

MINUTES OF THE LITTLE YELDHAM, TILBURY JUXTA CLARE AND OVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, LITTLE YELDHAM ON TUESDAY, 14th NOVEMBER 2023 AT 7 P.M.

In the chair: Mr. D. C. Patient

Present: Mrs. K. Chapman, Mrs. C. Gray, Mrs. S. Harris and Mrs. L. Lawrence
Mr. A. Corder-Birch (Clerk)
Mr. T. Lynch (Street Scene Protection Officer, Braintree District Council)
Mr. S. Thompson (Assistant Manager, Street Scene Protection, BDC)

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

67) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mrs. A. Gardiner (visiting Bristol), Mr. P. J. Gentry (illness), Mrs. D. Nott (illness), Mr. A. Osmond-Evans (arrived after meeting closed), Mrs. M. D. Pearce (recovering from operation), Mrs. N. Wookey (illness), Mrs. I. Parker and Mr. P. Schwier.

68) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

69) TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th September 2023, having been previously circulated were taken as read, were confirmed and duly signed by the chairman as a correct record.

70) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising.

71) CORRESPONDENCE

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

72) ACCOUNTS

The Clerk reported receipt of the following:

BDC – Second half of the precept £3,958.00

UK Power Networks – Wayleave payment £40.99

The following accounts were presented for payment:

Braintree District Council – Election expenses £210.15

Mr. A. Corder-Birch – Clerks salary £447.00 and Petty Cash £75.00 £522.00

H. M. Revenue & Customs £120.00

Essex Pension Fund £173.64

Mr. D. Gotts – grass cutting in Little Yeldham and North End £975.00

Mr. J. Bright – grass and hedge cutting in Little Yeldham £464.00

Mr. K. Shears – grass & hedge cutting in Tilbury Juxta Clare
and repairing bollard at Church Green, Little Yeldham £263.00

Mr. P. E. Pawsey – grass cutting in Ovington £322.33
Society of Local Council Clerks – annual membership subscription £76.00
It was proposed by Mrs. S. Harris, seconded by Mrs. K. Chapman and carried that the above accounts are paid.

73) TO CONSIDER DOG BINS IN TILBURY JUXTA CLARE

Mrs. S. Harris reported that she had met Mr. T. Lynch who had approved the proposed location of dog bins on three sites in Tilbury Juxta Clare. Mrs. Harris was later informed that BDC was reviewing dog bins and the review will need to be completed before an order is placed. Mr. S. Thompson then will re-evaluate the three sites and consult nearby residents and in the meantime the proposed bins cannot be installed. It is intended that BDC will provide two bins FOC for each parish and thereafter the Parish Council will need to pay for the third or any future bins, which another team at BDC will then install. Mrs. L. Lawrence reported there were no dog bins in Ovington and will ascertain the demand with a view to consulting Mr. Lynch in the New Year. The problem of dog fouling, particularly at North End, was discussed and BDC can write advisory letters to dog owners who fail to pick up and relevant fines. Mr. Lynch and Mr. Thompson gave details of other types of street scene protection work apart from dog fouling including stray dogs, barking dogs, litter, environmental crime and anti-social behavior. Mr. Lynch and Mr. Thompson were thanked for attending the meeting.

74) COMPLETION OF ONLINE BANKING

The Clerk reported completion of registering the PCs bank accounts for online banking.

75) TO CONSIDER NEW GRASS CUTTING CONTRACTOR

The Clerk reported that having cut the grass in Little Yeldham and North End for many years, Mr. David Gotts was unable to continue and a new contractor will need to be found. The Chairman and Clerk had suggested the following: Mr. Chris Mortimer of Mortimer Contracts Limited, Mr. Kevin Shears, Mr. John Bright and Solum Landscapes. It was agreed to defer further consideration until the next meeting.

76) UPDATE UPON LITTLE YELDHAM RECREATION GROUND

A written report (appendix two) prepared by Mrs. M. D. Pearce was read by the Clerk and the contents noted. Arising from the report, Mr. K. Chapman enquired about proposed fencing around the play equipment to protect users from dogs. Mr. D. Patient reported that there were not sufficient funds available, but the proposed fencing will be reviewed by Little Yeldham Recreation Ground Committee when funds are available.

77) TO REVIEW DRAINAGE BEHIND BUS SHELTER AT NORTH END

Mr. D. Patient explained that a catch pit behind the bus shelter at North End facilitates drainage off the highway. It was full of debris and ECC Highways had been asked to clear it. They had failed to do so and Mr. Patient had raised the issue with Mr. P. Schwier. Mrs. K. Chapman reported that it had recently been dug out by machinery, skips filled with debris and taken away. The stream had also been cleared out and the flooding problem at North End largely resolved. Mrs. Chapman will make enquiries to endeavor to ascertain who carried out this work so they can be thanked.

78) UPDATE UPON PROPOSED WEIGHT AND WIDTH RESTRICTIONS

The Clerk had initially taken up the proposed weight and width restriction limit on the road between Great Yeldham and Clare through Tilbury Juxta Clare and Ovington with Highway Officers and Mr. P. Schwier. Mr. Schwier had raised it with ECC Highways and referred it to Braintree LHP. Mr. D. Patient had followed it up with Mr. Schwier, but it had not yet appeared on an LHP agenda. It will hopefully appear on the next agenda when Councillors desire to attend the meeting to speak under public comment.

79) TO CONSIDER OTHER HIGHWAY ISSUES

Mr. D. Patient offered Councillors help with reporting highway issues online providing they are within Little Yeldham, Tilbury Juxta Clare and Ovington. He will also send Councillors the highways online link. Consequent upon an email sent by the Chairman to the three Tilbury Councillors regarding flooding in Clare Road, they will speak to the farmers concerned and ask them to clear out their ditches. It was noted that the Clerk had again reported three blocked drains in the highway in Ovington, to ECC Highways following earlier online reports in 2021, 2022 and early 2023.

80) ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

In the absence of Mr. P. Schwier no report was given, but numerous updates were noted.

81) BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

A written report from Mrs. I. Parker was circulated to Councillors and noted.

82) DATES FOR MEETINGS IN 2024

The following dates, times and venues were agreed on Tuesdays at 7pm at the Village Hall, Little Yeldham unless otherwise stated:

16th January 2024

5th March 2024 – Ovington Annual Parish Meeting – The Meeting Room in the Old Granary at Ovington Hall

12th March 2024 – Little Yeldham Annual Parish Meeting 7pm followed by Parish Council Meeting at 7.30pm

30th April 2024 – Tilbury Juxta Clare Annual Parish Meeting – Tilbury Church

21st May 2024 – Annual Parish Council Meeting

16th July 2024

10th September 2024

19th November 2024

83) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. K. Chapman reported erosion to the Village Green at North End mainly caused by tractors. It was suggested that wooden verge marker posts, with steel rods inserted and concreted in the ground may be the remedy. Mrs Chapman will consult the recommended contractor and obtain a quote for consideration at the next meeting

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8 pm

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(Date)

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(Chairman)