

ABBERTON AND LANGENHOE PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING – 4th October 2021

A meeting of the Council took place on Monday 4th October 2021 at 7.30pm, at the Village Hall, Edward Marke Drive, Langenhoe

Cllrs Present Stephen Wormell – Chairman
 Simon Dougherty – Vice Chairman
 Jonathan Andrews
 David Grover
 Peter Hine
 Malcolm Mattack
 Margaret Palmer-Slatton

Also in attendance – 6 members of public and Clerk

088/21	Apologies for absence – Cllrs Frost and Kibblewhite CBC Cllrs Davidson and Moore and ECC Cllr Bentley	
089/21	Announcements – the death of former ECC Cllr Christopher Manning-Press was reported	
090/21	Public Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 members of the Abberton and Langenhoe Speedwatch Group were present and asked the Council to explain its involvement and commitment to Speedwatch. The Chairman advised that whilst not being a function that came under the auspices of the Parish Council, the work of the Speedwatch Group was fully supported by the Council and he thanked the volunteers for their work.• Mr Godwin – Team Leader of Peldon Speedwatch Group advised that one of the speed guns currently held by his group would be returned to the Abberton and Langenhoe Group once all the volunteers had completed their training. Mr Godwin advised that both the Peldon and Abberton and Langenhoe Groups had taken part in a recent speeding action day. The two groups had conducted 6 sessions in the villages and had reported 220 vehicles speeding and the same day the Police had conducted 1 session in the area and had reported 35 vehicles.	
091/21	Declaration of interest – none	
092/21	Reports of County and Borough Councillors There were no CBC or ECC Cllrs present.	

093/21	<p>Minutes of Meeting – 6th September 2021</p> <p>The minutes as previously circulated were signed as a correct record by Cllr Wormell. Proposed by Cllr Dougherty and seconded by Cllr Mattack.</p>																	
094/21	<p>Matter arising from previous meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerks' computer – Cllr Andrews to liaise with the Clerk 																	
095/21	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>212420 – Clairmont, Mersea Road – proposed rear extension and side facing roof dormers – no objection</p>																	
096/21	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>Essex and Herts Air Ambulance request for donation – refused</p>																	
097/21	<p>Finance and Accounts – October 2021</p> <p>The following accounts were approved for payment, schedule 007/21 and signed by Cllrs Wormell and Dougherty</p> <table> <tr> <td>J Knight – hedge cutting</td> <td>£100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>J Knight – grass cutting</td> <td>£175</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E-On – streetlight electricity – Sept 21</td> <td>£61.79</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EALC – course fees</td> <td>£24.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thinksay Creative – newsletter printing</td> <td>£350.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>M Palmer-Slatton – plants</td> <td>£105.93</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C McSweeney – stationery, stamps and ink</td> <td>£55.01</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Staff costs</td> <td>£318.25</td> </tr> </table>	J Knight – hedge cutting	£100	J Knight – grass cutting	£175	E-On – streetlight electricity – Sept 21	£61.79	EALC – course fees	£24.00	Thinksay Creative – newsletter printing	£350.40	M Palmer-Slatton – plants	£105.93	C McSweeney – stationery, stamps and ink	£55.01	Staff costs	£318.25	
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098/21	<p>Bank reconciliation – August 21</p> <p>The bank reconciliation had been agreed by Cllr Mattack</p>																	
099/21	<p>Bracken Way Parking – to consider questionnaire for distribution to residents</p> <p>A draft questionnaire had been circulated by Cllrs Mattack, Grover and Kibblewhite. Cllr Wormell had considered the questionnaire but had some reservations about the content. He acknowledged that the residents' views should be considered before any further recommendation was made to NEPP but was concerned that any further parking restrictions would affect the residents more than the people accessing the school site and queried if this was really necessary for the sake of 10 minutes inconvenience twice a day. Cllr Andrews was concerned that having witnessed the same people parking outside the school each day, any restrictions would be pointless unless they were enforced. Cllr Mattack reiterated that for the reasons stated, that it was important to obtain the residents views before moving forward. Cllr Dougherty had redrafted the questionnaire and Cllr Mattack will consider</p>																	

	this. Matter to be considered again at meeting on 8 th November.	
100/21	Parish Council Reserves – to update earmarked Reserves list The Clerk had circulated the current Reserves list and advised that at the end of the 2020/21 financial year there had been a surplus of £3282. It was agreed to add this to the General Reserve Fund. The current reserves now stand at – Streetlight Replacement - £15000 Play Equipment Replacement - £7500 General Reserve - £15219	
101/21	Community Association – request for a grant towards replacement heating for Village Hall The Village Hall is now 26 years old and is a vital focal point for the community. The current heating system is no longer fit for purpose and a replacement system will cost in the region of £25000. An application has been made to the Community Initiatives Fund and the result of this will be known in November. The Community Association has £5000 earmarked, £3200 has been requested from S106 funding and ECC Cllr Bentley has pledged £1000 from his Locality Grant. The Community Association would like the Parish Council to consider making a grant of £10000 towards the project. Cllr Wormell proposed and Cllr Mattack seconded making a grant of £10000 from the General Reserve Fund towards the replacement heating at the Village Hall. All agreed.	
102/21	To approve the appointment of Jan Stobart as Internal Auditor for 2021/22 Cllr Dougherty proposed and Cllr Grover seconded the appointment of Jan Stobart as Internal Auditor for 2021/22	
103/21	To consider repairs/replacement to light in bus shelter Cllr Frost had indicated that he will look to see if he can repair the light. If not, then a quote will be sought.	
104/21	Review of Policies All policies had been previously circulated for comment <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Media Policy – reviewed and accepted 2. Complaints Policy – reviewed and accepted 3. Effectiveness of Internal Audit – reviewed and accepted 4. Training Policy – reviewed and accepted 	Action – Clerk to update policies and upload to website
105/21	Representatives Reports <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Footpaths and Tree Warden – nothing to report. The members expressed their thanks again to the Litter Picking Team 2. Abberton and Langenhoe Community Association – the ABBA evening was a great success and raised £500 	

	<p>profit. 'Beats Working' on 9th October is already sold out. There will be a McMillan Coffee morning on 6th October.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Edward Marke Trust – a Work Party had recently tidied up the allotment site and removed an old shed. At a recent committee meeting it had been agreed to take a firmer line with allotment holders who did not tend their plots. A new pathway is to be made through the site and rents were now due. 4. Church Matters – a remembrance service had been held on 3rd October for Katie Richardson which was well attended. The Remembrance Day service would be held on 31st October at All Souls and there would be a service on the green on 11th November. 5. Grass Cutting – the cutting has now slowed down and Cllr Wormell was thanked for cutting back the hedges around the allotments 6. Neighbourhood Watch – a recent meeting had been held and had been well attended. There will be a 'Coffee with Cops' session at the coffee morning on 6th October. Cllr Dougherty was updating the 'Welcome Letter' for new residents 7. Youth Liaison – nothing to report 8. Finance Working Party – nothing to report 9. Property Maintenance – there was grass growing through the matting under the adult gym equipment that will need to be removed. It had not been possible to tighten the fixing on the Multi Play Activity Equipment and the Clerk was asked to instruct the Inspectors to do this when the annual Inspection takes place. It was noted that the bus shelter needs sweeping out and cleaning. 10. CALC – at a recent meeting the new Leader of CBC had made a presentation in which he pledged to give more support to the Parishes. Cllr Dougherty had attended the AGM of EALC on 23rd September and reported that the subscription for 2022 would be increased. 11. Broadband – nothing to report 12. SpeedWatch – dealt with under item 090/21 13. Social Media and Newsletter – the latest newsletter had been delivered, however there had been an issue with the quality and an offer of a £100 reduction on the next issue had been accepted. There was now 800 members of the Facebook page. 14. Highway Issues – nothing to report 	
106/21	Date of next meeting – 8 th November 2021	