#

Minutes of the **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held on **Monday 20th February 2023 at 7.30pm** at Plantation Hall, Colchester Road Heybridge CM9 4AL at 7.30pm.

**PRESENT**

**In the Chair:**  Trevor Cable

**Councillors:**  Miriam Lewis Zimrul Alam

 Ashley Jones

**Apologies**: Cllr John Harrison District Cllr Spenceley

 Cllr Diane Gibson District Cllr Edwards

 Cllr Richard Perry

**District Cllrs:**  Anne Beale Bruce Heubner

**Absent:** 0

**Members of Public:** 0

**Officers:** Amanda Hilton Clerk

The meeting stared at 7.30pm and it was noted the meeting was being recorded.

**22/306 Chairman’s Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed all members. The Chairman confirmed the resignations of Mark Salisbury and Carey Martin had been received and thanks them for all their support. The Chairman thanked Cllr Jones and his partner for all their hard work with the quiz night held on Friday 17th February and confirmed the event had been well supported.

**22/307 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Perry, Cllr Gibson, Cllr Harrison, Cllr, District Cllr Edwards, District Cllr Spenceley,

**22/308 Minutes**

1. Members considered approving the Minutes Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 23rd January 2023. It was **RESOLVED** the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 23rd January 2023 be approved and confirmed.
2. The draft minutes of the Environment and Facilities Committee held on Monday 30th January 2023 were received.
3. The draft minutes of the Planning Committee held on Monday 6th February 2023 were received.
4. The draft minutes of the Events Committee held on Monday 13th February 2023 were received.

**22/309 Interests**

None

**22/310 Public Participation**

None

**22/311 Reports**

1. There was no report from Cllr Durham.
2. Members received report from District Cllr Edwards and District Cllr Spenceley.

Report as received.

**PLANNING APPLICATION 22/00289/RESM**

This application for reserved matters for the approval of access, appearance, landscaping and infrastructure for Phases 3,4 and 5 in the NHGS was approved at the District Planning Committee on the 2nd February.

**NHGS COMMUNITY LIAISON PANEL**

The NHGS Community Liaison Panel continues to receive queries from residents and to respond to these. The next Panel meeting with the developers will be sometime in March. Members are reminded if they have any questions or queries to please contact the panel via their email NHGSliaisonpanel@maldon.gov.uk

**SHARPES MEADOW**

Some progress has been made in so far that together with HPC’s Community Engagement Officer, I (MRE) visited the site as complaints have been received regarding safety issues. As it happened Persimmon has made good the culvert crossing together with a small side barricade on either side and built-up path material to enable people to cross safely. This hopefully satisfied the complainants. I am sure your CEO will update you in more detail accordingly.

In the meantime together with MDC officers, we will arrange another visit to try and resolve the remaining issues including a pathway across the adjoining land to connect to the public pavement. On this we hope to report back as soon as possible.

**DISTRICT COUNCILLORS SURGERY**

The date for the next District Councillors surgery at the café at Bentall’s is currently proposed for Saturday, March 4th, before the Pre- Election Period (Purdah) starts on March 13th. Confirmation and more details to follow.

**5YHLS**

Using the present methodology for calculating the 5YHLS supply it now stands at 4.8 years. This is because over the last year, there has been a lot of positive movement on the housing sites in the District, especially the larger sites.

This figure must, however, be caveated, with the fact that the figure may start to bounce between having a supply and not having one, and the figure can and does change weekly. This is because housing completions are taken off the supply and new deliverable supply needs to be granted planning permission to backfill that loss.

**HOLLOWAY ROAD**

After a long period the street lights in Holloway Road are now back in working order. This came about through connecting them to UK Power Networks, as damage caused to underground cables during the laying of gas pipes meant that the five units that remained out of action could not be re-connected to the Essex streetlighting grid without extensive excavations.

Further work has also now been carried out at the site of the underground culvert, though we are still attempting to find out the exact nature of that work from Essex Highways.

We had recently requested from Highways a full assessment of the damage caused to the road, including to the streetlights, sewers and the culvert, by the work carried out by Cadent when laying the new gas pipes last spring.

**OAK TREE**

The Oak Tree issue in Langford Road is still being investigated.

**MOTION TO FULL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Cllr Spenceley will put forward a Motion at Wednesday’s (22nd February) full District Council meeting seconded by Cllr Edwards as follows:

Preamble:

In December 2022, Essex County Council, in its capacity as the Flood Authority, adopted the Essex Flood Risk Management Plans for Flood Risk Areas. These plans look at seven Flood Risk Areas across the county.

The detail for one of the seven plans reads as follows:

***Between 2021 and 2027, the Environment Agency will work with Essex County Council and Maldon District Council to develop options in Heybridge to reduce the risk of fluvial, tidal, and surface water flooding in the Combined Essex Management Catchment***.

**22/312 Committee Updates**

1. Cllr Lewis updated members she acted as Chairman at the last meeting of the Planning Committee and a lengthy discussion was held with regards to a recent application received from Vaulty Manor due to the fact there was insufficient information received from the planning department at MDC and that if members were to make an informed decision, proper information should be provided by the District Officers.
2. Members received a report from the Chairman of the Events Committee who confirmed the recently held Quiz Night had raised £119. The Chairman of the Events Committee thanked all those that attended and thanked the Clerk for organising the event.
3. Members received a report from the Chairman of the Environment and Facilities Committee who confirmed the committee continued to progress with matters in relation to the extension.

**22/313 Community Engagement Officer Report**

1. Members received a report from Gary Dyer.

Report as received.

To Date -

I have been carrying out daily patrols of the parish, communicating with our residents, offering advice, signposting to events and organisations.

I regularly liaise with our partners i.e., Essex Police, The Tri-Services Officer, CVS, NHGS, Countryside Developments, Youth Services Group, Reach out for Mental health.

My work will continue with the youth of the parish, Tea and toast will resume in the hope we can transform that into to a youth club. I have secured a full-size . pool table free of charge kindly donated by a local business, Viking facilities Management.

Our community events will continue to grow, our community cosy days are attended by some of our partners and are proving to be popular. Terry Fowles form Essex Police watch group has now started to attend bringing valuable advice to our residents.

I am in the process of liaising with London Hearts community liaison officer who have offered funding for additional defibrillators for our parish, I had suggested the possibility of carrying one in the van along with a bleed kit for emergency use. Many thanks to the go ahead from you all, we are now purchasing one.

I am liaising with the men’s shed network in the hope of setting up a permanent shed in Heybridge in conjunction with the Andy’s Man Club charity. Update to follow.

A meeting has been set up with Heybridge primary school to discuss the parking issues around the school and Rowan Drive. This meeting has not taken place yet due to a very busy time for the school and the half term break. I will be speaking to the school this week and will liaise with Cllr Lewis as school liaison representative.

Sadly, I have to report the disgusting behaviour taking place in Honeybee Orchard, as some of you may have seen on social media, I have now sprayed a total of 26 dog fouls in the area. I will be installing new warning signs at the area and will carry out regular patrols across different times in the hope of catching the person who allows their dog to do this. CCTV in the form of field cameras will need to be discussed as an option going forward, of course we have to abide by the current legislation ( R.I.P.A ). If of course this person is found a fixed penalty notice will be issued which currently stands at a maximum of £150.00.

I have been in discussion with the Clerk about various planting schemes throughout the parish, which will be added to the next ENF Agenda for discussion but I hope to include tree planting at various locations, wild flower verges and hedging where possible. I will be speaking to our partners about any potential funding that may be available.

The Heywood Way/Swifts Boulevard issues have not quite been resolved so I have suggested to the Clerk that this be added as an item on the next ENF Agenda, to take this matter up and help our residents where we can. I will be speaking to Persimmon Homes, and I know District Cllr Edwards will also be reporting on the matter.

**22/314 Clerks Report.**

a)Members are asked to consider not holding an events committee meeting in March 2023.

The Chairman PROPOSED not to hold an events committee meeting in March 2023. SECONDED by Cllr Jones. It was **RESOLVED** to not hold an Events Committee meeting in March 2023 and to hold the next meeting in April 2023.

b)Members are asked to note response received from Maldon Croquet Club with regards to their relocation:

*Dear Mandy*

*I must apologise for the delay in responding to the Council's kind offer to us to use King George V Field for the forthcoming season.*

*However, after a great deal of research and discussion and following a formal meeting last night, I can advise that we have accepted a bowls club's offer of the use of its green.. This will allow us the complete exclusivity and playing surface that we had aspired to but thought unattainable in the short term. In the event that the arrangements do not prove satisfactory we do hope that the Council would consider a future application from us.*

*Thank you so much for the time, advice and support that you have given us in our search for a new home. I would be most grateful if you would thank the Council for its offer and in particular Miriam Lewis for her endeavours on our behalf. With kind regard*

*Chris Joslin for and on behalf of Maldon Croquet Club*

c)Members are asked to note Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 2023-2024 is £9.93 and increase from £8.82. Just to remind members this is for payments made in accordance with the terms of Section 137 of the LGA 1972, which enables council to spend a limited amount of money for purposes not otherwise authorised, which in councils’ opinion is in the interest of and will bring direct benefit to the residents. S137 monies cannot be spent on an individual. Current expenditure under S137 is HHH and Donations.

**Noted**

d) Members are asked to note Plantation Hall will be a polling station on May 4th. All members have been circulated the information from the Lead Elections and Democratic Services Manager including the timetable. As members will be aware voters must show an accepted form of photographic identification at a polling station before they are given a ballot paper, This affects voters across Maldon District who vote in person or by proxy. I have circulated information from the Electoral commission with regards to a webinar that is due to take place on Tuesday 7th March 2023 12pm -1pm.

**Noted**.

e)Members are asked to consider formalise plans for Kings Coronation Big Lunch on Sunday 7th May 2023.

It was **RESOLVED** the Clerk and G Dyer be delegated responsibility to plan the event calling upon local community groups to help.

f) Members are asked to consider a request from Heybridge Primary School for a School Governor, members were previously circulated the information. The successful governor would be appointed for a four year term and would have responsibility for monitoring an area of the school that best suited their skills set. Members **RESOLVED** that the School Liaison Cllr should continue to liaise with the school and that no member should be appointed to apply for School Governor.

**22/315 Financial matters**

1. Members received updated statement of accounts for February 2023.
2. Members received the bank reconciliation for January 2023 It was noted the balance of the bank account was £328,25.09 on 20th February 2023.
3. Members received schedule of payments including invoices and accounts for payments dated 6th February 2023. Members considered schedule of payments for 20th February 2023. Cllr Lewis PROPOSED to approve payments. SECONDED by The Chairman. It was **RESOLVED** to approve payments. Appendix 1a.
4. Members considered renewal of the Clerks annual SLCC membership at a cost of £279.00. Cllr Lewis PROPOSED to renew the Clerks membership of the annual SLCC at a cost of £279.00. SECONDED by The Chairman. It was **RESOLVED** to renew the Clerks membership at a cost of £279.00.

**22/316 Local Issues**

1. Members received a report from the Clerk with regards to Swifts Boulevard and it was RESOLVED to add this item to the next Agenda for the meeting of the ENF Committee due to be held on Monday 27th February 2023.
2. Members were asked to circulate any matters for inclusion on the Agenda for the next meeting of the Parish Council due to be held on Monday 20th March 2023.

**22/317 Correspondence**

1. The Clerk updated members on correspondence received and actions to be taken were noted.

**22/318 Future Meetings**

a) The next meeting of the Environment and Facilities Committee will be held on Monday 27th February 2023.

b) The next meeting of the Planning Committee will be held on Monday 6th March 2023 at 7.30pm.

c)The next meeting of the Events Committee will be held on Monday 13th March 2023 at 7.30pm **TBC.**

d)The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 20th March at 7.30pm.

 The meeting closed at 8.40pm

 Signed.