

ABBERTON AND LANGENHOE PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING – 4th March 2024

A meeting of the Council took place on Monday 4th March 2024 at 7.30pm, at the Village Hall, Edward Marke Drive, Langenhoe

Cllrs Present Alan Frost – Vice Chair
 John Knight
 James Lambert
 Malcolm Mattack
 Victoria Weavers
 Steve Wormell

Also in attendance – CCC Cllr Davidson, 5 members of public and Clerk

078/23	Apologies for absence Cllrs Dougherty and Lenart	
079/23	Announcements <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ECC – Invitation to participate in Travel Essex Bus Services survey• RCCE – invitation to attend Membership Promotion event – Cllr Frost will attend	
080/23	Public Questions None	
081/23	Declarations of Interest Cllr Wormell declared a non pecuniary interest in item 086.1/23	
082/23	Reports from County and City Cllrs CCC Cllr Davidson referred to the recent Call for Sites exercise and explained how this will proceed. He advised that Planning Officers will visit all parishes that have land listed in the final Call for Sites document. The Electoral Commission has agreed that Colchester City Council will retain 51 Cllrs, however it may be necessary for some boundary changes. The Chief Executive of CCC – Pam Donnelly had visited Abberton and Langenhoe with CCC Cllrs Davidson, Powling and Jowers and had accompanied Cllr Dougherty to the proposed developments in Peldon Road and the school. She had agreed to take away recent concerns about the Peldon Road developments particularly the lack of communication between the City and Parish Council and the issues surrounding the car parking for the school.	

	CCC had approved the budget for 24/25 and agreed a 3-year plan to reduce the City Council by 25%	
083/23	Minutes of Meeting – 5 th February 2024 The minutes as previously circulated were agreed as a correct record. Proposed by Cllr Mattack and seconded by Cllr Lambert	
084/23	Matters arising from previous meetings <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. RCCE Housing Needs Survey – a total of 118 surveys have now been returned, this is a 28% return. RCCE are suggesting leaving the survey open for another couple of weeks, but Cllrs were of the opinion that no more surveys would now be returned and RCCE will be asked to close the survey now. 2. To agree dates for litter pick – it was agreed to hold the litter pick on Sunday 7th April at 2pm with refreshments after at the Village Hall. Cllr Knight agreed to collect the litter picking equipment from Shrub End 3. 20's Plenty – Cllr Mattack had attended an on-line meeting where it had been agreed to contact Essex County Council with a blanket approach to changing the speed limit for those parishes interested. The next step was to arrange a petition for residents to sign and the Clerk had obtained the correct wording to use. Cllr Mattack will coordinate this. 4. Request from resident to install bench beside the play area – the Clerk had advised the resident of the cost of a bench that would match the bench already in situation. The resident had agreed to go ahead and had submitted the wording required on the plaque. The wording was agreed and the Clerk will proceed to order the bench. 	Action Clerk to contact RCCE Clerk to contact CCC to arrange for litter picking equipment and advertise event on Facebook Cllr Mattack to coordinate petition for next meeting Clerk to proceed with ordering new bench and invoicing resident
085/23	Planning Applications and decisions received 240225 – Manwood Chase, Mersea Road – erection of barn to accommodate an indoor space for an axe throwing enterprise – no objection subject to adequate parking being provided for customers and staff Decisions received 232898 – 8 Pyefleet View – approved 232413 – land adjacent to Borleys, Peldon Road – approved	
086/23	Correspondence <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CCC Local Plan Review – noted 2. ECC Replacement minerals Local Plan Review – noted 3. Request from resident to plant trees on Langenhoe Green to prevent flooding – it was agreed that planting trees would require significant maintenance 	Action Clerk to advise resident

	<p>and would not necessarily alleviate the problem. Therefore, the resident will be advised that permission will not be granted.</p> <p>4. Confirmation of order for a portrait of King Charles for display at the Village Hall</p>									
087/23	<p>Finance and Accounts – March 2024</p> <p>The following accounts as previously circulated – schedule 014/23 were approved for payment. Proposed by Cllr Lambert and seconded by Cllr Knight</p> <table> <tr> <td>Charity of Edward Marke – rent</td> <td>£75.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A&J Lighting – maintenance</td> <td>£60.90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C McSweeney – 6 months office use</td> <td>£260.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Staff cost</td> <td>£373.75</td> </tr> </table>	Charity of Edward Marke – rent	£75.00	A&J Lighting – maintenance	£60.90	C McSweeney – 6 months office use	£260.00	Staff cost	£373.75	
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088/23	<p>Bank reconciliation – February 2023</p> <p>Cllr Mattack had agreed the bank reconciliation</p>									
089/23	<p>Essex Police – speeding</p> <p>The Rural Policing Team had contacted all the rural parishes to enquire about any specific problems that needed tackling. Cllr Mattack had advised about the speeding issues through the village and the Rural Policing Team have now conducted 2 speed checks in the village where the highest recorded speed was 39mph.</p>									
090/23	<p>ECC Carers Voice Campaign</p> <p>Cllr Weavers asked for suggestions on how to disseminate this information to residents. It was agreed that the Parish Council have few means to do this, but regular updating of the notice boards would be the most appropriate method. Noting on Facebook and the website is also useful.</p>									
091/23	<p>Streetlights – replacement update</p> <p>ECC Cllr Bentley had advised the council that ECC were offering free LED lights to replace the current sodium lights in the village. The Clerk had made enquiries and circulated a report to members. After some discussion it was agreed to not accept the offer of the free lights but continue with the current replacement plan. The Clerk had been in contact with UK Power Networks and updated the current schedule of lights that they hold for the village. Now they are aware that there are currently 6 LEDs in use this will result in a small reduction on the monthly electricity bill.</p>									
092/23	<p>Representatives Reports</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Footpaths and tree warden – nothing to report 2. Abberton and Langenhoe Community Association – Eds Bar on 1st March was a success, the DNA band will be performing at the Village Hall on 9th March in support of the Alzheimer’s Society, ABBA Chique are 									

	<p>performing on 16th March and the Wully Bully band on 27th April. Tickets still available for all events. The Annual Easter Rabbit Hunt will take place on Sunday 31st March at the Village Hall at 2pm.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Edward Marke Trust – there is a meeting on 6th March. There are currently several available allotments 4. Church Matters – nothing to report 5. Grass cutting – will begin again soon 6. Neighbourhood Watch – nothing to report 7. Youth Liaison – nothing to report 8. Finance Working Party – nothing to report 9. Property Maintenance – nothing to report 10. CALC – Cllr Frost attended a recent meeting where the topic was Rural Housing Needs 11. Speedwatch – nothing to report 12. Highways Issues – nothing to report 	
093/23	Date of next meeting – 8 th April 2024. Note – the annual Parish Meeting will begin at 7pm and be followed by the Full Council Meeting	
	In accordance with The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Sec (2), the meeting was closed to allow members to discuss a confidential item	
094/23	To consider correspondence from a member of public A member of the public expressed concern over the handling of the Parish Council meeting on 5 th February. After much discussion it was decided that no further action was necessary.	

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.15pm