

**Minutes of the Wakes Colne Parish Council Meeting held on  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 7.15pm in Chappel & Wakes Colne Village Hall**

In the Chair: Cllr. Stocker

Present: Cllr. J. Fisher, Cllr. S. Latache and Cllr. H. Wastenev

Parish Clerk: Mrs D. Jacob

One member of the public and Cllr Sunnucks.

	PRESENTER	SUBJECT
<b>23/181</b>	All Members	<b>Welcome and Apologies for Absence.</b> The Chairman welcomed everyone. No apologies for absence received.
<b>23/182</b>	All Members	<b>Declaration of Interests.</b> None.
<b>23/183</b>	All Members	<b>Public Participation Session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.</b> A member of the public spoke regarding the celebration picnic event to mark the 175th anniversary of the opening of the viaduct and the station. 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 <sup>th</sup> June, similar to that held last year for the Jubilee and Coronation.
<b>23/184</b>	All Members	<b>Ward and County Councillors to address the members if present.</b> Cllr Sunnucks updated the council and reported that Colchester City Council are going to review the local plan and housing targets will be looked at 920 will be increased to 1061 of which 30% will have to be affordable housing, biodiversity and call for sites will be considered.
<b>23/185</b>	All Members	<b>Minutes.</b> To confirm receipt of the draft minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 and to resolve that the minutes are to be signed as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Cllr. Wastenev, seconded by Cllr. Latache; all in favour, resolution passed.
<b>23/186</b>	All Members	<b>Planning Matters.</b> <b>Item 1.</b> Updates. <b>Item 2. Ref: 232074</b> <b>Location:</b> Wakes Colne Lodge, Lower Green, Wakes Colne, Colchester, CO6 2AZ <b>Description:</b> New 3-bedroom 2 storey residential dwelling with garden. Objection Due to the Highway report Wakes Colne Parish Council acknowledge access issues. Proposed by Cllr. Stocker, seconded by Cllr. Fisher; all in favour, resolution passed.
<b>23/187</b>	All Members	<b>Matters Arising from previous minutes.</b> <b>Item 1.</b> Station Road – acknowledgement received 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2021 - no new reference number; update from Cllr Barber. This has been put forward as a priority scheme, awaiting validation still. <b>Item 2.</b> 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. <b>Item 3.</b> 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. <b>Item 4.</b> Vegetation overgrowth from Wakes Hall down to the Village Hall, Colchester Road A1124 reported again on 5/6/2023 Highways ref 2866323, awaiting update from Cllr. Barber.
<b>23/188</b>	All Members	<b>VAS Station Road.</b>

1

Signed.....  
Chairman of the Parish Council

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023

		<p>Previous minute number 23/130 VAS systems. Station Road VAS - update from Cllr Barber on current situation regarding testing and repair/replacement of the existing Essex County Council VAS.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Awaiting further information from Highways – item deferred, to be on the next agenda.</p>						
23/189	All Members	<p><b>Community Noticeboard.</b></p> <p>It was agreed to purchase a community notice board up to £1,000.00 for the Community Shop/post office. Funding application to be sent to Chappel Parish Council to share half the cost.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr. Latarche, seconded by Cllr. Wasteny; all in favour, resolution passed.</p>						
23/190	All Members	<p><b>Footpaths.</b></p> <p>To confirm that footpath 10, to the south boundary with Jordans farm and towards Lane farm is still in the process of being cleared by the working group.</p>						
23/191	All Members	<p><b>Strimmer.</b></p> <p>It was agreed purchase of a small battery strimmer for the footpath working group at a cost of £68.99. Proposed by Cllr. Latarche, seconded by Cllr. Stocker; all in favour, resolution passed.</p>						
23/192	All Members	<p><b>Defibrillator (Post Office A1124).</b></p> <p>The defibrillator has been used so new pads and a starter kit have been purchased and replaced.</p>						
23/193	All Members	<p>To receive reports from outside bodies, training courses, representatives on village committees and Parish Council working groups.</p> <p>The Chairman attended Chairman training at the EALC.</p> <p>The Chairman attended the CALC meeting, the guest speaker was the CEO Pam Donnelly from Colchester City Council.</p> <p>Cllrs attended the Planning Training session via zoom organised by Colchester City Council.</p> <p>Cllr Wasteny attended a Millennium Green meeting which was very interesting.</p> <p>Cllr Latarche attended a visit to the Jumbo Water Tower in Colchester. A private individual owns the tower and has formed a North Essex Preservation Trust who are working with North Essex Heritage to try to make the tower a viable commercial enterprise. They would like to renovate it to a restaurant/entertainment venue with the aid of lottery grants and other grants. They are in final stages of drawings with architects and consulting with Colchester Levelling up Fund and the planning authority. A decision has to be made by May 2024 otherwise grant funding will be withdrawn (although other funds could be sought). It was very interesting hearing how they could make the renovations and develop it in to something that could be a real asset to the city. The tower is in quite a state of disrepair and costs £150,000 just to maintain it in its current state. Investment would cost millions but they believe they will have enough funding with grants to make this viable. The views from the top are outstanding and you can see the cranes at Harwich and wind farms at Clacton. North Essex Heritage is a passionate group who would love to see Jumbo repaired and maintain its' position as a Colchester landmark. If these plans fail, they fear that the tower will fall in to further disrepair and will have to be pulled down in the near future. The purpose of the visit was to share information and spread the good word with the hope of planning being permitted so that development can commence.</p> <p>Members of the public (not local) have commented how lovely the planters look when driving through the village.</p>						
23/194	All Members	<p><b>New Items for next agenda.</b></p> <p>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>						
23/195	All Members	<p><b>Clerk's Report.</b></p> <p>Received and noted.</p>						
23/196	All Members	<p><b>Financial Matters.</b></p> <p>1) Financial Statement (Items to be approved for payment and signed as per payment schedule).</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="411 1839 1385 1912"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>CHEQUE No.</th> <th>TOTAL</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>EE Inv. No. V02145508966</td> <td>DD</td> <td>21.26</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		CHEQUE No.	TOTAL	EE Inv. No. V02145508966	DD	21.26
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Chairman of the Parish Council

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023

		Royal British Legion (Minute No. 23/171)	101555	50.00
		Richard Edwards Group (Payroll services Inv. No. 51056)	101556	89.64
		Chappel & Wakes Colne Village Hall (Inv. No. 0823)	101557	23.00
		WEL Medical (Inv. No. I270792)	101558	88.68
		HandyKing (Inv.No.226 Book exchange at Middle Green painted)	101559	120.00
		EALC (Inv. No. 16975 Chairman Training Days)	101560	432.00
		D. Stocker (Reimbursement for new battery strimmer)	101561	68.99
		D. Jacob (Salary for October)	SO	650.00
		D. Jacob (Salary adjustment for October)	101562	22.13
		Essex Pension Fund (for October)	SO	210.00
		Essex Pension Fund (Adjustment for October)	101563	5.89
		HM Revenue & Customs (For October)	101564	2.60
		D. Jacob (expenses for September as per receipts)	101565	48.08
		<p>It was also agreed to pay the following invoice which was received after the agenda had been published.</p> <p>Colchester Borough Council Inv. No. 20201601 (street lights electricity) £48.41</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr. Stocker, seconded by Cllr. Fisher; all in favour, resolution passed.</p> <p><b>Item 2. Monthly Budget Statement.</b></p> <p>Received and noted. It was also noted that the second half of the precept £7,035.50 and support grant £379.50 (total £7415.00) has been received.</p>		
<b>23/197</b>	All Members	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting.</b></p> <p>Parish Council Meeting 6<sup>th</sup> December (7.15pm)</p>		

Meeting closed at 9.35pm.