

MINUTES OF LITTLE YELDHAM, TILBURY JUXTA CLARE AND OVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, LITTLE YELDHAM ON TUESDAY, 12th MARCH 2024 AT 7.30 P.M.

In the chair: Mr. P. Gentry

Present: Mrs. K. Chapman, Mrs. A. L. Gardiner, Mrs. S. Harris, Mrs. L. Lawrence, Mrs. D. Nott, Mr. D. C. Patient, Mrs. M. D. Pearce and Mrs. N. Wookey.
Mr. A. Corder-Birch (Clerk)

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

103) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mrs. C. Gray (tooth extraction), Mr. A. Osmond-Evans (ill health), Mrs. I. Parker and Mr. P. Schwier

104) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mrs. A. L. Gardiner declared an interest in connection with item 13 on the agenda relating to the proposed widening of the corner at Hall Green, Little Yeldham.
No other interests were declared.

105) TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th January 2024, having been previously circulated were taken as read, were confirmed and duly signed by the chairman as a correct record.

106) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising.

107) CORRESPONDENCE

The correspondence received was referred to Councillors for information and the contents noted.

108) ACCOUNTS

The Clerk reported receipt of £23.95 from Easyfundraising in respect of Little Yeldham Recreation Ground.

The following account was presented for payment:

Assington Fruits Limited – supply of two trees, stakes and ties £86.00

It was proposed by Mr. D. Patient, seconded by Mrs. N. Wookey and carried that the above account is paid.

109) TO CONSIDER QUOTE FOR POSTS ON VILLAGE GREEN, NORTH END

Mrs. K. Chapman reported that the following quotes had been received:

Solum Landscape Contractors Limited £834.00

Skyline Fencing & Landscaping £814.36

It was proposed by Mrs. S. Harris, seconded by Mrs. A. L. Gardiner and carried that the quote from Skyline Fencing and Landscaping is accepted

110) TO CONSIDER RENEWING SLA FOR GRASS CUTTING ON RECREATION GROUND AT LITTLE YELDHAM

The Clerk reported that BDC had invited the Parish Council to renew its SLA for grounds maintenance (grass cutting) contract for the Recreation Ground at Little Yeldham. BDC's price for 2024-2025 was £1,080, which was an increase of £100 over last year. It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. D. Patient and carried to renew the agreement for £1080.00.

111) TO CONSIDER NEW GRASS CUTTING CONTRACTOR

The Clerk reported that quotations for grass cutting at Little Yeldham Churchyard and Village Greens at North End and Little Yeldham had been requested from (i) Solum Landscape Contractors Limited (ii) Mortimer Contracts Limited (iii) Mr. Kevin Shears, (iv) BDC and (v) Mr. John Bright. Mortimer Contracts, BDC and Mr. Bright had declined to quote and the quotes received were as follows:

Solum Landscape Contractors Limited - £385 per visit x 20 visits = £7,700.00

Mr. Kevin Shears - £120 per cut for 12 cuts a year on a fortnightly basis = £1,440.00

It was proposed by Mrs. L. Lawrence, seconded by Mrs. M. Pearce and carried that the quote from Mr. K. Shears is accepted.

112) UPDATE UPON LITTLE YELDHAM RECREATION GROUND

Mrs. M. D. Pearce had previously circulated her report, which accompanies these minutes as appendix one. Arising from the report Mrs. Pearce added that Playdale will be returning during April to carry out work upon the Orbital equipment. Mrs. A. L. Gardiner expressed concern that if a table tennis table is provided it will change the age dynamics of those using the Recreation Ground. Mrs Pearce explained that it was requested by adults and will be reviewed if funding is obtained. The Chairman thanked Mrs. Pearce for her report and her team for the work carried out.

113) UP DATE UPON DOG BINS IN TILBURY JUXTA CLARE AND OVINGTON

Mrs. S. Harris reported that BDC's review of dog bins was still awaited and was expected to be completed by the end of March. One sign had been erected along Clare Road and the post along Tilbury Road needs to be re-erected. A post for a sign is required along Belchamp Road, which Mrs. Gardiner offered to supply. Mrs. L. Lawrence reported that there were no dog bins in Ovington and following completion of BDCs review it was hoped that two dog bins will be provided free of charge for both Tilbury Juxta Clare and Ovington.

114) UPDATE UPON PROPOSED WEIGHT AND WIDTH RESTRICTIONS

Mr. D. Patient reported that the proposed weight and width restriction limit on the road between Great Yeldham and Clare through Tilbury Juxta Clare and Ovington had not appeared on the LHP agenda for 20th March 2024 as expected, but this meeting had been postponed to a date to be fixed in April, but no reason had been given for the postponement. The Clerk had provided a bundle of correspondence with ECC Highways and the MP, relating to the previous attempt for a weight and width restriction limit from 1972 to 1983. Mr. Patient will extract useful information from this correspondence to incorporate in an application to the LHP consequent upon Mr. Schwier having now declined to make the application as previously agreed. Councillors will carry out an up to

date traffic survey to compare with the 1972 to 1983 figures, which should illustrate larger lorries and more vehicles using the road.

In view of the large number of outstanding highway issues in the three villages, Mrs. L. Lawrence reported that Mr. P. Schwier had consented to hold a Zoom meeting with representatives of the Parish Council (including Mr. D. Patient, Mrs. S. Harris, Mrs. L. Lawrence, Mrs. D. Nott and Mr. A. Osmond-Evans) and proposed dates and times were awaited from Mr. Schwier. Councillors will prepare a detailed list of all outstanding highway issues, with ECC online references, prior to the meeting to which will be added the following:

- a) Mud on road at Mashey Road, Little Yeldham
- b) Overgrowing vegetation from Spencers
- c) Appalling condition of road near Spencers entrance
- d) Potholes along Tilbury Road
- e) Missing cover to manhole at edge of carriageway in Clare Road, TJC.
- f) Blocked drains in highway at Clare Road, Ovington

In the meantime the mud on Mashey Road and overhanging vegetation at Spencers will be reported online to ECC Highways as a matter of urgency, with a request that enforcement action is taken a.s.a.p.

115) HALL GREEN CORNER, LITTLE YELDHAM

Mrs. A. Gardiner reported that large grain lorries, which had increased from 20 tons to 29 tons, were having difficulty negotiating Hall Green Corner, including access to Upper Yeldham Hall Farm. The corner is too narrow and needs widening, but it was understood that ECC Highways will not consider this unless the land is given. Mrs. Gardiner confirmed that the land will be given, but the existence of a fire hydrant will need to be taken into consideration. Mr. D. Patient will send Mrs. Gardiner the relevant LHP application form for completion, which will then need the approval of Mr. P. Schwier as County Councillor.

116) TO REVIEW DRAINAGE BEHIND BUS SHELTER AT NORTH END

Mrs. K. Chapman reported that the catch pit behind the bus shelter at North End was full of sludge and that a broken slab needs repairing. ECC Highways had refused to carry out the work although water drains off the highway. Mrs. Chapman met a representative of Contract Trenching Limited on site who was already familiar with drainage in North End. A quotation had since been received from Contract Trenching Limited to carry out the work for £790.00 net to remove the sludge, repair the slab and make the area safe. It was proposed by Mrs. A. L. Gardiner, seconded by the Chairman and carried that the quote from Contract Trenching Limited for £790 be accepted.

117) TO CONSIDER ROAD BLOCKAGES AT GREAT YELDHAM

Mr. D. Patient reported that his wife had sent an email to the Chairman of Great Yeldham Parish Council on 31st January 2024 regarding the frequency of the road at Bridge Street and Leather Lane as far as The Croft Great Yeldham, being blocked by parked vehicles and the difficulty encountered by towing vehicles if they meet another vehicle and have to reverse. Mrs. A. L. Gardiner also reported problems with the road being blocked by Amazon and other delivery drivers. Concern was expressed about the possibility of

emergency vehicles not being able to reach Little Yeldham in the event of an emergency. Unfortunately, Mrs. Patient had not received a reply from Great Yeldham Parish Council. As this was clearly an issue for Great Yeldham Parish Council to take forward, the Clerk was asked to follow this up and raise it with Great Yeldham Parish Council.

118) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35 pm

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(Date)

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(Chairman)