

MINUTES OF TILBURY JUXTA CLARE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD IN THE CHURCH, TILBURY JUXTA CLARE ON TUES, 17TH APRIL 2024 AT 7.P.M

In the chair: Mr. P. J. Gentry
Present: Mrs. S. Harris and Mr. A. Osmond-Evans
Mr. A. Corder-Birch (Clerk)

1) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mrs. C. Gray and Mr. P. Schwier

2) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting held on 15th May 2023 were read by the Clerk, confirmed and duly signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3) MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

There were no matters arising.

4) BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

A written report from Mrs. I. Parker was circulated and a copy accompanies these minutes as appendix one.

5) ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

A written report from Mr. P. Schwier was circulated and a copy accompanies these minutes as appendix two.

6) HIGHWAYS MEETING AND HIGHWAY ISSUES

Mrs. S. Harris gave a report of a Zoom Meeting with Mr. P. Schwier and other Parish Councillors held on 8th April 2024 specifically for highway issues. The following highway issues concerned Tilbury Juxta Clare:

- a. Proposed weight, width and speed restriction limits will be validated by Mr. Schwier upon Mr. D. Patient completing application to Braintree LHP. In connection with proposed limits and the Solar Farm planning application, Mr. Schwier had recommended that the PC obtains an independent traffic survey for £325, which will be considered at the next PC meeting.
- b. Vegetation, hedges and trees from Spencer's estate overhanging the highway had already been reported to ECC Highways online. This will be the subject of a request from ECC to the landowners to maintain their trees and hedges to keep the highway clear. In default ECC has power to take enforcement action, clear the overhanging trees and hedges and charge the landowners. It was noted that the vegetation was also affecting the electricity and telephone cables.

With regard to the overhanging vegetation, Mr. A. Osmond-Evans reported that he had visited the owner of Spencers and asked him to cut back the trees and hedges overhanging the road.

7) PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Mrs S. Harris gave the annual Parish Council report as follows:

- a. The Amenity Vehicle with driver was appreciated by residents last year and will continue this year.
- b. A circular will be delivered to TJC residents regarding the Amenity Vehicle and the opportunity will be taken to remind residents to cut back any trees, hedges and vegetation overhanging highways and footpaths.
- c. The result of the dog bin review by BDC was still awaited, but dog signs had been erected and appeared to be working.

8) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a. Pathway at Tilbury Hill

Mr. A. Osmond-Evans reported upon a request he had received from Mrs. S. Tyrell asking for the pathway outside Wisemans Cottages at Tilbury Hill to be reinstated and made good. The poor condition of this pathway will be reported to ECC Highways using its online reporting tool.

b. Venue for future Tilbury Juxta Clare Annual Parish Meetings

The venue for future Tilbury Juxta Clare Annual Parish Meetings was reviewed and following careful consideration it was agreed to continue holding the annual meetings in Tilbury Juxta Clare Church.

There was no other business.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8pm

.....
(Date)

.....
(Chairman)

DRAFT Awaiting Approval

APPENDIX 1 - BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

Report for Parish Councils from Cllr Iona Parker, Braintree District Council – Feb/March 2024

1. The Council's budget for 2024/2025 of £19.6m was approved at the meeting of Full Council on 19th February. Despite ongoing cost pressures and increased demand for services, the Council remains in a sound financial position for the forthcoming year compared to other councils.
2. There remains a forecast deficit over the medium term to 2027/28 of £2.3m. The Council will be looking at ways to address this and will be developing a "Fit for the Future" transformation programme to look out how resources can be used more effectively and how we can work better with other partners. A sum of money has been set aside for this work from the New Homes Bonus the Council receives from the Government. A further sum has been set aside from the NHB to add to the risk reserves to recognise the uncertainties over future costs and demand.
3. Full Council also passed a resolution on Council Tax for the forthcoming year. The Braintree District Council element of Council Tax will rise by 2.96% which represents an increase of 11p per week for a band D property.
4. The main highlights from the Budget as far as my ward is concerned are:
 - Councillor Community Grants to continue – each Councillor to be allocated £1250 to award to community projects in their ward.
 - Street cleansing grants to Parish councils to continue.
 - The garden waste subscription service has proved more popular than anticipated with a take up of over 50% bringing in an income to the Council of around £900k.
 - The Council is looking to charge a Council Tax premium of 100% on second homes in the district with effect from 1st April 2025.
5. The Council has updated its Livewell Health and Wellbeing strategy in conjunction with partners in the health services. The aim of the strategy is to focus on prevention and early intervention and to move beyond simply treating health conditions after they have arisen. The intention is to create an environment where everyone has the right facilities available to them to actively participate in improving their own health and wellbeing. The data shows a strong link between deprivation and poor health and we are particularly conscious that parts of Braintree and Halstead feature in the 20% most deprived areas in the country.
6. I have been trying to find out what is happening about the new health centre in Sible Hedingham. I am told the Integrated Care Board is due to consider the final business case very shortly. Once it is approved the land can be transferred to One Medical who can then start construction. We are continuing to keep the pressure on the ICB.

APPENDIX 2 – ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT



Essex County Council - Heddingham Division

Cllr Peter Schwier – 2023/24 Annual Report

Serving the residents of all the villages and 33 parish councils that make up the Heddingham Division has been a real privilege and a challenge, over the past year (especially potholes). The responsibility of representing the diverse interests and needs of all the villages both large and small have been both demanding and rewarding.

I have also included additional information, in my report, an attachment on what we are delivering for our extraordinary county.

Health and Social Care in Essex

Essex currently spends £207million - people aged 65+ (41.7%)
£496m on providing long term support £289 million - working aged adults 18-64 (58.3%)

Longer term assurances over finance have supported joint planning with NHS partners. We welcomed the 2year planning cycle for the BCF and hope to see more multi-year settlements and planning in the future.

The Discharge Fund has been positive for the local system. Flexibility to address admissions avoidance and prevent people entering hospital in the first place would be welcomed in further iterations of the fund.

Adult Social Care Services and Performance

At any one time we provide care and support to about 16,000 people and through the course of the year we have contact with over 40,000 people

90.1% - Proportion of people who use services who say those services make them feel safe and secure. Higher than the national average of 87.1% and improved on 88.3% in Essex in 21-22

349.3 - Long term support needs of older adults (65+) met by admission to residential and nursing care homes, per 100,000 population. This is the 2nd best score nationally for a county council.

- In 2022-23 Essex provided Reablement service to 5% of older adults discharged from hospital, versus a national average of 2.9% and a peer group average of 2.8%.
- 86.3% - Our reablement services are successful in supporting people's independence, with 77.1% of adults not requiring any ongoing support from ECC post reablement.
- The Council is forecast to spend £33m on Reablement in the 2023/24 financial year. Since May 2021, total weekly Reablement activity has increased by 23% and, within that, the activity delivered by spot purchasing has increased by 48% driven by an increase in referrals and acuity.

Economic impact - Care is one of the biggest employers in Essex

39,000 total filled jobs in adult social care; care is one of the biggest employers in Essex.

- 32,000 jobs are in the independent sector, of which 25,000 are in direct care roles.
- There are also an estimated 1,500 adults using direct payments recruiting their own staff.
- **We would like to see continued focus at a national level on supporting skill development and recruitment into the care sector and giving it equal billing with the NHS.**

Care technology offers new opportunities

In Essex, our vision is to "put communities at the heart of ASC and enable people to live their lives to the fullest. Care Technology is seen as a big part of this.

- 8,820 Residents in receipt of Care Technology.
- 98% People advise Technology improves them feeling safe and secure.
- 84% People advise Technology reduces their Social Isolation
- £24.7m - Gross avoidable savings since 1st July 202
- £10.41m - Social Value achieved across employment, training, green project and reducing service demand.

-
- **We are pleased to have had the opportunity to access the Accelerating Reform Fund to further develop our plans for technology enabled care and share learning from the Essex experience with other authorities. We hope to see further support for the development of technology in health and care in the future.**

- The Reconnect Service, which will be Essexplace-based prevention and early help service which uses -wide from April 1st, is a

therapeutic interventions alongside physical activity to support and encourage adults living with learning needs and/or disabilities, as well as those living with long term health conditions, to build independence, skills, and confidence within their community. This unique service was developed from taking a whole system change approach across Public Health, Adult Social Care and Active Essex, with support and input from Alliances. This service will focus on delaying/reducing demand on Adult Social Care and community health services.

- Essex Wellbeing Service has delivered over 42,000 NHS Health Checks and supported 73% of people who set a quit date to succeed in giving up tobacco in the last year – work that will now increase significantly, with a focus on those who smoke in Mental Health Services and smoking in pregnancy, thanks to the additional investment from the Government.
- Concerns remain, however, regarding the financial position of NHS provider organisations across Essex. Continued overspends are resulting in a lack of investment in preventative services to address the causative factors of low health life expectancy in more deprived areas. It is clear that this short-term approach will result in a continued growth in demand for acute services in the long run and this must be addressed.

Budget/Council Tax

Council Tax

Increasing council tax by 2.99% plus the social care precept of 2%.

Given the above challenges plus risks that lie ahead: inflation; interest rates; in-year demand pressures; and uncertainty over government grants in future years.

Our proposals for the year ahead

- £2.5bn gross spend.
- Take out Dedicated Schools Grant, nearly two thirds of remainder - £1.1bn - spent across children's and adults social care and public health
- Take out income and specific government grants as well:
- **Net spending of £1.15bn**
- **An increase of £55m on the current year.**
- Take out the general government grants, including the revenue support grant, and non-domestic rates, and you are left with. A council tax requirement of just under £850m
- £1,522.53 per Band D household for ECC services next year.

- £72 more a year
- £6 a month
- £1.39 a week – feel free to pick your preferred grocery item of choice to which this compares!

Among comparable councils, we will still have one of the lowest council taxes in the country.

-
- Example - Use of social value in procurement**
- **563 jobs created** for people who have been long-term unemployed or who were not in long-term employment, education or training;
 - **130 jobs** for people with disabilities.
 - **4,198 weeks** of apprenticeships
 - Over **50m car miles** driven using low- or no-emission vehicles.

-
- Capital**
- **£1.1bn of investment over the next four years**
 - **£320m in the coming year.**

-
- Infrastructure**
- **£206m capital on infrastructure next year, including:**
 - **Funding for the new Beaulieu Park Railway Station**
 - **Major road improvements**

-
- School infrastructure**
- **5,1000 new school places over the last four years**
 - **Part of a ten-year programme that will deliver over 9,000 new school places in total.**
 - **£67m spent on schools next year**
 - **Nearly £200m over the next four years.**
-

My Locality Fund

Once again it has been a pleasure to support local Communities through my Locality Fund The details of schemes supported are as follows.

LF	Organisation	Amount
LF682	Learning Pathways Academy on behalf of Braintree District Cultural Education Partnership	2500
LF712	Castle Hedingham Bowls Club	1500
LF752	De Vere Primary School, Castle Hedingham	400
LF760	Helions Bumpstead Community Benefit Society Ltd	500
LF775	Ridgewell Parish Council	1500
LF795	Steeple Bumpstead Pre School	1100

Meanwhile, last July I became Cabinet Member for the Environment, Waste Reduction and Recycling while continuing my work as Climate Czar. This has been extremely rewarding meeting people across Essex and beyond; championing the work and achievements of people throughout our county; lobbying government on environmental causes.

However, following successful re-election in the Gosfield & Greenstead Green Ward Braintree District Councils, May last year, I continue to be a member of the planning and licensing committee but additionally, appointed as Deputy Cabinet Member for Resources & Performance and the Deputy Cabinet Member for Transformation, the Environment & Customer Services - which has resulted in increasing attendance of evening, and some day meetings, at Braintree District Council.

I hope these reports gives you an idea of the amount of work that has gone on over the last year to develop our plans and deliver them for the people of Essex.

Looking ahead, I am committed to continuing this work for the next year, building upon the progress made and striving to address new challenges and opportunities

Peter Schwen



that arise. Best wishes