses

b) The following direct debit payments were confirmed:-

	Net	VAT	Gross	
A&J Lighting Solutions Ltd	£97.45	£19.49	£116.94	Streetlight repair
A&J Lighting Solutions Ltd	£17.12	£3.42	£20.54	Streetlight maintenance (March 2020)
SSE	£4.17	£0.20	£4.37	Streetlight electricity (February 2020)
SSE	£30.06	£1.50	£31.56	Streetlight electricity (February 2020)

c) Bank Reconciliation - Cllr Palmer confirmed that she had undertaken internal control to verify bank reconciliation produced by the clerk for month of February 2020.

d) VAT Reclaim – It was noted that the clerk had submitted VAT return to 29th February 2020. Amount to be reclaimed was £1043.04.

d) The following cheques were raised and will be ratified at a future meeting:-

	Net	VAT	Gross	
South Haninngfield Tree Surgeons	£2230.00		£2230.00	Works to trees in closed churchyards

Re: Danbury Fencing Ltd	£871.48	£174.30	£1045.78	Additional fencing at Langford closed churchyard
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#### 20/47. **Work on trees in closed churchyards**

It was noted that Maldon District Council had allowed works to trees in both churchyards to proceed and both Archdeacons had agreed to the works. The clerk had contacted the contractor and work is scheduled for 2nd and 3rd April 2020.

#### 20/48. **Neighbourhood Plan**

The Parish Council agreed Maldon District Council's recommendations regarding the response to the Regulation 14 consultation received from Essex County Council. The clerk was asked to send the officer an email to thank her for her help.

#### 20/49. **Hoe Mill bridge update**

a) It was noted that Cllr Magness and the clerk had attended a meeting on site organised by Woodham Walter Parish Council. Cllr Magness reported that the main concerns raised were:

- Access for emergency vehicles
- Vehicles parking, particularly on the verge up to the Woodham Walter side of the bridge
- Those present suggested that the 3 tonne weight limit should be added to the 6' 6" width restriction signs.

b) The Parish Council agreed that the clerk should request double yellow lines either side of the road leading up to the bridge as suggested by Highways' engineers.

(<https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/parking-and-travel/parking-restrictions/request-a-parking-restriction/>)

#### 20/50. **Defibrillators**

a) A request from Maldon District Council regarding Community Public Access Defibrillator sites was noted.

b) Cllr Magness had undertaken further investigation into whether it was appropriate to install a public access defibrillator at the Village Hall and had concluded that this project was a non-starter.

#### 20/51. **Affordable Housing**

The Parish Council agreed that the meeting with the RCCE Rural Housing Enabler and Hastoe arranged for Tuesday 21st April 2020 should be cancelled.

#### 20/52. **Lower Thames crossing consultation**

Councillors agreed that this item would be omitted. See: [lowerthamescrossing.co.uk/consultation-2020](http://lowerthamescrossing.co.uk/consultation-2020)

#### 20/53. **North Quay Development Brief draft SPD**

Councillors agreed that this item would be omitted. See: [www.maldon.gov.uk/northquay](http://www.maldon.gov.uk/northquay)

#### 20/54. **Data Protection Officer**

The Parish Council agreed to accept the offer from Maldon District Council at a cost of £100 (annual subscription charge) and then £50/hour for any DPO work or requests.

#### 20/55. **A12/A120 widening scheme Junctions 19-23**

Cllr Magness reported the following:

- Ringway Jacobs, the contractor had asked for ideas from local councils
- Junctions 20A and 20B at Hatfield Peverel would be closed
- Bridges at Hatfield Peverel to be demolished and rebuilt
- New roundabout between Hatfield Peverel and Witham
- New road between Kelvedon and Marks Tey as the current section cannot be widened.

#### 20/56. **Bradwell B Consultation**

Councillors agreed that this item would be omitted. See: <https://bradwellb.co.uk/>

**20/57. Internal Controls Review**

The council's internal control statement including approval of expenditure, authorisation of payments and how they are made was reviewed and approved.

**20/58. Financial Regulations**

The Parish Council reviewed the Financial Regulations (based on the NALC 2016 model), adopted at a meeting held 19th March 2019 and agreed that no revisions were necessary.

**20/59. Grasscutting Ulting closed churchyard**

The Parish Council agreed that the quotation from Maldon District Council would be accepted at a cost of £399.00 + VAT for 12 cuts. The Chairman thanked Cllr. Ashby for cutting the grass at Langford closed churchyard. It was noted that the clerk had advised the Ulting churchwarden that two gravestones were in need of attention.

**20/60. Annual Litter Pick**

The Parish Council agreed to continue with the litter pick unless further advice received regarding the pandemic. Volunteers wanted! Saturday 11th April 2020 – meet at the Village Hall at 10am.

**20/61. Items from the councillors (NEXT AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)**

Councillors discussed the issues that will ensue due to the suspension of Parish Council meetings during the pandemic emergency. Councillors discussed the delegation of Council decisions to the clerk during any period of restricted activity declared by the Government in respect of the Covid-19 virus to lawfully enable the Council to fulfil its responsibilities. It was proposed that delegation to the clerk, in conjunction with the councillors, (who would be contacted by email) would be ratified at the next Parish Council meeting, to enable the Council to continue with necessary obligations.

**20/62. Date of next meeting**

The Parish Council awaits further guidance from Government before setting a date for the next meeting. Please note that the Annual Langford and Ulting Parish meetings will not be held this year.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Signed:

(Chairman)

Date: