

MINUTES OF LITTLE YELDHAM, TILBURY JUXTA CLARE AND OVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, LITTLE YELDHAM ON TUESDAY, 19th NOVEMBER 2024 AT 7.00 P.M.

In the chair: Mr. P. J. Gentry

Present: Mr. D. Jenkins, Mrs. L. Lawrence, Mr. D. Patient and Mrs. M. D. Pearce.
Mr. A. Corder-Birch (Clerk)
Together with 1 (one) member of the public

PUBLIC COMMENT

Prior to commencement of the meeting representations were made by councillors and public regarding item 16 on the agenda, which was struck out.

Arising from this the chairman requested that any apologies for absence, representations or reports are received no later than midday on the day of the meeting. Minutes of meetings will appear as a draft on the website until approved at the following meeting. Whilst three clear days-notice of meetings, with agenda, is given, the agenda will also be added the PC website on the same day. The chairman will respond to Mrs. A. Gardiner regarding the inclusion of agenda items.

There was no other public comment.

70) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mrs. A. Gardiner (in London), Mrs. C. Gray (unwell), Mrs. D. Nott (holiday), Mrs. I. Parker and Mr. P. Schwier

71) ABSENT

Mrs. K. Chapman and Mr. A. Osmond-Evans (but post meeting apologies received)

72) CASUAL VACANCY FOR TILBURY JUXTA CLARE

It was reported that no one had come forward to fill the vacancy and Mrs. C. Gray had agreed to endeavor to find a candidate. The filling of the vacancy will be deferred until the next meeting. Consequently the filling of Highways, PROW and Community House representatives for Tilbury Juxta Clare will also be deferred to the next meeting.

73) BELCHAMP COMMUNITY HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE FOR OVINGTON

It was reported that the trustees had confirmed that it was acceptable for a member of the public to fill the vacancy.

74) AIRFIELD JOINT ACTION GROUP AND BDC AIRFIELD LIAISON GROUP

Mrs. D. Nott had kindly offered to fill this vacancy which was approved.

75) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

76) TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th September 2024, having been previously circulated were taken as read, were confirmed and duly signed by the chairman as a correct record.

77) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a) Proposed village gateway signs for Ovington

Mrs. L. Lawrence reported that she had spoken to Mr. P. Schwier and given him details of the proposed village gateway signs for Ovington and asked if ECC will contribute to the cost. Mrs. D. Nott had obtained an estimate of the cost of each gateway, being £713.44 and is making enquiries regarding the ownership of land for each proposed site.

b) BDC Local Plan Review

The chairman reported that the timetable for the Local Plan Review had been revised. The Local Plan sub-committee will meet in February and March 2025 to discuss the issues and options for the new Local Plan. These will be followed by a series of meetings in May and June 2025 at which sites put forward will be considered. The Chairman will attend the BDC meeting, when the proposed Little Yeldham site is considered.

There were no other matters arising.

78) CORRESPONDENCE

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

79) ACCOUNTS

The Clerk reported receipt of the following:

BDC – Second half of precept £4487.00

UK Power Networks – Wayleave payment £41.31

The following payments had been made since the last meeting:

Birkett Long – Solicitors costs for Little Yeldham Village Hall (PC Grant) £602.00

PKF Littlejohn LLP – External Auditors fees £378.00

C. R. Cheale – repairs to former telephone box at North End £110.00

The following accounts were presented for payment:

John Bright – grass and hedge cutting at Little Yeldham £516.00

P. E. Pawsey – grass cutting in Ovington £311.77

Kevin Shears – grass cutting in Tilbury Juxta Clare £224.00

grass cutting in Little Yeldham and North End £1440.00 £1664.00

Society of Local Council Clerks – annual subscription £80.00

Adrian Corder-Birch – Clerks salary £447.00

HMRC £120.00

Essex Pension Fund £184.44

It was proposed by Mr. D. Patient, seconded by Mr. D. Jenkins and carried that the above payments are approved.

80) EXTERNAL AUDIT

The Clerk reported that an external audit of the Parish Councils accounts for the year ended 31st March 2024 was required because of the grant of £58,000 from the National

Lottery. The audit had been completed by PKF Littlejohn LLP on 24th September 2024, who had reported that no matters had come to their attention giving cause for concern. However as the previous year was exempt from review they had not reviewed any evidence to support the comparatives on the annual return.

81) TO CONSIDER QUOTES FOR PAINTING KIOSKS AT TJC & OVINGTON

The following quotes for re-painting the exterior and interior of the former telephone kiosks at Tilbury Juxta Clare and Ovington were considered:

Mr. C. R. Cheale (£410.00 for exterior and £410 for interior = £820 each) £1640.00

Mr. S. Shoemith (£475.00 for both the exterior and interior of each kiosk) £950.00

The quote from Mr. Shoemith was approved, but it was agreed to check that he will use the correct shade of red paint and to allow £50 for any increase in the cost of paint.

82) UPDATE UPON LITTLE YELDHAM RECREATION GROUND

Mrs. M. D. Pearce reported that all the required notices regarding any emergency situations and general enquiries had been erected on the Recreation Ground, which is now fully compliant. In 2024, fund raising events for maintenance purposes, more than met expectations. Events for 2025 were being considered together with grant applications for an extension to the pathway at least. The Chairman thanked Mrs. Pearce for her report.

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

Mrs. I. Parker reported that although the review of the dog bin waste strategy was complete it was still awaiting approval, but referred the Parish Council to Mr. Levi White, a different officer, to consider the Parish Councils request. Although BDC had only referred to Ovington, it had been made clear that the original request was for three dog bins for Tilbury Juxta Clare, where BDC Officers had inspected and approved three sites and were consulting nearby residents, but this was over a year ago. Mr. White had been copied into an email on 6th November and a reply was awaited. The request for dog bins for Ovington had been made sometime later and Mrs. L. Lawrence had communicated with Mr. White to provide information about proposed locations and need.

84) UPDATE UPON SOLAR FARM PLANNING APPLICATION

Mrs. L. Lawrence reported that Mrs. D. Nott had represented the Parish Council at the BDC Planning Committee meeting on 10th September to oppose the application for a Solar Farm at Cut Bush Farm, Belchamp St. Paul on the border of Ovington. BDC had granted planning permission, subject to conditions, which were still in the process of being drafted, but mainly relate to landscape screening, decommissioning and traffic management. An Action Group had been formed in Belchamp St. Paul to fight BDC's decision, which it was claimed was unlawful.

85) UPDATE UPON PROPOSED WEIGHT AND WIDTH RESTRICTIONS

Mr. D. Patient confirmed that the application for weight and width restrictions had been validated and the next LHP meeting was on 16th January 2025. If it does not appear on the agenda, it will be raised at the Zoom meeting with Mr. P. Schwier on 21st January 2025.

86) OTHER HIGHWAY ISSUES

Mrs. L. Lawrence reported that the next Zoom meeting with Mr. P. Schwier regarding highway issues will be held in the meeting room at Ovington Hall on 21st January 2025 at 2pm courtesy of Mrs. D. Nott. Mrs. Lawrence will prepare an agenda to include the drains in the highway in Ovington, which had still not been cleared.

The chairman reported that roundels in Little Yeldham had been included in a recent LHP list at a cost of £9,500. Mr. D. Jenkins reported that white reflector posts had appeared around the corner at Hall Green, Little Yeldham. Mr. D. Patient expressed concern about parking in Leather Lane and that emergency vehicles may have difficulty getting through. As the site is in Great Yeldham he was advised to raise this as an individual, not as a councillor and to also raise it with North Essex Parking Partnership (NEPP) of Colchester, which covers the Braintree District.

87) ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

In the absence of Mr. P. Schwier there was no report but County Council information is disseminated by email.

88) BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

A written report from Mrs. I. Parker was circulated to councillors and the contents noted.

89) MEETING DATES FOR 2025

The following meeting dates and venues were agreed. The meetings will be held at the Village Hall, Little Yeldham at 7pm unless otherwise stated.

21 st January 2025	Parish Council
4 th March 2025	Ovington Annual Parish Meeting, Ovington Hall
11 th March 2025	Little Yeldham Annual Parish Meeting 7pm
	Parish Council 7.30pm
29 th April 2025	Tilbury Juxta Clare Annual Parish Meeting, Tilbury Church
20 th May 2025	Annual Parish Council Meeting
15 th July 2025	Parish Council
23 rd September 2025	Parish Council
18 th November 2025	Parish Council

90) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.05 pm

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(Date)

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(Chairman)