

Draft - Minutes of the Wakes Colne Parish Council Meeting held on

**Wednesday 7th February 2024 at 7.15pm
in Chappel & Wakes Colne Village Hall**

In the Chair: Cllr. Sunnucks

Present: Cllr. P. Chillingworth, Cllr. D. Laws and Cllr. T. Rowe (who arrived at item 24/014 on the agenda)

Parish Clerk: Mrs D. Jacob

5 members of the public.

Please Note that this and all future Wakes Colne Parish Council meetings will be audio recorded in line with Openness of Local Government Regulations, 2014. The Clerk audio recoded the meeting but not item 24/020 the public participation session.

	PRESENTER	SUBJECT
24/018	All Members	Welcome and Apologies for Absence. The Chairman welcomed everyone. Apologies for absence received and accepted from Cllr. Barber (due to work commitments).
24/019	All Members	Declaration of Interests. No declaration of interests received.
24/020	All Members	Public Participation Session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest. Public Participation Session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest. It was noted that Paul Stocker needed to turn the VAS outside the Village Hall off and on for it to be reset as the bluetooth has stopped working. He sought clarity that he would be acting on behalf of the PC and therefore covered by its insurance. It was generally acknowledged that he was and he was thanked for his initiative. Kath Beck spoke about the work which the Chappel and Wakes Colne Station Adopters Group and volunteers undertake to improve the area. They have achieved two Greater Anglia awards for work at the station, including 'Best adopter group' jointly with Hockley. A celebration picnic event to mark the 175th anniversary of the opening of the viaduct and the station has been organised. It has been agreed that celebrations will take place on the weekend of 29th & 30th June 2024 for the EARM to hold a steam weekend and a picnic on the 30 th June. Francesca Mead spoke as Chair of the Village Hall Committee. She was congratulated on the refurbishment and upgrade which had recently been completed and which had been mainly funded by a £50,000 donation from Enover. But she said that there had been some nasty surprises and more money was needed for roof repairs over the kitchen, a new porch, repairs to the car park and new chairs.
24/021	All Members	Ward and County Councillors to address the members if present. Cllr Laws reported that Colchester City Council are in the process of budget setting, and that residents expect good services and tight compromises will need to be made.
24/022	All Members	Minutes. To confirm receipt of the draft minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10 th January 2024 and to resolve that the minutes are to be signed as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Cllr Laws, seconded by Cllr Chillingworth; all in favour, resolution passed.
24/023	All Members	Planning Matters. Item 1. Updates.

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Signed.....
Chairman of the Parish Council

Date: 6th March 2024

		<p>Item 2. New Applications. Ref: 240089 Location: Land to the west of Spring Gardens Road Chappel Description: Outline Application with all Matters reserved except Access for the erection of Five Dwellings. Cllr Sunnucks said that he had seen a number of vehement objections in his role of CCC ward Councillor, and that it would probably need to be “called in” for consideration by the CCC planning committee. There was general agreement that this should be done.</p> <p>Cllr Chillingworth noted that, although surrounded on three sides by Wakes Colne, the application is in Chappel, and that any s106 money would be directed to that parish in the first instance. He felt this was another good reason for a merger of Parish Councils.</p> <p>It was agreed that Wakes Colne PC should comment on the application pointing out its interest in the matter and expressing concerns about landscape, traffic and a breach of the village envelope.</p> <p>Ref: 240200 Location: Wood Cottage, Bures Road, Wakes Colne Colchester CO6 2DS Description: Conversion and extension of existing carport and store to airbnb holiday let accommodation. It was noted that the building in question was behind a hedge and that the village would be unaffected. No objection: Proposed by Cllr. Chillingworth, seconded by Cllr. Sunnucks; all in favour, resolution passed</p>
24/024	All Members	<p>Budget 2024/2025. To set the budget for 2024/2025. It was noted that a decision had been made on the precept in order to meet the Colchester deadline, but not on the cost budget. Deferred item to be on the March agenda.</p>
24/025	All Members	<p>S106 Funding. Colchester City Council have received financial contributions for Springfield, Station Road, Wakes Colne, CO6 2DS. Planning Ref No 212722 as detailed below. Community SPD 65% Ward - £2,058.85. It was agreed that this should be split fifty-fifty because the village hall management committee would like new chairs, and if the remainder came to Wakes Colne Parish Council it could then be granted to the local shop so that they can purchase a community noticeboard. Proposed by Cllr. Chillingworth, seconded by Cllr. Rowe; all in favour, resolution passed</p>
24/026	All Members	<p>Matters Arising from previous minutes. Item 1. Station Road – acknowledgement received 6th May 2021 - no new reference number; update from Cllr Barber. This has been put forward as a priority scheme, awaiting validation still. Item 2. Previous minute number 20/195 Item 2. Zebra Crossing – acknowledgement received reference number LCOL193018 - survey carried out, update from Cllr. Barber. The County Council are concerned that moving the crossing and bus stop may make this area more dangerous they are waiting for comments from the bus companies. Item 3. Previous minute number 21/074 Flooding near the Post Office – signage funded Cllr Barber - The cabinet has yet to approve the rollover funding for these schemes, while we fully expect them to do so, it has not yet happened. Item 4. A1124 overgrowth – update awaiting Highways inspectors report. Item 5. VAS Station Road - Previous minute number 23/130 VAS systems. Station Road VAS - update from Cllr Barber on current situation regarding testing and repair/replacement. Awaiting a decision from Highways regarding possible funding for the survey. To consider asking Highways to carry out a speed survey in Station Road at a cost of £350 to establish what the current average speed readings are. No updates received from Cllr Barber – items to be on the March agenda.</p>
24/027	All Members	<p>Bus shelter light.</p>

		<p>Bus shelter light. Solar light outside the bus shelter: the Clerk had contacted the contractor and he is going to take a look at the SD card and hopefully get it working again. Currently awaiting an update, item to be on the March agenda.</p>																											
24/028	All Members	<p>Street Light. Possible new Street light outside the bus shelter near village hall – the quotation for the supply and installation and new electricity supply connection for a total of £10,494.00 inc VAT was discussed. Item deferred and to be postponed for a year. Proposed by Cllr. Chillingworth, seconded by Cllr. Sunnucks; all in favour, resolution passed</p>																											
24/029	All Members	<p>Insurance for Public Rights of Way - Footpath Working Group Members. To confirm insurance is in place for Public Rights of Way Foot path working group members providing a risk assessment is completed/signed and dated prior to any work being carried out. Proposed by Cllr. Sunnucks, seconded by Cllr. Chillingworth; all in favour, resolution passed</p>																											
24/030	All Members	<p>Financial Matters. Item 1. Financial Statement (Items approved for payment and signed as per payment schedule).</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>CHEQUE No.</th> <th>TOTAL</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>EE Inv. No. V022185738889</td> <td>DD</td> <td>21.26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chappel & Wakes Colne Parish Council (Inv. No. 0124)</td> <td>101589</td> <td>82.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D. Jacob (Expenses for January/February)</td> <td>101590</td> <td>37.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D. Jacob (Salary for February 2024)</td> <td>SO</td> <td>650.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D. Jacob (Salary adjustment for February)</td> <td>101591</td> <td>63.14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HM Revenue & Customs (For February</td> <td>101592</td> <td>6.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Essex Pension Fund (for February)</td> <td>SO</td> <td>210.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Essex Pension Fund (Adjustment for February)</td> <td>101593</td> <td>26.04</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Item 2. Monthly Budget Statement. Clerk sent to all Councillors, received and noted. Proposed by Cllr. Sunnucks, seconded by Cllr. Chillingworth; all in favour, resolution passed</p>		CHEQUE No.	TOTAL	EE Inv. No. V022185738889	DD	21.26	Chappel & Wakes Colne Parish Council (Inv. No. 0124)	101589	82.00	D. Jacob (Expenses for January/February)	101590	37.60	D. Jacob (Salary for February 2024)	SO	650.00	D. Jacob (Salary adjustment for February)	101591	63.14	HM Revenue & Customs (For February	101592	6.40	Essex Pension Fund (for February)	SO	210.00	Essex Pension Fund (Adjustment for February)	101593	26.04
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24/031	All Members	To receive reports from outside bodies, training courses, representatives on village committees and Parish Council working groups. No reports.																											
24/032	All Members	<p>New Items for next agenda. Please note that no decisions can be lawfully made under this item, LGA 12 10 (2) (b) states that business must be specified therefore the council cannot lawfully raise matters for decision.</p>																											
24/033	All Members	<p>Date of Next Meeting. Parish Council Meeting 6th March (7.15pm)</p>																											
24/034	All Members	<p>Chairman (Cllr Sunnucks) added additional item as follows: - That Peter Chillingworth and William Sunnucks be authorised to sign a settlement agreement and authorise payments in relation to the employment of the Parish Clerk, if such agreement is reached. Also to sign all matters relating to the transfer of responsibilities to a new parish clerk, again if such agreement is reached. Proposed by Cllr. Laws, seconded by Cllr. Rowe; all in favour, resolution passed</p>																											

Meeting closed at 8.35pm.