**MINUTES OF THEYDON MOUNT PARISH COUNCIL OGM HELD AT MOUNT FARM CONFERENCE VENUE CM16 7PX AT 7 pm ON MONDAY 19th February 2024.**

**In Attendance:**

Peter Connell (PC) Chair of TMPC, Hilliard Brewitt (HTB), Keith Farrow (KF) Vice Chair of TMPC, Martin Hudson (MH) Special Projects Co-ordinator for TMPC, Patrick Bamford (PB).

***Other Attendees*** – members of the public and invited guests from adjacent parish councils with an interest in the discussion Item 9.1 on the agenda. ***See Appendix A for more details***.

PC brought the meeting to order, welcomed the guests and explained that Item 9.1 would be brought forward before normal TMPC business was conducted. PC asked everyone present to briefly state who they were and their interest in the meeting before Item 9.1 was opened.

PC explained where TMPC had got to in considering Item 9.1 and its associated consultation phase. He explained that 2 x Documents were particularly relevant to the matter in hand. These were:

* Draft Business Minerals Replacement Plan
* The Candidate Sites Assessment

To put everyone on an even footing of understanding, PC invited KF to provide a brief overview of the key features and issues associated with the plans.

KF stated that periodically County Councils were obliged to review their minerals replacement plans as a statutory duty. KF displayed a map depicting the locations of all candidate sites within Essex – Site A63 (Patch Farm) was at the extreme South-Western edge of the distibuted Essex sites and fell within the boundaries of -or impacted on -Theydon Garnon Parish Council, Theydon Mount Parish Council, Lambourne Parish Council and Stapleford Tawney Parish Council.

KF referred to a number of locations and features within Site A 63 or close by ( National Gas Main from Norfolk through to Luxborough Lane Pressure Reduction Site running right through A63, Abridge Golf Course, Stapleford Airfield, Fishing Lake etc).

PC stated that he thought there was opportunity to maximise the gravitas of any responses to the consultation opportunity by linking with other Parish Councils and perhaps a Public meeting soon given the timescale of the consultation window. He added that TMPC was encouraging local residents to formulate their own consultation responses to be sent directly to E.C.C.

PC referred to the Assessment Plan and the “Traffic Light” assessment palette (Red, Amber, Green) for the 16 aspects covered by the assessment for each site (52 in all). These were as follows for Site A63:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Landscape and Visual Sensitivity | Biodiversity | Historic Buildings | Archaeology | Flooding | Transport | Access | Public Rights of Way | Geo-Environmental | Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Drainage | Air Quality | Soil Quality | Services & Utilities | Health & Amenity | Green Belt | Airport Safeguarding Zones |
| Red/ Amber | Red/ Amber | Amber | Red/ Amber | Red/ Amber | Amber/ Green | Red/ Amber | Red/ Amber | Green | Amber/Green | Green | Amber/Green | Red | Red | Red/ Amber | Red |

PC invited Councillor McIvor to give his insights.

Councillor McIvor stressed the need for objective analysis and assessment when considering the consultation responses, avoidance of complacency, quality over quantity and a very sharp focus on accuracy of interpretation of the evidence and facts. He also offered the name of the Cabinet Member (Cllr Lee Scott) responsible for this area of operation. Cllr McIvor added that should a public meeting get organised within the time available it might be useful to invite Cllr Scott to attend.

PC then invited Craig McCann (District Councillor for Lambourne area) to offer any additional insights.

Councillor McCann commented on the quality and integrity of the Site Assessment Report and went on to note that site A63 was probably the least suitable/viable site given the number of Red and Amber evaluations across the 16 parameters of assessment. He thus asserted that we had a good base on which to develop a response to the consultation opportunity – in particular, with reference to Flooding, Environmental Impact, Access and Airport Safeguarding Zones.

PC invited other views and comments from the floor. All other concerned parish council representatives agreed that it would be in everyone’s interest to gain the maximum leverage and gravitas by combined efforts and joining forces where appropriate. Richard Clay (Theydon Garnon PC), Stuart Galloway (Stapleford Tawney PC) and Derek Handy (Lambourne PC) commented in supporting opposition to the plan.

With such a large prospective likely gathering for any future public meeting it was thought that Lambourne had the largest accommodation to facilitate such a meeting - prior booking schedule considered but Roger Jeffries (Chairman of Abridge Golf and Country Club) offered Abridge Golf Club should the first choice venue not be available.

The floor suggested that other service infrastructure may permeate the A63 Site such as:

* Water Mains
* Electricity Conduits
* Aviation Fuel Feed Lines

TMPC offered to circulate copy of its information flyer, which it had sent to all TMPC parishioners, to anyone who requested it. The floor suggested that a template for individual responses might be appropriate.

PC then closed the open phase of the OGM in readiness for the TMPC normal agenda.

Item 9.1 closed.

**TMPC Normal Business Agenda**

1. **Apologies:** Heather Brady
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None
3. **Minutes of the last OGM: To be ratified** - approved – Action -RA to post.
4. **Business**

**4.1 Finger posts, Gateway Signs and footpath signposts -** HTB **–** Finger posts complete - post on Banks Lane junction has a “lean” - Rangers have agreed to re-set.

**4.1.1 Gateway Signs –** RA reported that a revised submission had been sent electronically to Olive Porter in an agreed format on 18th January 2024 since when there had been no further response from Essex Highways. It was mooted by RA that this might reflect the situation that our submission had been passed to the Essex Highways legal team which was previously estimated by Olive Porter to take at least 6 weeks. No further information available.

 Cllr Mc Ivor confirmed that installation of Gateway signs has now produced some evidence that they positively moderate traffic speeds.

1. **Local Highways**

**5.1 Traffic Calming Initiatives –** PC invited Cllr McIvor to update the meeting on recent initiatives.

 Cllr McIvor informed TMPC that a new Councillor (Tom Cunnigham) had assumed responsibility for Highways. He also informed TMPC of an initiative whereby traffic calming surgeries were to be envisaged that limited groups of parish representatives could book to attend to report their concerns.

 HTB reported that despite reporting matters to Essex Highways, the “downed” road junction sign at the bottom of Banks Lane (Junction with Mount Road) had yet to be re-erected by Essex Highways. This junction was already identified as “notorious” for its accident frequency.

 MH sought clarification as to why Essex Highways do not collect their temporary road signs. It was suggested that such incidents should be reported as a possible danger/hazard and a blight on rural image.

 Cllr McIvor asserted that TMPC was doing everything that it should – and could do to bring attention to its somewhat unique traffic management challenges.

 RA reminded TMPC that the following “projects” were still to be advanced.

* audit of road signs needed for submission to Essex Highways.
* similar audit for repainting of parish road markings for submission to Local Highway Panel.

1. **Finance**
* **Approval of any invoices/payments due** – PB updated TMPC on current cash flow status.
* **Budget Update** – PB reported that our Precept submission had gone in.
* **Telephone Box Refurbishment** – PB reported that the grant funds for the Telephone box had been received into our bank account.
1. **District/County Councillor Report**

Cllr McIvor informed TMPC that he had recently been appointed as Deputy County Member for Social Care - a role he was proud to undertake in a county with a high reputation and track record for excellent social care.

Cllr McIvor then reminded TMPC that Ride London was coming back for another 3 years which will continue to bring significant revenue into the county.

He closed his report by mentioning the imminent “Hop” buses initiative which were intended for elderly people who could book a pick up for such events as doctors or hospital appointment.

1. **Correspondence**: RA had no correspondence to report.

**Water Leaks** – PC reported how difficult it has been to get any positive and fixing response to the water leaks in the parish despite continued correspondence with our MP Alex Burghart.

**Parish Event** – HTB confirmed that a parish summer event was confirmed and that a suitable date needed to be found. He advocated that this could be achieved off line once dates where other events might clash had been resolved. HTB and MH will confirm details at the next meeting.

1. **Planning**
	1. Special Discussion Item regarding Essex County Council Replacement Minerals Local Plan.
	2. There were no other planning items to review.
2. **Clerk Matters and Questions**

There were none

**DONM – Monday April 15th 2024**

**Signed  Peter Connell Chair of TMPC Dated 23/2/2023**

**APPENDIX A**

**GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE AT TMPC MEETING – FEBRUARY 19th 2024**

**NAME REPRESENTING**

Stuart Galloway Stapleford Tawney PC

Naomi Gledhill Stapleford Tawney PC

Rodger Jeffries Chair Abridge Golf Club

David Cook Theydon Garnon PC

Donna Cook Local Resident

Harry Cook Local Resident

Lesley Jones Theydon Garnon PC

Fay Hewett Local Resident

John Fradd Local Resident

Duncan Padfield Vice Chair Stapleford Tawney PC

Richard Clay Theydon Garnon PC

Diane Moggridge Lambourne PC

Derek Hardy Chair Lambourne PC

Jaymey McIvor County Councillor – Ongar

Craig McCann Lambourne area EFDC District Councillor