

ABBERTON AND LANGENHOE PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING – 3rd April 2023

A meeting of the Council took place on Monday 3rd April 2023 at 7.30pm, at the Village Hall, Edward Marke Drive, Langenhoe

Cllrs Present Simon Dougherty – Chair
 Alan Frost – Vice Chair
 John Knight
 James Lambert
 Rod Lenart
 Malcolm Mattack
 Margaret Palmer-Slatton
 Steve Wormell

Also in attendance – ECC Cllr Bentley, CCC Cllr Jowers, Tony Johnstone (Passenger Transport Rep), 10 members of public and Clerk

008/23	Apologies for absence Cllr Andrews, CCC Cllrs Davidson and Moore	
009/23	Announcements <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The recent death of resident Terry James was reported• Cllr Dougherty announced that ECC Cllr Scott had accepted an invitation to attend the Parish Council meeting on 5th June.	
010/23	Public Questions - none	
011/23	Declarations of Interest – none	
012/23	Reports from County and Borough Cllrs ECC Cllr Bentley reported that he was chasing ECC Planning Department regarding the outstanding issues for the Peldon Road development. Central Government were pressing ahead with plans to devolve more powers to the lower tiers of government and Essex CC were discussing this with Southend and Thurrock Unity authorities. It was intended to conduct a consultation with all Parish/Town Councils in the county. He was actively chasing ECC to replace the VAS that was damaged in July 2020 and pursuing the installation of a speed camera. He was hoping that the damage to the kerb stones in Pyefleet View would be actioned under the Member Led Footpath Scheme and would be asking CCC to use smaller recycling vehicles in this location. The pothole outside Abberton Car	

	<p>Sales had now been repaired and the pot hole at Manwood Chase was due to be repaired soon. He was looking into the refusal to provide the Crossing Patrol Operative with a body cam and would report back. Cllr Dougherty thanked Cllr Bentley for his help and support</p> <p>CCC Cllr Jowers had recently attended a tour around the Colchester Barracks and reported that exercises would soon be transferred to Fingringhoe Ranges that may result in more traffic in the area. He reported that the projected cost of the A120 link road to the University had increased and there was concern that this could be cancelled. If this were to happen the houses due to be built on the garden village site would be allocated to other areas including the villages. This would be a detrimental step for the rural areas. Cllr Jowers congratulated the council on organising a visit to the Community Shop by the Lord Lieutenant. He reported that ECC Cllr Scott was overhauling the Local Highways Panel as there are too many schemes being put forward. Cllr Jowers is pleased to be undertaking the role of Mayor with effect from May. Cllr Dougherty thanked Cllr Jowers for his support and hope that he enjoyed his year as Mayor of Colchester.</p>	
013/23	<p>Minutes of Meeting – 6th March 2023</p> <p>The minutes as previously circulated were agreed as a correct record. Proposed by Cllr Lenart and seconded by Cllr Lambert</p>	
014/23	<p>Matters arising from previous meeting</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Highways Issues – ECC Cllr Scott will be attending the Council meeting on 5th June 2. Litter Pick – 12 volunteers joined the recent litter pick. 24 bags of rubbish and various discarded road signs were collected. Cllr Dougherty thanked all those volunteers who attended and the Community Association for providing refreshments after. 	
015/23	<p>Planning application and decisions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 230574 – Peldon Road – application for prior notification of proposed development by telecommunications code systems operators proposed installation of 15.0m Phase 8 Monopole and associated ancillary works – there was some discussion concerning the siting of the proposed mast and its proximity to residential properties. Cllr Lambert expressed the view that whilst the location was wrong, the need for 5G connections was necessary and this was supported by other members. Residents present were invited to express their opinions and all were concerned with the proposed location. It was therefore agreed to make the following submission to CCC – ‘Abberton and Langenhoe Parish Council object to this application on 	Action – Clerk to notify CCC of objection

	<p>the following grounds; the location in the centre of the village and the height of the proposed mast would be overbearing to neighbouring properties and out of keeping with the residential aspect. An alternative site away from residential properties should be found and the Parish Council is aware that local land owners may consider an approach to utilize their land for this purpose. The Parish Council appreciates the need to improve connectivity in the rural areas and note this is the second application for mast installation in the village since October 2022. It is hoped that should an alternative site away from the residential settlement be achieved that the companies involved be encouraged to share a single mast’ Proposed by Cllr Mattack and seconded by Cllr Wormell. All agreed.</p> <p>Notice of Appeal – 220529 Captains Field, Peldon Road Decisions 230168 – Manor Bungalow, Layer Road – approved 230082 – 4 Hillcrest Cottages, Mersea Road – approved 222386 – P R Wormell Farms, Langenhoe Hall Lane – withdrawn</p>	
016/23	<p>Correspondence All correspondence received had already been circulated</p>	
017/23	<p>Finance and Accounts – March 2023 and April 2023 The following accounts which had been previously circulated were approved for payment Schedule 014/22 Proposed by Cllr Lenart and seconded by Cllr Mattack Abberton and Langenhoe Community Ass. £500.00</p> <p>Schedule 001/23 Proposed by Cllr Palmer-Slatton and seconded by Cllr Lambert The Conservation Volunteers – works to Markes Wood £312.00 Information Commissioner - data protection fee £40.00 C McSweeney - stationary £7.40 A&J Lighting – streetlight maintenance £60.90 EALC – affiliation fees £317.84 Staff costs £348.75</p>	
018/23	<p>Bank reconciliation – March 2023 Cllr Mattack had agreed the reconciliation</p>	
019/23	<p>Report of ECC Passenger Transport Meeting – 22nd March 2023 Tony Johnstone had attended on behalf of the Parish Council. He had been disappointed that neither First Buses or Arriva had been represented at the meeting. A representative from Hedingham Buses had attended and Mr Johnstone had</p>	

	<p>suggested several changes to the schedules that could benefit the villages and these will be considered. Hedingham are proposing to cancel some of the late afternoon services from later this month, but no exact details are yet available. The 174 service is subsidized by ECC and there are some proposals to increase this service. Mr Johnstone noted that there was no coordination between the different service providers which led to an inconsistent service. A request had been made at the meeting for the bus departure boards in the High Street to display the bus timetables for longer between advertisements as it did not give passengers time to absorb the information. The next meeting is in October 2023 and Mr Johnstone is happy to represent the Parish Council at the meeting. Cllr Dougherty thanked Mr Johnstone for his report.</p>	
020/23	<p>Newsletter – to consider increase in size of publication Cllr Palmer-Slatter explained that the newsletter is normally 24 pages, but she is being sent more copy than can fit into the pages and would like to increase the size to 28 pages. There was discussion around whether there would always be enough copy for the additional pages and whether additional advertising would be included to offset the cost. It was agreed that where necessary the newsletter could increase to 28 pages at the current printing rates, however should the printer increase the cost of the printing this would need to be referred back to Council for approval. Proposed by Cllr Lenart and seconded by Cllr Mattack. All agreed.</p>	
021/23	<p>Representatives Reports</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Footpaths and tree warden – nothing to report 2. Abberton and Langenhoe Community Association – the Social Evening will take place on 7th April, the bar will be open and hot food available, Easter Bunny hunt on 9th April for all children up to 16 years of age with refreshments after in the Village Hall, the Art Exhibition to take place on 29th April. Events for the Coronation are being planned for the 7th May and the school and Youth Club will be participating. 3. Edward Marke Trust – the allotment land is very wet and Cllr J Knight had dug out the ditch which was appreciated. There are still plots available for rent. 4. Church Matters – it was reported that the Minister had recently been involved in a car accident and would not be taking services for the time being. There will be a service on Good Friday at 11am but the Easter Sunday service will be at Rowhedge. 5. Grass cutting – nothing to report 6. Neighbourhood Watch – Meeting held on 13th March, more coordinators required. 7. Youth Liaison – nothing to report 8. Finance Working Party – nothing to report 	

	<p>9. Property Maintenance – information has now been received about the materials to top the Pétanque court and this will be undertaken soon. Cllr Lenart was concerned about the condition of the bench on Langenhoe Green.</p> <p>10. CALC – next meeting is in June at Marks Tey Village Hall</p> <p>11. Speedwatch – nothing to report but more volunteers are needed</p> <p>12. Social Media and Newsletter – deadline for next newsletter is 5th May</p> <p>13 – Highway Issues – already covered earlier in the meeting</p>	
022/23	Date of next meeting – 15 th May 2023 – Note the Annual General Meeting will commence at 7pm and followed immediately after by the Council meeting	

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.45pm