

ABBERTON AND LANGENHOE PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING – 15th May 2023

A meeting of the Council took place on Monday 15th May 2023 at 7.30pm, at the Village Hall, Edward Marke Drive, Langenhoe

Cllrs Present Simon Dougherty – Chair
 Alan Frost – Vice Chair
 Jonathan Andrews
 John Knight
 James Lambert
 Malcolm Mattack
 Steve Wormell

Also in attendance – CCC Cllr Jowers, ECC Cllr Bentley (arriving late), 4 members of public and Clerk

029/23	Apologies for absence – Cllrs Lenart and Palmer-Slatton CCC Cllr Davidson	
030/23	Announcements <ul style="list-style-type: none">• On behalf of the Parish Council Cllr Dougherty thanked all the volunteers who had made the Coronation celebrations on 7th May so successful• The Clerk will be on annual leave week beginning 22nd May	
031/23	Public Questions A resident of West Mersea passed on the concerns of some local residents he had spoken to. Namely speeding in the village and the proposed development in Peldon Road. Cllr Dougherty confirmed that both matters were being actively pursued by the Parish Council.	
032/23	Declarations of Interest Cllr Knight declared a pecuniary interest in item 039/23, as he is the recipient of a payment	
033/23	Reports from County and City Cllrs CCC Cllr Jowers reported that a further £17.1m had been added to the ECC Highways budget and 12 extra maintenance teams were being employed to carry out road repairs. The parish pot hole scheme was being reintroduced and the gully cleaners would be making more frequent visits. CCC had set aside £537,000 for rural improvements. He was looking forward to his upcoming year in office as Mayor of Colchester. As well as the usual business of the Council, ECC Cllr Bentley explained that following the recent uprising in Sudan, many of	

	<p>the repatriation flights had arrived into Stansted and ECC had been instrumental in assisting with rehoming refugees where necessary. He also advised that the Home Office had announced that refugees from Afghanistan that were currently living in hotels in the County must leave the hotels by August. Those not having alternative accommodation will become the responsibility of the County Council. He was attended a site visit to the Weathersfield airbase later in the week where it is proposed to house 1700 asylum seekers. Cllr Bentley is still pursuing the replacement of the VAS on Mersea Road and had made a request to the Local Highways Panel for the speed camera</p>	
034/23	<p>Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting – 3rd April 2023 The minutes as previously circulated were agreed as a correct record. Proposed by Cllr Mattack and seconded by Cllr Lambert</p>	
035/23	<p>Minutes of Council Meeting – 3rd April 2023 The minutes as previously circulated were agreed as a correct record. Proposed by Cllr Wormell and seconded by Cllr Mattack</p>	
036/23	<p>Matter arising from previous meeting There were none</p>	
037/23	<p>Planning Applications and Decisions received</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 230766 – View Park, Abberton Road – demolition of existing bungalow to ground level for proposed new dwelling including garage – no objection 2. 230948 – 2 Bracken Way – prior approval for proposed single storey rear extension – no objection <p>Appeal Decision – Langenhoe Hall, Langenhoe Hall Lane – proposed MOT station and vehicle workshop, with electric charging stations – The Planning Inspectorate advised this appeal has been dismissed</p>	
038/23	<p>Correspondence</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Letter from HM Lord-Lieutenant of Essex re: Coronation plaques – after some discussion it was agreed to purchase a plaque to be displayed in the village (exact location to be determined) 2. N Power – notification that following a review of the charging procedure a refund of £55.47 is due to the Council 3. Colchester First Responders – request for donation – no action 4. E mail from resident concerning speeding in the village – a resident had undertaken his own speed survey and had forwarded the results to the Council. 	

	<p>Members agreed that the results mirrored those recorded by the Speedwatch team. Cllr Mattack reminded the meeting that the Council has registered an interest in the '20's plenty' campaign</p> <p>5. CCC – notification of consultation of the 'Development Plan Document for the Tendering Colchester Borders Garden Community' – consultation runs from 15th May – 25th June 2023</p> <p>6. CCC – advance notice of survey for residents living south of Colchester concerning health and wellbeing – venues required for CCC staff to meet with residents.</p>	
039/23	<p>Finance and Account – April and May 2023</p> <p>The following accounts which had been previously circulated were approved for payment</p> <p>Schedule 002/23 (April) proposed by Cllr Lambert and seconded by Cllr Wormell</p> <p>N Power – streetlight electricity March 23 £66.21</p> <p>Schedule 003/23 and 004/23 (May) proposed by Cllr Mattack and seconded by Cllr Lambert</p> <p>A&J Lighting – streetlight maintenance £60.90</p> <p>J Stobart – internal audit £210.00</p> <p>C McSweeney – computer software £59.99</p> <p>J Knight – grasscutting April and May £275.00</p> <p>N Power – streetlight electricity - April 23 £22.85</p> <p>Staff costs £348.75</p> <p>Thinksay Creative – newsletter £476.00</p>	
040/23	<p>Bank Reconciliation – April 2023</p> <p>Cllr Mattack had agreed the reconciliation</p>	
041/23	<p>End of Year Accounts 2022/23 – to accept the report of the internal auditor</p> <p>The report had been received from Mrs Stobart and comments were noted. Cllr Mattack proposed and Cllr Lambert seconded accepting the report.</p>	
042/23	<p>End of Year Accounts 2022/23</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To approve Section 1 Annual Governance Statement 2022/23 2. To approve Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2022/23 3. To approve and sign the Certificate of Exemption 2022/23 <p>Proposed by Cllr Knight and seconded by Cllr Wormell. The appropriate forms were signed by the Cllr Dougherty and the Clerk</p>	<p>Action – Clerk to forward Certificate of Exemption to the external auditor</p>

043/23	<p>To consider and update outstanding highway matters prior to meeting with ECC Cllr Scott</p> <p>The list that had been agreed in January had been reviewed and some items had now been completed. The revised list to be forwarded to Cllr Scott is as follows –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Replacement VAS sign on B1025 towards Colchester 2. Repairs to damaged kerb stones and road repairs in Pyefleet View 3. Speed camera request by entrance to Langenhoe Park 4. Bracken Way – deep cracks in pavement outside No 12 around base of streetlight (resident advises that Highways Inspector had suggested that cracks in pavement could result in the lamppost collapsing) 5. Dead vegetation/trees on Mersea Road blocking sight lines 6. Pothole Mersea Road heading south after junction with Haye Lane (traffic moving into centre of road to avoid pot hole) 7. Speeding issues in village 	Action – Clerk to send revised list to Cllr Scott prior to next meeting
044/23	<p>Representatives Reports</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Footpaths and tree warden – several sites in the village are now becoming overgrown with vegetation notably; allotment hedge on to Mersea Road, allotment hedge on to Markes Piece, Uppershots on to Mersea Road and PROW on Mersea Road where the School Crossing Patrol is located. Landowners to be approached to clear vegetation 2. Abberton and Langenhoe Community Association – the coffee mornings and pub social nights continue to be popular; there was good attendance at the Art Exhibition on 27th April; the Coronation event was very successful with visitors from surrounding villages joining in; the next social evening is on 2nd June. 3. Edward Marke Trust – a lot of tidying up to do when the ground dries out. There are still a few plots available 4. Church Matters – the Minister hopes to be back at work in June 5. Grass cutting and maintenance – all on going 6. Neighbourhood Watch – nothing to report 7. Youth Liaison – the last Youth Club meeting was well attended and the Youth Club had a stall at the Coronation event that proved very popular 8. Finance Working Party – nothing to report 9. Property Maintenance – a resident had advised of damage to the wet pour in the children’s play area. Cllr Wormell would undertake a repair 10. CALC – the next meeting is in June at Mark Tey Village Hall 11. Speedwatch – nothing to report 	

	12. Social Media and Newsletter – Facebook page continues to be well viewed. The next newsletter will be ready for distribution soon.	
045/23	Date of next meeting – 5 th June at 7pm	

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.30pm