



Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 27th. March 2024 at 7pm in the Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs M. Gibson (Chairman), A. Gardner, R. Millett, G. Minish, MDC Cllr L. Haywood and Kevin B. Money (Clerk to Parish Council). There were 8 members of the public present

038/2024 Chairmans welcome. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

039/2024 Apologies for Absence were received from ECC Cllr W. Stamp, Cllr C. Crump, J. Pollock and Cllr C. Thorne

040/2024 Declaration of Interest

To declare any Pecuniary, Registerable or non-Registerable Interest relating to items on the agenda
None Declared

041/2024 Minutes

To confirm and sign the Minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 28th. February 2024.

All Agreed

042/2024 Chairmans report and any update since last meeting

In the last month a speed check has been done in the village. The results are being analysed and compared with the previous survey done in November 2019. The first assessment is that overall speeding is not rife although there are variations across both days of the week and 24-hour periods. Discussions are continuing with various bodies regarding yellow lines and enforcement. This is not going to be a quick fix – we know many of the lines are in dire need of repainting but a full survey needs to be done before works can be authorised. The basketball goal was finished on schedule and we hope that it is going to be popular with the community. We are awaiting an update on the football academy.

043/2024 Essex County Councillor Report – ECC Cllr Wendy Stamp

Cllr W. Stamp has circulated all the information from ECC which has been forwarded onto Councillors

044/2024 District Councillor/s Report – Cllr Linda Haywood

Meeting with Overview & Scrutiny committee regarding speeding in the villages. The PFCC was in attendance and stated that a Police Prescence can be arranged. Main areas in St. Lawrence to be checked are Main Road outside recreation ground: Main Road by the chicanes.

Road speeds around the Dengie are possibly going from a 60mph to 50mph and 40mph to 30mph. Reducing the speed limit is a deterrent.

045/2024 Public Participation Session with Respect to items on the agenda

A total maximum time of 15 minutes is allowed for all public participation sessions

A discussion took place regarding the consultation of St. Peter's Hospital.

Residents of Maldon have submitted a response to the consultation but please ask local residents to complete the paper consultation. A number of surveys (about 3000 – 4000) have been submitted.

a) St. Peter's Hospital – Consultation

St Lawrence Parish Council is deeply concerned about the proposals to close St Peter's Hospital, noting that many services have already been relocated to other sites, all much further away. These proposals make this community feel like second class citizens.

We have been promised a new hospital in Maldon for many years and in that time the building at St Peter's has been allowed to deteriorate. The Braintree Community Hospital was hailed as a wonderful solution for services – but the result is that the Dengie is increasingly isolated.

While the proposal states that alternative premises will be sought for some services it is vague in detail including which services are being considered. In the last year we have lost the stroke rehabilitation unit, with families having to travel to Brentwood. The midwife-led birthing unit has gone so it is a case of

Signed

M Gibson

M. Gibson – Chairman of SLPC

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travelling to Broomfield or Braintree.

St Peter's has services that include blood tests, Xray, COPD and oxygen as well as a variety of outpatient clinics. The stark alternative is a trip to Broomfield or Braintree. There is no direct public transport from St Lawrence to either. This village has a rudimentary bus service (one every 2 hours – not always very practical to fit in with medical appointments) as far as Maldon. A bus trip to either Braintree or Broomfield takes at least 3 buses and probably very long waits between if it even possible given the timetable. It is one thing for non-drivers to get someone to run them to Maldon for an appointment, entirely another to get to Broomfield or Braintree with all the traffic and parking issues involved.

There is a tremendous growth in house-building across the Maldon District but vital services lag far behind. And it does feel as though whoever drew up these proposals simply does not know anything about the rural parts of Maldon District including just how far it is to Maldon, let alone Chelmsford (Broomfield) or Braintree.

This Council feels that that the needs of the people in communities like St Lawrence have been totally ignored and deplore the inadequate survey. We wholeheartedly support the survey response made by Maldon District Council.

046/2024 Representative Reports

a) Greening of the village – Any Updated information since last meeting - Cllr C. Thorne
No update was given

b) Asset Management report – Any Updated information since last meeting - Cllr C. Thorne
No update was given

c) Dengie Hundred Group of Parish Councils – Cllr G. Minish
Meeting on 6th. March 2024. Next meeting 11th. June 2024 at 7pm at St. Lawrence Village Hall.
More communication between each Parish Council – using a WhatsApp group. Speeding in the Dengie area. Information on Community Speedwatch has been received. Copies of Local Development plan have been supplied.

d) Update on seeking a paid Litter picking person/s for the village.
No applications have been received

e) CCTV update - Cllr J. Pollock. No update was given

047/2024 Planning Application/s

FUL/MAL/24/00167 - Land Adjacent To Peacehaven Moorhen Avenue St Lawrence
Installation of boundary fence and gate
RESOLVED: SLPC has no comment to make on this application

24/00219/FUL - 514 Moorhen Avenue St Lawrence Southminster Essex
Demolition of existing stables and construction of ancillary annex
This application has been invalidated by MDC. Therefore, SLPC cannot make any comments on this application until a possibly new application is submitted

048/2024 Planning decision/s made by MDC affecting St. Lawrence

HOUSE/MAL/23/01250 - 514 Moorhen Avenue St Lawrence Southminster Essex
Demolition of existing stables and construction of a single storey outbuilding. **APPROVE**

FUL/MAL/23/01186 - Greenfield 45 Main Road St Lawrence Essex
Erection of a pair of semi-detached dwellings. **REFUSE**

049/2024 Finance

a. To receive the Bank reconciliations as at 29th. February 2024
Councillors noted the Bank reconciliations as at 29th. February 2024

b. To receive the comparison of Actual to Budgeted for 2023/24
Councillors noted the comparison of Actual to Budgeted for 2023/24

c. To approve the payment of Accounts for March 2024 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the Parish Council financial requirements. **All Agreed**

d. Councillors to discuss the impending move for emails to go over to .gov.uk – The Clerk update
Cllr G. Minish proposed accepting this transfer to .gov.uk. Cllr A. Gardner seconded. **All Agreed**

050/2024 Councillors to list any defective streetlights with location/s in the village

No defective street lights have been reported

Signed

M Gibson

M. Gibson – Chairman of SLPC

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051/2024 **Items for Next Agenda**

052/2024 **Next meeting will be held on 24th. April 2024 at 7pm in the village hall**

053/2024 **Councillors to note meeting dates in 2024**

22.05.24 (AVM & AGM): 26.06.24: 24.07.24: 25.09.24: 23.10.24: 27.11.24: 18.12.24

054/2024 **Closure of the Meeting**

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

The Chairman then closed the meeting at 8pm and thanked everyone for attending.

Signed

M Gibson

M. Gibson – Chairman of SLPC

24th. April 2024