

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF LANGFORD & ULTING PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY
19th MARCH 2024 AT LANGFORD & ULTING VILLAGE HALL

Present: Councillors: Irene Allen, Lester Magness and Colin Ashby
In the Chair: Councillor Irene Allen
Clerk: Justine Atterbury
There were 2 members of the public present.

24/33. Apologies for absence

Apologies of absence were given by Cllrs Kathy Palmer and Jenny Clemo

24/34. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of 20th February 2024 having been previously circulated were taken as read, agreed and signed by the Chairman.

24/35. Declarations of Interest

None declared.

24/36. County and District Councillor's report

There were no reports received.

24/37. Public Question Time

There were concerns raised on the comments made by residents at the previous parish council meeting on the following application - **23/00838/FUL** - S73A application for the change of use of one acre of the land for exclusive use for the purpose of commercial dog training.

Land South West Of Stammers Farm Ulting Lane Ulting Essex. Residents raised concerns that the application had been misrepresented at the previous meeting. It was noted that the dog training field had been located away from neighbours property, parking was available on the site itself and that four rows of trees had been planted to screen the site. It was understood no firecrackers had been used, but the trainer used a starting pistol or dummy launcher. A further resident raised concerns regarding the correspondence he had received from Maldon District Council regarding the removal of trees on his land. It was agreed that the concerns needed to be raised with MDC and not the parish council. The parish council confirmed that they had received correspondence regarding waste on his land. He was advised that waste should not be brought to the site to be disposed of.

24/38. Matters for information from previous meetings

23/114. Public Question Time Hoe Mill

It was noted the request for the extension of the double yellow lines to the South East Parking Partnership was in draft and residents' signatures of support were being sought.

22/131. Ulting Village Sign.

It was noted that a suitable post for the sign had been sourced from the resident at Hoe Mill Lock and arrangements were being made.

24/11. Repairs to Langford Churchyard Fences –

It was noted the fence had now been erected. There were concerns raised that the fence may not be level. It was agreed that Cllr C Ashby should review the fence and if necessary contact the installer and ask them to rectify the issue.

24/12. Ulting Churchyard Tree Work –

It was noted the work on the Ash tree adjacent to the river in Ulting Church had been completed. It was further noted that the insects had again moved into the monolith tree and any work would need to wait until the winter.

24/26. Accidental damage to gravestone Ulting Church – It was noted a response from MDC had

been received. No comments had been received from the church. It was agreed to give permission for MDC to go ahead with the repair as recommended by their stone mason.
 24/43. Streetlights – It was noted that the Clerk had accepted the quotation from SSE for the continuing supply of electricity to the Langford streetlights but had not received a response from them. It was agreed to chase a confirmation from SSE that they had received it.
 24/30. Resignation of the Clerk – It was noted that the post was currently being publicized. The village hall had been booked for interviews.
 24/22. Correspondence - The King’s portrait scheme for Parish Councils – It was noted that the portrait had been ordered.

24/39. Planning Matters

a) Planning applications received:

24/00213/TCA- T1 - Pine – Fell
 Ulting Wick Crouchmans Farm Road Ulting Maldon Essex CM9 6QX
 There were no objections.

24/00194/TCA - T1 - Eucalyptus - Fell. T2 - Conifer – Fell
 Old Post Office Maldon Road Langford Maldon Essex CM9 4SS
 There were no objections.

b) Planning decisions received:

24/00032/TCA - T1,T3,T4,T6 - Horse Chestnut, T2 & T5 - Oak - 2m crown reductions in both lateral and horizontal growth, removal of deadwood and severing Ivy at the base of T6. BOA bracing fitted to the co dominant stem on T2 (Oak tree)
 The Homestead Maldon Road Langford Maldon Essex CM9 4SS9 John Thresh Way Langford Maldon Essex CM9 6FR **APPROVED**

24/00052/TCA - Conifer Tree – Fell
 Chesterton Maldon Road Langford Maldon Essex CM9 4SS **TPO SERVED**

24/00038/TCA - T1 - Maple - Lateral reduction by 2m for access of new overhead mains power cable to be carried out by UK Power Network arborist.
 Langmere Maldon Road Langford Maldon Essex CM9 4SS **ALLOWED**

24/22. Correspondence

- a). Request for reduction of speed limit reduction in Langford to 30mph – The correspondence from a local resident was noted. It was noted that the Local Highways Panel requests were currently on hold and Cllr Durham would be providing information about the new approach to LHPs in April. It was agreed that the parish council still supported a 30mph speed limit in Langford.
- b) Invitation to A service for volunteers 2024 – It was agreed that the Chair should attend if she was free.
- c) Informal consultation Footpath 7 Ulting diversion – There were no objections.

24/23. Finance

a) The following payments were authorised:-

	Net	VAT	Gross	
Maldon District Council	£197.50		£197.50	Uncontested election costs
Mrs J Atterbury	£714.05		£714.05	Salary Jan – March 2024
Mrs J Atterbury	£126.85	£1.63	£126.85	Expenses Jan – March 2024
HMRC	£178.40		£178.40	Tax

b) The following direct debit payments were confirmed:-

	Net	VAT	Gross	
A&J Lighting Solutions Ltd	£17.12	£3.42	£20.54	Streetlight maintenance (February 2024)
SSE	£10.25	£2.05	£12.30	Streetlight electricity (December

				2023)
SSE	£24.06	£1.20	£25.26	Streetlight electricity (December 2023)
SSE	£10.25	£2.05	£12.30	Streetlight electricity (January 2024)
SSE	£24.06	£1.20	£25.26	Streetlight electricity (January 2024)

c) Bank Reconciliation - Cllr Allen confirmed that she had undertaken internal control to verify bank reconciliation produced by the clerk for month of February 2024.

d) VAT Return – It was noted the clerk had submitted return to 29th February 2024.

e) The following cheques were raised and will be ratified at the next meeting:-

	Net	VAT	Gross	
Maldon District Council	£122.25	£24.45	£146.70	Grounds maintenance contract Jan-March 2024
South Hanningfield Tree Surgeons	£475.00		£475.00	Arboricultural services Ulting Church

24/42. **Ulting Churchyard Tree Work** – It was noted, although the parish council had not been formally notified, the decision to grant the TPO on the monolith ash tree had been approved. It was agreed to appeal against the decision.

24/43. **Community Engagement Contract 2024-25 –**

The arrangements to employ the Community Engagement team from April – September up to 4 hours a month to patrol parking at Hoe Mill were confirmed.

24/44. **Appoint Internal Auditor –**

It was agreed to appoint the Neil Spooner as Internal Auditor for the 2024-25 accounts.

24/45. **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.

24/46. **Financial Regulations –**

The Financial Regulations based on NALC 2016 model adopted 21st March 2023 were reviewed and agreed.

24/47. **Items from the councillors (NEXT AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)**

There were no additional items for the next agenda.

24/48. **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 16th April 2024 at Langford & Ulting Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.

Signed:

(Chairman)

Date: