

ABBERTON AND LANGENHOE PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING – 8th April 2024

A Meeting of the Parish Council took place on Monday 8th April 2024 at 7.30pm, at the Village Hall, Edward Marke Drive, Langenhoe

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

Also in attendance – 17 members of public, CCC Cllrs Davidson and Powling and Clerk

009/24	Apologies for absence CCC Cllr Jowers and ECC Cllr Bentley would be arriving later	
010/24	Announcements The Chair announced the resignation of Cllr Lenart The Clerk reported that the Annual Audit had been completed and would be delivered to the Internal Auditor next week. The PC had been randomly selected for an intermediate audit.	
011/24	Public Questions A resident was concerned about the recent Call for Sites exercise. It was explained that for now there is nothing for the Parish Council to discuss with residents. There are many sites submitted for consideration of future development, but the CCC Planning Team are currently investigating each submission prior to submitting a final document. At which time the Parish Council will be consulted. A resident asked why the Local Plan was currently being reviewed when it had been agreed to 2032. CCC Cllr Davidson explained that the Local Plan is subject to review every 5 years but the current plan is likely to be extended to 2040.	
012/24	Declarations of Interest Cllr Knight declared a non pecuniary interest in item 018/24 as he is the recipient of a payment	
013/24	Reports from County and City Cllrs CCC Cllr Powling gave a further explanation of the Call for Sites exercise and explained that not all sites accepted would	

	<p>be used for housing some might be suitable for open space etc.</p> <p>CCC Cllr Davidson explained the process that the Planning Officers go through to select the final sites.</p>	
014/24	<p>Minutes of Meeting – 4th March 2024</p> <p>The minutes as previously circulated were agreed as a correct record, proposed by Cllr Lambert and seconded by Cllr Wormell.</p> <p>ECC Cllr Bentley joined the meeting at 8pm during the next item</p>	
015/24	<p>Matters arising from previous meetings</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. School Crossing update – the vacancy is still being advertised 2. Flooding of resident’s driveway - Cllr Wormell had spoken to the resident who agreed that planting trees would not alleviate the problem. It was suggested that improvements to the ditch could be a solution but this would be at the expense of the resident. 3. Memorial bench – the bench has now been received and the resident had already forwarded the payment to the PC. The bench will replace the existing bench close to the children’s play area, which will be relocated to the Pétanque Court. 4. 20’s plenty petition – In principle the wording of the petition was agreed and ECC Cllr Bentley explained that this was a vital piece of evidence to put to the Local Highways Panel. It was agreed that it would not be practical to visit every property in the village to obtain a signature and placing the petition in common places and on line would be more acceptable. Cllr Mattack will work with Cllrs Andrews and Lambert to facilitate how this can be achieved. 	Action – to be discussed at a future meeting
016/24	<p>Planning Applications and decisions received</p> <p>240487 – land adj. Borleys, Peldon Road – application for removal of condition 2 of 232413 – no objection</p> <p>Decision - approved</p> <p>240010 – 2 Hillcrest Cottages, Mersea Road</p>	
017/24	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>Following Cllr Dougherty’s meeting with Pam Donnelly – CEO Colchester City Council, she had taken the comments concerning the lack of recognition of the PCs views on planning applications back to CCC and had asked Simon Cairns to liaise with the Parish Council. Simon Cairns has offered meetings with the Parish Council when necessary and it was agreed to take up this offer.</p>	Action – Clerk to contact Simon Cairns

018/24	<p>Finance and Accounts – March and April 2024 The accounts for March – schedule 015/23 and April – schedule 001/24 as previously circulated were agreed for payment. Proposed by Cllr Lambert and seconded by Cllr Wormell</p> <p>Schedule 015/23</p> <table border="0" data-bbox="357 412 1046 517"> <tr> <td>J Knight – grasscutting</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£175.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RCCE – Housing Needs Survey</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£432.84</td> </tr> <tr> <td>N Power – streetlight electricity</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£29.38</td> </tr> </table> <p>Schedule 001/24</p> <table border="0" data-bbox="357 591 1046 869"> <tr> <td>N Power – streetlight electricity</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£130.11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Information Commissioner – GDPR renewal</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£40.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>J Knight – grass cutting</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£125.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Glasdon UK – bench seat</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1048.26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A&J Lighting – streetlight maintenance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£60.90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EALC – Annual subscription</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£331.84</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C McSweeney – stationary</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£42.42</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Staff costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£373.75</td> </tr> </table>	J Knight – grasscutting	£175.00	RCCE – Housing Needs Survey	£432.84	N Power – streetlight electricity	£29.38	N Power – streetlight electricity	£130.11	Information Commissioner – GDPR renewal	£40.00	J Knight – grass cutting	£125.00	Glasdon UK – bench seat	£1048.26	A&J Lighting – streetlight maintenance	£60.90	EALC – Annual subscription	£331.84	C McSweeney – stationary	£42.42	Staff costs	£373.75	
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019/24	<p>Bank Reconciliation – March 2024 Cllr Mattack had agreed the reconciliation</p>																							
020/24	<p>RCCE – Housing Needs Survey The Housing Needs Survey had been completed and previously circulated. The return was 29% and showed a small requirement for local affordable housing. Cllr Lambert will disseminate this information to CCC for future use in planning applications.</p>																							
021/24	<p>Withdrawal of parcel collection service It had been announced that parcels taken by the Outreach Royal Mail service at the Community Shop would no longer be collected by Royal Mail van, but would need to be taken by the Outreach service to another large post office. CCC Cllr Davidson, in his capacity as Chair of the Community Shop would ascertain the actual facts of this proposal and report back to a later meeting.</p>																							
022/24	<p>Parish Magazine – to consider a request from a resident to deliver a business flyer with the magazine After some discussion it was agreed not to accept flyers, but continue to offer advertising space.</p>																							
023/24	<p>Representatives Reports</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Footpaths and tree warden – the memorial tree planted in 2022 has died. Cllr Knight will look at a suitable replacement. 2. Abberton and Langenhoe community Association – Cllr Frost thanks the volunteers for their contribution to the running of events 																							

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Edward Marke Trust – some maintenance on the allotment site was underway and there were still plots available 4. Church matters – nothing to report 5. Grass cutting – the City Council had cut some of the verges 6. Neighbourhood Watch – there have been no reported instances in the village over the past 3 months. More coordinators and committee members are required urgently 7. Youth Liaison – nothing to report 8. Finance Working Party – nothing to report 9. Property Maintenance – nothing to report 10. CALC – next meeting is in June 11. Speedwatch – nothing to report 12. Highway Issues – ECC Cllr Bentley reported that some pot holes had been repaired but it was not possible to continue with planned works during the wet weather. 	
024/24	<p>Chairmans closing comments</p> <p>Cllr Dougherty advised that after 14 years on the Parish Council he would be resigning immediately. He stated his reasons for resignation and outlined some of the achievements the Council had had during his tenure.</p>	
025/24	<p>Date of next meeting – 13th May. The Annual General Meeting will commence at 7pm and be followed immediately by the Full Council Meeting</p>	

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm