

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE YELDHAM, TILBURY JUXTA CLARE AND OVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, LITTLE YELDHAM ON TUESDAY, 28th JANUARY 2020 AT 8 P.M.

In the chair: Mr. K. R. Nott

Present: Mrs. K. Chapman, Mrs. A. L. Gardiner, Mr. P. J. Gentry, Mrs. C. M. P. Gray, Miss. T. Kelson, Mrs. R. K. Marsh, Mr. A. Osmond-Evans, Mr. D. Patient, Mr. P. E. Pawsey and Mrs. M. D. Pearce
Mr. A. Corder-Birch (Clerk)
Mrs. I. Parker (District Councillor)
Together with 5 (five) members of the public

81) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr. D. Finch (County Councillor)

82) TO CO-OPT NEW COUNCILLOR FOR LITTLE YELDHAM

The Chairman reported that two candidates had applied to fill the vacancy for Little Yeldham namely Mr. R. W. Gardiner and Mrs. M. D. Pearce. Each candidate made a short presentation following which Councillors voted as follows:

Mr. R. W. Gardiner	4 votes
Mrs. M. D. Pearce	4 votes
Abstentions	2

The Chairman used his casting vote in favour of Mrs. M. D. Pearce who was co-opted to fill the vacancy.

83) DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Mrs. M. Pearce was welcomed as a councillor and signed her declaration of acceptance of office. Mrs. C. M. P. Gray, was also welcomed as a councillor, had previously signed her declaration of acceptance and both declarations were countersigned by the Clerk.

84) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no interests declared.

85) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12th November 2020, having been previously circulated, were taken as read, were confirmed and duly signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

86) MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

There were no matters arising.

87) CORRESPONDENCE

The correspondence received and listed in appendix one was referred to Councillors for information and the contents noted

88) ACCOUNTS

The Clerk reported that £1355.00 had eventually been received from EALC on behalf of ECC Local Services Fund following an inordinate delay and considerable chasing.

The Clerk had submitted a claim to HMRC for refund of VAT amounting to £1141.26 for the year 2019.

The following accounts were presented for payment:

Mr. K. S. Bailey – shelving work in former telephone kiosk at Ovington	£200.00	
Society of Local Council Clerks – annual subscription for 2020	£65.00	
Halstead Glass – installation work at Belchamp Community House	£455.00	
Trustees of Belchamp St. Paul Community House – balance of grant for 2019/20	£20.83	
Little Yeldham Village Hall – Grant for 2019-2020	£400.00	
Hire of hall for meetings during 2019	£90.00	
Half share of cost of repairs to garage	<u>£237.78</u>	£727.78

It was proposed by Mr. P. E. Pawsey, seconded by Mr. D. Patient and carried that the above accounts are paid.

89) UPDATE UPON DEFIBRILLATOR FOR TILBURY JUXTA CLARE

Miss. T. Kelson reported that she was applying for a grant from the National Lottery Fund towards a defibrillator for the former telephone kiosk at Tilbury Juxta Clare.

90) TREE SURGERY WORK ON LITTLE YELDHAM PLAYING FIELD

The Chairman reported that UK Power Networks had completed the removal of branches and foliage away from the power cables at Little Yeldham Playing Field and that he had asked Joe Berens Tree Care to quote for the remaining tree work specified in his tree report. The Chairman reported upon a successful site meeting at Sewell's Farm with Mr. Daniel Ladkin. He had agreed that the vehicular access through the farm yard used by Anglian Water could also be used by the Parish Council contractors, to facilitate access for cutting the grass on Little Yeldham Playing Field. In this respect Mr. Ladkin had removed a gate, which had previously caused an obstruction. He had also offered to level the ground near the existing disabled path, which will provide a significant improvement to the playing field and his offer was gratefully accepted.

91) TO CONSIDER BUDGET AND PRECEPT FOR 2020-2021

The RFO reported that following consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman the following budget was recommended:

Grass and hedge cutting	£2722.00
Administration	£2857.00
Village Halls	£800.00
Air Ambulance Donation	£100.00
Tree Surgery work	£1500.00
Maintenance of play equipment on playing field	£965.00
Allowance for inflation	<u>£221.00</u>
Total	£9165.00

It was noted that this would be a significant increase over the budget of £7055 and precept of £5700 the previous year, the major difference being the loss of the BDC Localism Fund and ECC Local Services Fund grants. The Chairman and Vice Chairman

advised that £1500 for tree surgery work and £965 for play equipment would be one off payments, which were required in the interests of safety. It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by the Vice Chairman and carried that the Parish Council precepts for £9165.00 for 2020-2021. The precept form was duly completed, signed by the Chairman and countersigned by the RFO.

92) REPORT OF LITTLE YELDHAM VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

Mr. P. Gentry reported that the necessary formalities for him to become a trustee had eventually been completed. Unfortunately no meeting of the committee had since been held and it was hoped that a meeting would take place during February.

93) UPDATE OF PROWs IN LITTLE YELDHAM & TILBURY JUXTA CLARE

Mrs. R. K. Marsh reported that new way marker discs should arrive during the next few days for erection. The amount payable for cutting grass along PROWs on the lengths shown on the map supplied to ECC had still not been established.

94) TO CONSIDER MAINTENANCE OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

Mr. P. Gentry reported that he had met Mr. C. Mortimer of Mortimer Contracts on site who had prepared a quote for maintenance work of £965 net. This was accepted by the Parish Council and included in the budget. (See minute 91 above).

95) REPORT UPON CHANGES TO SEPTIC TANK REGULATIONS

Mr. D. Patient reported upon changes to domestic non-mains sewerage/waste management regulations, which came into force on 1st January 2020. Domestic property owners need to ensure their septic tanks are compliant before selling properties. (See information from Government website forwarded to councillors on 31st January 2020).

96) COUNCILLORS PERSONAL DATA

Mr. D. Patient reported that consequent upon possible hacking into the Chairman's emails he had carried out some research into how much of councillors personal data should be included on the Parish Council website. He circulated a decision from the Information Commissioner's Office relating to a case involving North Huish Parish Council. In light of this case it was agreed to restrict Councillor's personal data to their names and one email address for all councillors. This will be operated by Mr. Gentry as PC Webmaster who will forward incoming emails to councillors as appropriate. The use of private addresses and telephone numbers was no longer acceptable. GDPR was raised and the Clerk confirmed that GDPR regulations had been carefully considered by councillors in office at the time and fully complied with. (Post meeting note: The new email address is: ly.tjc.ovington.parishcouncil@gmail.com)

97) BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

Mrs. I. Parker reported on the following:

- a. Local Plans – The proposed Garden Communities examination is in progress and the decision is expected in two or three months.
- b. A consultation upon proposed pedestrianization of Braintree Town Centre will close on 6th February 2020.

- c. A new visit Braintree Tourism website is being set up to promote tourism.
- d. Two hundred affordable houses have been built and occupied in the district.
- e. A Climate Change Working Group has been set up with a wide remit.
- f. Permission was granted for one thousand houses on the northern side of Braintree conditional upon highway improvements, including Marks Farm roundabout.
- g. Improvements to junction 8 of the M11.

Mrs. Parker was thanked for her report.

98) ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

In the absence of Mr. D. Finch no report was given.

99) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) Fallen tree at North End

Mrs. A. Gardiner agreed to ask Mr. I. Yeldham to remove a fallen tree on his property away from the stream.

b) Speeding along Little Yeldham Road

Mr. P. Gentry, Mr. D. Patient and the Clerk referred to emails from Mr. M. Talbot of 71 Little Yeldham Road who was concerned about the speed of traffic outside his home. He had been advised that this section of road does not meet the ECC criteria for a 30 mph speed limit. However as it was in a 40mph limit, Mrs. K. Chapman will ask the Community Speed Watch volunteers if they can carry out a speed check.

c) Hedgerows

Mr. A. Osmond-Evans reported upon hedgerows, which had been cut back far too savagely, with insufficient growth being left for wildlife. Mrs. R. Marsh and Mrs. A. Gardiner explained that landowners receive complaints from road users if hedges were not cut. The issues of hedges along highways, was often contentious.

d) Former telephone kiosk at Ovington

Mr. P. E. Pawsey reported that Mr. K. S. Bailey had completed the installation of the notice board and shelving for books inside the former telephone kiosk at Ovington and thanked the Parish Council for its support.

e) Barn at 83 Mashey Road

Mrs. R. Marsh reported that a barn had recently been erected at 83 Mashey Road and enquired if planning permission was required or obtained. Mr. Gentry agreed to investigate.

f) Tankers damaging verges through Tilbury Juxta Clare

Miss. T. Kelson reported that large tankers were churning up grass verges through Tilbury Juxta Clare. Mr. Gentry suggested that Miss. Kelson contacts ECC Highways.

There was no other business.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm

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(Date)

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(Chairman)