

## ABBERTON AND LANGENHOE PARISH COUNCIL

### COUNCIL MEETING – 12<sup>th</sup> October 2020

A meeting of the Council took place on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 7.30pm via Zoom

Cllrs Present    Stephen Wormell – Chairman  
                     Simon Dougherty – Vice Chairman  
                     Jonathan Andrews  
                     Alan Frost  
                     David Grover  
                     Peter Hine  
                     Doug Kibblewhite  
                     Malcolm Mattack  
                     Margaret Palmer-Slatter

Also in attendance – ECC Cllr K Bentley, James Lambert and Clerk

071/20	Apologies for absence – CBC Cllr R Davidson	
072/20	Announcements – none	
073/20	Public Questions – none	
074/20	Declarations of Interest – Cllrs Wormell, Dougherty and Frost declared pecuniary interests in item 083/20	
075/20	Reports from County and Borough Cllrs ECC Cllr Bentley reported that there had been a rapid rise in cases of Covid-19 in Essex and that ECC would be issuing a statement on 13 <sup>th</sup> October. He is aware of the outstanding highway issues in the villages and will report back as soon as he is able.	
076/20	Minutes of Meeting – 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2020 The minutes as previously circulated were agreed as a correct record, proposed by Cllr Kibblewhite and seconded by Cllr Mattack for signature by Cllr Wormell.	
077/20	Matters arising from previous meeting not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda 1. Petanque Court – the court is now complete to a satisfactory standard and the invoice for the works will be paid. The Clerk has submitted the invoices for the works and the bench seats to CBC for release of S106 funds. The resident who made the initial approach to the council has already played on the	

	<p>court and is providing some information leaflets for display close to the court.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. S106 Funds – the Clerk had submitted the councils ‘Wish List’ of projects to CBC for consideration. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The defibrillator can be funded immediately from the Communities budget. A quote had been obtained and will be submitted to CBC for release of funds. The defibrillator will be positioned on the wall of the Lion Corner Shop and will be maintained and insured by the shop.</li> <li>2. S106 cannot be used for purchasing a speedwatch camera, it is suggested that an approach be made to Safer Rural Community Fund.</li> <li>3. Planters can be funded immediately from the Leisure, Sports and Recreation budget. A quote has already been obtained and will be forwarded to CBC</li> <li>4. Repairs cannot be funded from S106, however Improvement Works to the Basketball Court would be considered.</li> <li>5. The Cricket Club can make an application to the Leisure, Sports and Recreation budget for enhancements works which would include replacing nets.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. First Buses – the Clerk had written to First Buses expressing concern that the service 67 had failed to stop at the ‘Lion’ stop in the village. First Buses will be reminding drivers on that route about the stop.</li> </ol>	<p>Action – Clerk to submit quotes for release of funds</p>
<p>078/20</p>	<p>Planning applications</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To consider applications received and note decisions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 201856 – 1 Lion Corner, Mersea Road – directional signs for new shop – no comments offered</li> <li>• 202003 – 41 Peldon Road – proposed alterations/conversion of garage to form games room – no objection</li> <li>• 202182 – 47 Fingringhoe Road – proposed garden room – no objection</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. To consider response to Mersea Homes re: land West of Peldon Road – a public consultation has commenced into the proposal to build 50 homes on land west of Peldon Road. Due to Covid restrictions it is not possible to hold a public exhibition for residents and the Council had been requested to assist in advising residents of the consultation and giving them the opportunity to respond. The members were very</li> </ol>	<p>Action – Clerk to contact Agents and formulate response to consultation</p>

	<p>concerned that the consultation period was only 2 weeks and felt that a leaflet drop to all properties should be undertaken at the expense of the developer to ensure that residents were informed of the proposals. The Clerk will contact the Agents to discuss these points. It was noted that during the consultation for the Local Plan that the Council had already offered its support to development on this site, however some of the recommendations had not been included in the consultation document. The Clerk will formulate a response to the consultation and circulate for comments prior to being submitted.</p>																			
079/20	<p>Correspondence</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Age Concern, request for donation – denied</li> <li>2 Consultation – Planning for the future – no comment</li> <li>3 Consultation – Transparency and Competition – no comment</li> <li>4 ECC Highways Users Survey – Cllr Kibblewhite will respond</li> </ol>	Action – Cllr Kibblewhite to respond																		
080/20	<p>To ratify decision to vie £200 from Audit budget to Office budget to facilitate purchase of Zoom subscription With the prospect of holding virtual meetings for the foreseeable future, it had been agreed that the council should have its own Zoom subscription, but that money would need to be transferred to the Office budget to facilitate this. Proposed by Cllr Dougherty and seconded by Cllr Grover.</p>	Action – Clerk to amend budgets																		
081/20	<p>Finance and Accounts – October 2020 The following accounts were approved for payment, schedule 008/20 and signed by Cllrs Wormell and Dougherty</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>A&amp;J Lighting – streetlight maintenance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£60.90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>J Knight – grasscutting</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£125.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D A Page Landscaped – petanque court works</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£5103.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S Dougherty – Zoom subs Sept 20</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£14.39</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E-On – electricity for streetlights</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£59.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C McSweeney – Zoom subs Oct and postage</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£16.03</td> </tr> <tr> <td>M Palmer-Slatter – plants</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£44.95</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Royal British Legion – poppy wreath</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£50.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Staff costs – Oct 2020</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£271.50</td> </tr> </table>	A&J Lighting – streetlight maintenance	£60.90	J Knight – grasscutting	£125.00	D A Page Landscaped – petanque court works	£5103.60	S Dougherty – Zoom subs Sept 20	£14.39	E-On – electricity for streetlights	£59.80	C McSweeney – Zoom subs Oct and postage	£16.03	M Palmer-Slatter – plants	£44.95	Royal British Legion – poppy wreath	£50.00	Staff costs – Oct 2020	£271.50	
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082/20	<p>Bank reconciliation – August and September 2020 Cllr Mattack has undertaken and agreed the reconciliations</p>																			
083/20	<p>The Lion Community Shop James Lambert reported that the shop had opened on 4<sup>th</sup> October and so far had very positive feedback from customers. He thanked Cllrs Dougherty and Frost for all their help in getting the shop up and running. He confirmed that</p>																			

	<p>there were no plans to open a Post Office counter at present, but the shop will sell stamps. Mr Lambert confirmed that the shop will take responsibility for the defibrillator, including electricity costs, upkeep and maintenance. Once fitted, it will be registered with East of England Ambulance and will only be accessible to users who have first contacted 999 and been provided with the access code. Cllr Wormell thanked all the volunteers including the Steering Group for the tremendous amount of work that has gone into opening the shop.</p>	
084/20	<p>Review of Policies The following policies have been circulated and reviewed –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assets Register</li> <li>• Financial Regulations</li> <li>• Freedom of Information</li> <li>• Acceptance of Advertising in Newsletter</li> </ul> <p>Cllr Dougherty proposed and Cllr Hine seconded accepting the reviewed policies. Agreed.</p>	Action – Clerk to update policies
085/20	<p>Report of EALC – Annual General Meeting Cllr Dougherty gave a brief summary of the AGM including the intention to increase the level of online training available.</p>	
086/20	<p>Arrangements for Remembrance Day Parade Cllr Grover had arranged with the Military Police for two NCO's to lead a parade from the school to the War Memorial on 11<sup>th</sup> November. Cllr Grover confirmed that due to the current restrictions on social distancing, the school will only send one 'bubble' of children this year, but hoped that in future years the whole school would participate. Cllr Grover was thanked for his help in arranging the escort and liaising with the school. Cllr Wormell confirmed that the Council would purchase a poppy wreath as normal and that hopefully it would be possible to have a small service at the Memorial on Remembrance Sunday.</p>	
087/20	<p>Representatives Reports</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Footpaths and Tree Warden – all the footpaths are clear and the annual cut back has taken place. The Litter Wardens continue to do a good job.</li> <li>2 Abberton and Langenhoe Community Association – the hall has recently been painted. Although open, there are only a few hirers that have resumed classes and the coffee mornings would be on hold for now. The Macmillan Coffee Morning raised over £400 and was well supported despite the weather.</li> <li>3 Edward Marke Trust – the annual invoices would be sent out soon and there is likely to be 4 half plots available.</li> <li>4 Church Matters – nothing to report</li> </ol>	

	<p>5 Grass cutting/maintenance – the planters have been refreshed for the winter. There is likely to be one more cut this year.</p> <p>6 Neighbourhood Watch – nothing to report</p> <p>7 Youth Liaison – nothing to report</p> <p>8 Finance Working Party – a meeting will be arranged soon to consider the budget for 2021/22</p> <p>9 Property Maintenance – Cllr Grover had recommenced the weekly inspections. The condition of the equipment is good and it is being well used. The bus shelter has been cleaned out. Cllr Hine reported that the annual inspection report of the equipment is due and the Clerk is obtaining some quotes.</p> <p>10 CALC – noting to report</p> <p>11 Broadband – County Broadband are replacing some of their wiring and ducting is being put in place from the road to properties in parts of the village. No further information from BT</p> <p>12 Speedwatch – Essex Police have conducted some speed patrols in the area, but unlikely that the Speedwatch Team will be out before the end November, as members needed to undertake retraining.</p> <p>13 Social Media and Newsletter – the Facebook page now has more than 500 members and is proving a good means of keeping residents informed. The next newsletter will be ready for distribution at the end of November.</p> <p>14 Highways Issues – Cllr Kibblewhite had held a meeting with Cllr Bentley on 23<sup>rd</sup> September to discuss outstanding issues, but due to more pressing matters at ECC, Cllr Bentley had not yet provided any more updates.</p>	<p>Action – Clerk to obtain quotes</p>
088/20	Date of next meeting – 9 <sup>th</sup> November 2020	

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm