#

Minutes of the **EXTRAORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held on **Monday 29th January 2024** at Plantation Hall, Colchester Road Heybridge CM9 4AL at 7.00pm.

**PRESENT**

**Chair:** Anne Beale

**Councillors:**  Dieter Parry Simon Burwood

 Colin Edmond Nikki Swindle

 John Harrison Nick Spenceley

 Paula Spenceley Mike Hall

**Apologies**: Cllr Ashley Jones

 Cllr Micheal Edwards

 Cllr Trevor Cable

**District Cllrs:** Nick Spenceley Paula Spenceley

 Simon Burwood Nikki Swindle

**County Cllr** Not Present

**Absent:** 0

**Members of Public:** 21

**Officers:** Amanda Hilton Clerk

**In the Chair**  Cllr Anne Beale

The meeting started at 7.00pm and it was noted the meeting was being recorded.

**23/344 Chairs’ Welcome**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**23/345 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Ashley Jones, Cllr Michael Edwards and Cllr Trevor Cable

**23/346 Interests**

Cllr Colin Edmond declared he is a Director of Essex Waterways.

 Cllr N Spenceley, Cllr P Spenceley, Cllr Swindle and Cllr Burwood

 declared they are District Council Ward members.

**23/347 St Peters Community Hospital**

The Chair welcomed Cllr P Spenceley to give a brief presentation on the consultation process with regards to St Peters Community

 Hospital and medical services in Maldon.

 Cllr P Spenceley confirmed the public consultation contained the

 following proposals:

To change how and where people receive inpatient intermediate care services and stroke rehabilitation inpatient services that are provided from community hospitals.

To make permanent the relocation of a freestanding midwife-led birthing unit from St Peter’s Hospital, Maldon to the William Julien Courtauld Birthing Unit (WJC) at Braintree Community Hospital.

And:

asking for views on the possibility of moving all the other patient services provided at St Peter’s Hospital, Maldon to other locations in and around Maldon.

Cllr P Spenceley confirmed that it was not going to be as simple as “Maldon says No” and the other areas affected were, Brentwood, Basildon, Thurrock, Rochford, Braintree and that residents in these areas may benefit from the transfer of beds and resources from Maldon and therefore, they may respond positively to the consultation and that face to face discussions were being held in other areas but not Heybridge.

Cllr Spenceley said the most important message was to complete the consultation, get family, friend and neighbours to complete it and shared instructions on how to find the consultation including the QR Code.

Cllr Spenceley confirmed a public meeting was due to be held in The Stage Hall at the Plume Academy on Friday, 9th February 2024 at

7.00pm.

**23/348 Public Participation.**

The Chair invited members of the public to ask any questions.

Questions were received as follows:

Member of the public (MOP) 1

BBC news mentioned that the closure of the hospital had been confirmed and a business plan had been prepared. This sounds like the deal has already been made.

MOP 2

What happened to the S106 monies that were promised to provide alternative medical hubs and services at the new development in Maldon.?

MOP 3

Services now are at full capacity; how can they remove St Peters services when they are needed?

MOP 4

Has there been any discussions to buy back the site to develop a medical hub?

MOP 5

When will the proposed medical site be opened at Westcombe Park as they seem to be withdrawing existing services with no alternative in place.

MOP 6

Is there any worth in completing the questionnaire?

MOP 7

Why isn’t the medical facility built before all the houses are built, there are more people coming in the district but there are no services for them?

MOP 8

There needs to be proper infrastructure and better planning so that residents are able to access existing medical facilities that are already over full capacity.

MOP 9

Other areas have well equipped medical services, such as South Woodham Ferrers and Danbury, why has not Maldon. Is this another failure by MDC?

MOP 10

How can we complete the questionnaire, as do not have access to online?

MOP 11

Moving the stroke rehabilitation ward will have a huge impact on families, some may not be able to travel daily to services further away and therefore will not be able to visit their loved ones.

 MOP 12

What can we do as a community to stop Maldon losing its vital medical services?

The Chair invited Cllr P Spenceley to address comments and questions raised.

The Clerk updated members that paper copies of the consultation had been requested.

Members considered actions to be taken.

It was **RESOLVED** to assist members of the public with completing the consultation online or paper copies.

It was **RESOLVED** to have a dedicated area on the website and social media to post regular updates.

It was **RESOLVED** to purchase a banner and leaflets advertising the consultation and the QR code.

It was **RESOLVED** the Clerk would investigate the possibility of assisting with transport for those residents wishing to attend the meeting at The Plume Academy on February 9th.

It was R**ESOLVED** the Clerk would inform members of when papers copies of the consultation were available.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and reminded members a further Extraordinary meeting would be held the next day at 2.00pm.

**23/349 Future Meetings**

1. The next Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 30th January 2024 at 2.00pm.
2. The next meeting of the Planning Committee will be held on Monday 5th February 2024 at 7.30pm.
3. The next meeting of the Events Committee will be held on Monday 12th February 2024 at 7.30pm.
4. The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 19th February 2024 at 7.30pm.
5. The next meeting of the Environment and Facilities Committee will be held on Monday 26th February 2024 at 7.00pm

 The meeting closed at 8.20pm

 Signed.