

In the Chair: Cllr. Clark.

Present: Cllr. Cooper, Cllr. Watts, Cllr. Ashcroft

Officers: Mrs Stephanie Robinson (Clerk & RFO)

Members of the public: 2

Meeting started at 7.30 pm.

A resident complained that the car park to Laindon common seems to be getting bigger. Contractors parking in layby and roundabout causing trouble with sightlines. People are parking further and further in to the park. The resident is going to put a light in and put logs to prevent further ingress and wanted to be sure the parish council would not object to this. The parish council explained that they did not own the land but did not object to the residents plans.

24/25.058 Apologies for absence

None.

24/25.059 To receive Members' Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda.

None.

24/25.060 Minutes

Members considered and approved the Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 12th November 2024.

All agreed.

24/25.061 Co-option

The council voted to co-opt James Loton to the council and the Declaration of Acceptance of office was duly signed.

All agreed.

24/25.062 Clerk's report

Precept demand has been submitted to Basildon Borough Council.

Local Plan response has been submitted.

Bollards – Essex Highways will not allow for the placement of bollards of any kind on the verges. Cllr. Cooper explained that this only applies to land adopted by Essex Highways. The land around the war memorial is not adopted by Essex Highways.

Devolution – The Clerk explained that Essex County council have written to the Government to request that Essex County council, Thurrock and Southend be part of the Devolution Priority Programme and for the elections due in May 2025 to be deferred. Should the Government agree to this request the plan would be for Mayoral elections in May 2026 with the Mayor effectively taking over the role of the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner. Essex County Council, Thurrock and Southend would then be replaced by a Mayoral Strategic Authority. Several Unitary Councils would be created (3 or 4) and the existing County, District and Borough councils would no longer exist.

What the implications of this are with regards to the Local Plans currently in place or in the process of being put in place is not known.

24/25.063 Finance

To approve and sign payments at this meeting.
PAYMENTS MADE SINCE NOV MEETING

S.ROBINSON (dec wages + backpay, subsistence, tel & bb, Microsoft + HP)	£653.30
HMRC (dec tax)	£173.20
David Clark Expenses	£101.90
Cutting Edge (work around memorial)	£50.00
Little Burstead Village Hall (bulbs)	£75.00

PAYMENTS TO AUTHORISE AT THIS MEETING

S.ROBINSON (JAN wages , subsistence, tel & bb, Microsoft + HP)	£514.34
HMRC (dec tax)	£115.60
LR& Sons (grass cutting)	£1260.00

Members to approve the accounts/bank reconciliation for December 2024.
Cashbook balance £17,046.81

All agreed.

24/25.064 Financial Regulations

Members discussed and decided to adopt the new model Financial Regulations as put forward by NALC and tailored by the Clerk for Little Burstead Parish Council.

All agreed.

24/25.065 War memorial

Members discussed and decided to put concrete spur posts around the War Memorial and to repair the base.

A local resident (building contractor) offered to do work at cost. A quote will be submitted to the Clerk for consideration once they have assessed the work to be done.

All agreed.

24/25.066 Tree at the Pond

Members discussed and decided to get a quote from a tree surgeon to remove the overhanging branch. Cllr. Clark to get quote and go ahead with the work if the quote is £1500 or less.

All agreed.

24/25.067 Gleesons wishlist

Members discussed and decided upon items to put forward to Gleeson homes as their wishlist:

Fence at edge of conservation area.

More native trees on common.

Dealing with Japanese knotweed

Dealing with tree in pond

Village orchard.

Clear bramble on the green.

All agreed.

24/25.068 Next edition of Little Burstead Times

Members discussed items for inclusion in the next edition of the Little Burstead Times and who will be responsible for writing them.

Prof Bridle – guide to retirement. Diet chapter.

List of listed buildings (Cllr. Cooper to write)

Devolution – impact on residents (Clerk to write)

Almshouses – Cllr. Clark to write

Conservators – Cllr. Clark to chase.

24/25.069 Planning

To consider a list of planning applications below received since the last meeting and decided under delegated decisions to the Clerk.

None

To consider Planning Applications received prior to the meeting.

24/01457/FULL - Single storey rear extension - Westview The Chase Little Burstead Billericay
No objections

Planning Applications received after this Agenda has been published but before the date of the meeting will be added as appropriate.

None.

24/25.070 Reports from Councillors/Borough and County councillors.

Cllr. Watts - Highways meeting is this Monday. ABLC deferred until February. ABLC looking for planning representatives.

24/25.071 Items from Councillors to be added to the next Agenda.

Bollards on triangle.

Meeting closed 9.27pm

Email: littlebursteadpc@gmail.com Text:

All agendas and minutes can be viewed on the Parish Council's website

<https://e-voice.org.uk/lbpc>