



Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 23rd. February 2022 at 7pm in the Village Hall.

Present: M. Gibson (Vice-Chairman), A. Gardner, E. Roberts, C. Thorne and Kevin B. Money (Clerk to Parish Council). There were 15 members of the public present.

018/2022 Chairman welcome. The Vice-Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

019/2022 Apologies for Absence were received from Cllr G. Lewsey, D. Bonich, R. Millett, MDC Cllr M. Helm, MDC Cllr P. Channer and ECC Cllr W. Stamp.

020/2022 Declaration of Interest

To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or non-Pecuniary Interest relating to items on the agenda

Cllr M. Gibson declared an interest in any item relating to the Village Hall

021/2022 Minutes

To confirm and sign the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council Meeting held on 26th. January 2022. **All Agreed**

022/2022 Chairman's report and any update since last meeting

St Lawrence Slipway latest.

The concrete steps have been poured and the concrete has set, despite one resident allowing his dog to run over the wet cement! The shoring was struck on Thursday 17.02.22 and the rocks were replaced along the sides of the steps. The handrails were installed on Friday 18.02.22, all being well and will link up with the existing handrail from the sea wall shelter. The site was made good and the contractors moved off site during the afternoon of the 18th.February.

023/2022 Public Participation Session with Respect to items on the agenda

A total maximum time of 15 minutes is allowed

A resident asked about why MDC had not consulted residents about the closure of the slipway.

Cllr M. Gibson gave a history on how the gates were damaged.

Parking in the area is a problem. A suggestion was for bollards to be placed along the road.

They did request that phone numbers / emails addresses for such things should be made very visible - maybe on Facebook. i.e. A "Help Page" with numbers at the top of the page: ECC Highways: ECC numbers: MDC numbers etc.

Residents have talked to children regarding transport out of village to either Southminster, Burnham on Crouch. Dial-A-Ride was suggested. A petition was suggested.

It was agreed to set up a petition for more transport in and out of the village

Facilities for the youngsters. The BMX track is in need of some maintenance. A suggestion that the interested bodies should meet up - including the kids and come up with some ideas and the PC will then have a meeting with them which is not part of a Parish Council meeting to see just what we can do. They are also prepared to consider fundraising. The residents were also informed that Danny is hoping to start football training in April – this was well received

A discussion on general security as there have been a number of incidents of damage to vehicles - vans in particular – overnight.

The car park sign, which did almost exist years ago, has vanished - it was never an official sign and Cllr C. Thorne commented that the PC are in the process of replacing signage.

The farmers who organised the hunt have informed residents that it will not happen again. Facebook page about the hunt should be published.

A new dog litter bin to be purchased and placed by the Diary

There was a brief discussion on the Jubilee with Steve very much in the lead. He thinks they would like to make use of the Jubilee field - presumably on the Sunday for something. He's trying to avoid too many

Signed

23rd. March 2022

Gerry Lewsey – Chairman of SLPC

clashes. Cllr M. Gibson reminded everyone about the Beacon lighting and the plan to have a BBQ up by the church - that was popular

The PC meeting resumed at 8.10pm

024/2022 Essex County Councillors Report – ECC Cllr Wendy Stamp

To receive a written report from ECC Cllr Wendy Stamp

The headlines from ECC Full Council meeting regarding the budget. A 4.49% increase £60.21 increasing the band D properties. £42.00 of this increase is to support vulnerable residents/adults.

All information from ECC can be found at

<https://websites.godaddy.com/en-GB/editor/18a5e065-b3e2-4f2d-8cd8-af3969afc9a6/f66eca6f-3770-4724-8c2d-b933d32dc9c3/edit/2cb35aae-d0ed-4581-b6b2-1206d7976bef>

025/2022 District Councillor/s Report – MDC Cllr Penny Channer / MDC Cllr Michael Helm

To receive a written report from MDC Cllr Penny Channer / Cllr Michael Helm

All reports from MDC can be found at

<https://websites.godaddy.com/en-GB/editor/18a5e065-b3e2-4f2d-8cd8-af3969afc9a6/f66eca6f-3770-4724-8c2d-b933d32dc9c3/edit/2cb35aae-d0ed-4581-b6b2-1206d7976bef>

026/2022 Planning Application/s

21/00996/FUL - Plots 90 And 92, Riverton Drive St Lawrence CM0 7NG

Replacement of dwelling with pair of semi-detached houses

Additional Flood Risk Assessment document added 4th. February 2022

RESOLVED: The flood risk assessment states that no flood warnings have been issued which would affect this property. On 6 December 2013 there was a considerable tidal surge and flood warnings were issued which covered the whole of this area. The only factor that saved the area from major flooding was that the tidal surge came through about an hour and a half ahead of the high spring tide, and like 1953 this was happening in the middle of the night. The flood risk assessment shows a flood defence map. The area marked 147825 is shown as being in a poor condition. There is nothing in the flood risk assessment to change St Lawrence Parish Council's view of this application, rather it strengthens it. The events of 21st February when Storm Franklin continued the damage and disruption of the previous few days also make the point very clearly. The seawall was within inches of being overtopped and the top surface is littered with debris. There was only a flood alert in place but the conditions had changed very rapidly

We note the comments from local residents, and agree with them, which make the point about the narrow road, no parking, difficulty of access for lorries etc.

In addition, it needs to be noted that this development would add to the number of households within the village – a village with, to be polite, an inadequate access road. There are no health or education facilities other than a pre-school group. The local primary health care system is seriously over-stretched, and over-subscribed schools lead to children being allocated places many miles away. We simply do not have the amenities to support more housing.

St Lawrence Parish Council still oppose this application as per its original refusal response

027/2022 Decision/s made by MDC affecting St. Lawrence

Councillors noted the planning decision made by MDC affecting St. Lawrence

HOUSE/MAL/21/01235 - Colonsay Seaview Parade St Lawrence Essex

Single storey front extension. **Application REFUSED**

028/2022 Appeal/s made affecting St. Lawrence

No appeals have been submitted affecting St. Lawrence

029/2022 Representative Reports

a) Greening of the village – To receive a written report from Cllr C. Thorne

To arrange the planting of the tree near the Diddydots garden fence that Cllr G. Lewsey has obtained and to purchase a plaque from RBL at a maximum cost of £150.00p

Village Greening

On the planting front very little has happened these last few months, obviously this is due to the time of year. We did manage to re-plant some of the saplings with the new ones that have been grown on by Diddydots parents, the children, and members of our team. We have cut back some of the turf areas surrounding these to try and stop the competition for water. I have logged the planting of these saplings and trees with the BBC Countryfile Plant Britain site which is also part of Our Planet Now.

We are looking for any Landowners, Gardeners, Farmers in fact anyone who may have a corner of

Signed

23rd. March 2022

Gerry Lewsey – Chairman of SLPC

ground that we would be able to plant some more Saplings into, please remember that these will hopefully add to the future supply of our Oxygen.

The Parish Council has erected a nice new metal fence to the Play area, only one shrub had to be removed, and this will be re planted soon. We are looking for any donations of suitable shrubs, bulbs and plants to plant in the strip of ground that is adjacent to the fence. Help would also be greatly appreciated as this area is full of large stones and we have sifted out several barrow loads over these last years. The Royal British Memorial Plaque that was sited in the rear corner of Jubilee Field, and was showing signs of age and the support post was rotten is now being repaired and should be able to be re-erected within the next few weeks.

We have spoken in the past about siting a new planter on the paving by the river look out, but to be able to progress this we need a firm commitment from either residents or organisations in that area to give an undertaking to carry out the required watering on a regular basis. If anyone has any contacts for this, please ask them to get in touch

Sign Board

Cllr C. Thorne has received the revised proof for the artwork and lettering for the proposed Sign Board. If this agreeable I will let the company involved know. They have provided a representation of what the infill panel would look like in a frame; please see the appropriate attachment below. These images were also sent out by me earlier last week in reply to the possibility of funding.

I would like to respectfully point out that this company have said that they will do the artwork and supply of infill panel free of charge, but I am not sure for how long this offer will remain in place. Unfortunately as it was decided at the last meeting that we would not be spending any money on a new sign for some time this has been put on the back burner so to speak. I could speak to my contact to see if the offer still stands, they are not part of Whitehill Ltd as I understand it.

The image that has been used for the in-situ sign board is using a frame from Whitehill Direct Ltd, they have a web site, and so relevant costs can be obtained if required.

The total cost the sign board £849 - £1349 + fitting say £150

The Clerk to chase ECC Cllr W. Stamp on the extra locality fund being available

b) Recreation Ground – To receive a written update report

- **Update on new litter bin for recreation ground** – This has been installed and is completed.

Councillors discussed the offer from MDC regarding emptying the litter bin at a cost of £43.65p +VAT for the first year and thereafter Free of Charge.

Cllr M. Gibson proposed accepting MDC offer of £43.65p +VAT. Cllr A. Gardner seconded. **All Agreed**

- **Update on replacing fencing around children's play area** – This project has been completed and ECC has approved the funding (£1500) has been paid into SLPC account

- **Update on Children's play equipment that require repairing**
- **Car park potholes update** – The potholes have been filled and is completed
- **Gate update at the North End of the car park** – This project has been completed
- **Grass Cutting Quotation for 2022-23**

Councillors discussed the revised grass cutting quotation from MSJ Garwood. The increase cost was £4.50p per cut. The new quotation for 2022-23 year is £2847.45p. This is an increase of £63.00p from the quotation submitted on 3rd. October 2021

Cllr M. Gibson proposed accepting this revised quotation. Cllr C. Thorne seconded. **All Agreed**

The clerk was asked to contact Richard Garwood to confirm the new quotation of £2847.45p

c) Passenger Transport report – To receive a written report from Cllr E. Roberts

Nothing to report. However, an email from ECC Passenger Transport was received and is below

Bus Network Reviews

As part of a Countywide review of the Essex bus network, we would like to get your views on how the local bus network could be improved.

An online public survey has been launched to get the view of bus users and non-users on the bus network and we would appreciate you publicising this information within your area. **To make the information as relevant as possible, we are most interested in responses which relate to the districts in which the responder travels most often by bus or (if not) where the person travels most often within the county.**

Please see the link below to the surveys for Maldon District.

Maldon - <https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/iptu/bus-network-reviews-maldon>

Thank you for your assistance and if you have any questions please

contact: passenger.transport@essex.gov.uk

d) Update on Parish Newsletter – To receive a written report from Cllr E. Roberts

To arrange an editorial item regarding advertising events in the village for the Queen's Jubilee Just about ready to go to print. The current one will go out with limited advertising. I assume this will be delivered to Derek as last time.

e) Queen's Platinum event on 2nd. – 5th. June 2022 – To co-ordinate with other events being held in St. Lawrence over the weekend. Beacon to be lit on Thursday 2nd. June at 9.15pm together with a BBQ at the Church.

030/2022 Finance

a. To receive the Bank reconciliations as at 31st. January 2022

Councillors noted the Bank reconciliations as at 31st. January 2022

b. To receive the comparison of Actual to Budgeted for 2021/22

Councillors noted the comparison of Actual to Budgeted for 2021/22

c. To approve Cllr A. Gardner as an addition signatory for Unity Trust Bank

As Cllr A. Gardner had not supplied the RFO with his personal details to be submitted to UTB then this item was deferred to another meeting

d. The RFO to update Councillors on the ECC Locality Fund application of £1500.00p being approved on 11th. February 2022

The RFO informed the meeting that the ECC Locality Fund money of £1500.00p had been received and deposited into the SLPC bank account on 16th. February 2022.

e. To approve the payment of Accounts for February 2022 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the Parish Council' financial requirements

Cllr E. Roberts proposed and Cllr C. Thorne seconded to authorise the February 2022 payments.

All Agreed

031/2022 To receive written report from External meetings attended by Councillors

No external reports were given

032/2022 Councillors to list any defective streetlights with location/s in the village

No defective streetlights have been notified to the Clerk

Items for Next Agenda

Additional dog litter bin by the Dairy

Next meeting will be held in the VILLAGE HALL on WEDNESDAY 23.03.22 at 7pm

Meeting dates for 2022: 27.04.22: 25.05.22 Annual Village meeting followed by PC AGM: 22.06.22: 27.07.22: No meeting in August: 28.09.22: 26.10.22: 23.11.22: 14.12.22:

033/2022 Closure of the Meeting

To close the Meeting having considered and determined all items of business.

The Vice-Chairman then closed the meeting at 8.45pm and thanked everyone for attending.