

## ABBERTON AND LANGENHOE PARISH COUNCIL

### COUNCIL MEETING – 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022

A meeting of the Council took place on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 7.30pm, at the Village Hall, Edward Marke Drive, Langenhoe

Cllrs Present Alan Frost – Vice Chair  
Jonathan Andrews  
James Lambert  
Rod Lenart  
Malcolm Mattack  
Steve Wormell

Also in attendance – CCC Cllr Davidson, Mr J Knight and Clerk

142/22	Apologies for absence – Cllrs Dougherty and Palmer-Slatton	
143/22	Announcements – Cllr Mattack reported the deaths of Mr and Mrs Gilman of Hawthorne House, Peldon Road	
144/22	Public Questions - none	
145/22	Declarations of Interest - none	
146/22	Reports from County and Borough Cllrs Cllr Davidson reported that the service had now taken place to affirm Colchester as a City. Talks are ongoing to consider the position of an elected Mayor for Essex. There will be no garden waste collections now until 10 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	
147/22	Minutes of Meeting – 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2022 The minutes as previously circulated were agreed as a correct record. Proposed by Cllr Lambert and seconded by Cllr Wormell	
148/22	To consider Co-option to Council Mr John Knight had expressed an interest in joining the Parish Council and was invited to make a short presentation about himself and his interests. Cllr Frost thanked him for his presentation and invited him to remain for the rest of the meeting.	
149/22	Matters arising from previous meeting – none	
150/22	Planning Applications and Decision received 222967 – Oyster Lodge, Abberton Road – rear and side extensions with garage conversion – no objections	

	<p>Decisions</p> <p>222509 – 41 Peldon Road – granted</p> <p>222416 – Mersea Road, Langenhoe – refused</p>													
151/22	<p>Correspondence</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ECC Passenger Transport – invitation for representative to attend meetings in 2023 – to consider again when dates received</li> <li>2. Notification of appointment of external auditor for 2023-2026 – PFK Littlejohn has been appointed</li> <li>3. ECC Pothole Scheme – top three potholes to be reported to ECC Cllr Bentley, it was agreed to submit; Mersea Road, outside Abberton Car Sales; Mersea Road, 200mtrs south of Manwood Chase</li> </ol>	Action – Clerk to contact Cllr Bentley												
152/22	<p>Finance and Accounts – December 2022</p> <p>The following accounts which had been previously circulated were approved for payment, Schedule 010/22. Proposed by Cllr Lenart and seconded by Cllr Lambert</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">A&amp;J Lighting – streetlight maintenance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£60.90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>N Power – streetlight electricity</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£28.76</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Suffolk cloud – website hosting and domain name</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£136.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bradbury Carpentry – bench seat repairs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1058.35</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mrs C McSweeney – printer ink</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£39.49</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Staff costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£348.75</td> </tr> </table>	A&J Lighting – streetlight maintenance	£60.90	N Power – streetlight electricity	£28.76	Suffolk cloud – website hosting and domain name	£136.50	Bradbury Carpentry – bench seat repairs	£1058.35	Mrs C McSweeney – printer ink	£39.49	Staff costs	£348.75	
A&J Lighting – streetlight maintenance	£60.90													
N Power – streetlight electricity	£28.76													
Suffolk cloud – website hosting and domain name	£136.50													
Bradbury Carpentry – bench seat repairs	£1058.35													
Mrs C McSweeney – printer ink	£39.49													
Staff costs	£348.75													
153/22	<p>Bank reconciliation – November 2022</p> <p>Cllr Mattack had agreed the reconciliation</p>													
154/22	<p>Budget Proposals – 2023/24</p> <p>The budget as previously circulated (appendix 1) was discussed and agreed. Proposed by Cllr Mattack and seconded by Cllr Wormell. It was agreed to set a precept of £18605 which, would amount to an increase of 9.32% on 2022/2023, or £3.50 per property per annum, if the CCC Revenue Grant is provided and the tax base rate remains the same. However, if the CCC Revenue Grant is withdrawn this would be an increase of 14.64% on 2022/23 or £5.51 per property per annum</p>	Action – Clerk to advise CCC of the precept request												
155/22	<p>Inconsiderate parking in Fingringhoe Road</p> <p>Residents had complained about a commercial vehicle parking in Fingringhoe Road between the junctions of Mersea Road and Edward Marke Drive. Cllr Frost had placed a note on the vehicle asking for it to be parked elsewhere and had also contacted Essex Police for advice. This will continue to be monitored.</p>													

156/22	<p>20's Plenty – update</p> <p>Cllr Mattack had looked into this further and reported that a coordinated approach by ECC was the best way forward. A Cllr from a neighbouring parish was leading the initiative for this area and Cllr Mattack had been in contact with him to advise on Abberton and Langenhoes' stance on the matter. Cllr Mattack will prepare an article for the next newsletter to advise residents of the proposals and seek any views.</p>	
157/22	<p>Policy Review</p> <p>The following policies had been previously circulated</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Effectiveness of the internal audit – agreed change, item 9 remove 'produced quarterly and reviewed' and replace with 'undertaken monthly'</li> <li>2. Data Protection – no changes</li> <li>3. Media Policy – no change</li> <li>4. Code of Conduct – It was agreed to accept the Model Code of Conduct 2020</li> </ol> <p>The above polices were agreed, proposed by Cllr Mattack and seconded by Cllr Lambert. It was noted that all references within the councils' policies to Colchester Borough Council, will need to be amended to read Colchester City Council</p>	Action Clerk to update policies and upload to website
158/22	<p>To consider quotes for Annual Playground Inspection</p> <p>2 quotes had been received; Anglian Inspection Services £210 incl VAT; Kompan, £426 incl VAT if undertaking during January, or £318 incl VAT if undertaken within 16 weeks of placing order. It was proposed by Cllr Lenart and seconded by Cllr Lambert to accept the quote from Anglian Inspection Services. All agreed.</p>	Action Clerk to arrange for inspection
159/22	<p>Clerk Forum – information to note</p> <p>The Clerks Forum had taken place on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022. Andrew Weavers, CCC Monitoring Officer had attended to speak about the new Code of Conduct and is offering training on this and the Register of Interests to all Parish Cllrs and Clerks in 2023. CCC have decided not to allocate any budget towards events to mark the Coronation of King Charles in May 2023.</p>	Action – Clerk to circulate dates of training
160/22	<p>Representatives Reports</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Footpaths and tree warden – the Colchester Ramblers were now undertaking duties as Parish Pathway Adopters and will be regularly walking all the footpaths and reporting any issues to ECC</li> <li>2. Abberton and Langenhoe Community Association – the visit of Father Xmas was well attended and enjoyed by everyone who took part. The Pub Night was a great success and the next one will be on 6<sup>th</sup></li> </ol>	

	<p>January 2023. Cllr Frost was re elected as Chair of the Association at the recent AGM</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Edward Marke Trust – there are currently several plots available for rent</li> <li>4. Church Matters – the Carol Service will be on 18<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm. Christmas Eve service will be at 8pm and there will be a service on Xmas Day at 10am</li> <li>5. Grass Cutting/Maintenance – nothing to report</li> <li>6. Neighbourhood Watch – nothing to report</li> <li>7. Youth Liaison – the Youth Club is proving popular</li> <li>8. Finance Working Party – the group had met and had presented their budget proposals earlier in the meeting</li> <li>9. Property Maintenance – Cllr Lenart is concerned about the gap at the front edge of the basketball court. <i>The repair has now been completed on the bench seat on the triangle.</i></li> <li>10. CALC – there was a meeting on 1/12/22. Information about the Rural Fund was provided and representatives from CCC hoped that having City status would encourage investment growth. There is likely to be a royal visit organised during 2023 following the award of City status.</li> <li>11. Speedwatch – nothing to report</li> <li>12. Social Media and Newsletter – facebook continues to be popular and there was discussion about advertising events in the village more comprehensively.</li> <li>13. Highway Issues – nothing to report</li> </ol>	
161/22	<p>Date of next meeting – 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023</p> <p>In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960, members of the public were asked to leave the meeting</p>	
162/22	<p>Co-option to vacancy for Parish Councillor</p> <p>Having heard the presentation from Mr Knight earlier, Cllrs voted unanimously to invite him to join the Parish Council</p>	<p>Action – Clerk to contact Mr Knight</p>

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.45pm

Budget Calculations 2023/24

Budget	Budget 22/23	Projected expenditure 22/23	Proposal for 23/24
EALC	350	312	350
CALC	50	35	50
Audit	600	195	450
Grounds/footpaths	4500	2370	3500
Playground/bus shelter	1500	1350	1500
Streetlight maintenance	2500	1650	3000
Streetlight electricity	1050	1250	2000
Salaries	3900	4185	4600
Training	520	185	520
Office/travel	500	841	900
Newsletter	500	1704	500
S137	100	360	250
Elections	130	130	0
Donations	150	50	150
Land rental	75	75	75
Insurance	600	609	610
Website	150	125	150
Unexpected expenditure	0	500	
	<b>17175</b>	<b>15926</b>	<b>18605</b>