**ABBERTON AND LANGENHOE PARISH COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL MEETING – 9th December 2024**

A meeting of the Council took place on Monday 9th December 2024 at 7.30pm, at the Village Hall, Edward Marke Drive, Langenhoe

Cllrs Present - Steve Wormell - Chair

Victoria Weavers – Vice Chair

Alan Frost

Malcolm Mattack

Micheal Summer

Andrew Crayston

Margaret Palmer-Slater

Also in attendance – CCC Cllrs Parsons and Davidson, 6 members of public and Clerk

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 134/24 | Apologies for absence – Cllrs Lambert and Bashford |  |
| 135/24 | Announcements  It was reported that long term resident Marilyn Kedar has passed away. |  |
| 136/24 | Public Questions:   1. There was a request for a path to the pétanque court. 2. Members of the public have been approached regarding access to the proposed development site I.D 10622. CCC Cllr Davidson suggested that ALPC put forward any objections now | Consider use of 216 money  Cllr Crayston to draft a letter for the Clerk to email |
| 137/24 | Declarations of Interest  No declarations of interest. |  |
| 138/24 | Reports from County and City Cllrs  CCC Cllr Davidson reported that the grant for the precept has been agreed however the amount had not been agreed.  The Infrastructure Study/Survey is needed before considering the Site Plan at the Full Council Meeting which may delay the Spring Site Allocation.  There is going to be a White Paper regarding the reorganization of Local Government to a Unitary Authority, combining City and County Councils. The Locality Budget needs to be spent by the end of January 2025. |  |
| 139/24 | Minutes of Council Meeting – 4th November 2024  The minutes of the meeting as previously circulated were agreed as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Mattack and seconded by Cllr Frost. |  |
| 140/24 | Matters arising from previous meeting  None |  |
| 141/24 | Planning Applications and decisions received.  242246 – Borleys, Peldon Road, Abberton Colchester CO5 7PB – Demolition of former tractor barn and demolition of garage and office and replacement with linked garage, home office and swimming pool building. The Council have no objections. |  |
| 142/24 | Correspondence   1. Local Council Award Scheme – It was decided to work towards this over the next 12 months 2. Colchester City Council Air Quality Action Plan – no action required 3. IPTU Transport Meeting – Tony Johnston attended the drop in session for local area representatives in Chelmsford and reported that he has made a request for the retiming of the services between Colchester, Abberton, Langenhoe and West Mersea. Cllr Wormell thanked Tony Johnston for his time and assistance. | Clerk to add this to March Agenda |
| 143/24 | Finance and Accounts – December 2024  The accounts as previously circulated – schedules 012/24 were agreed for payment. Proposed by Cllr Weavers and seconded by Cllr Frost  Schedule 012/24  A&J Lighting Solutions Ltd £124.80  J Knight – grass cutting £125.00  J Knight – grass cutting £ 50.00  NPower £117.57  EALC – L Hills Training £180.00  EALC - L Hills Training £ 96.00  A&J Lighting Solutions Ltd £ 60.90  Suffolk Cloud – Website £136.50  HMRC £ 41.20  L Hills – Travel £ 67.60  NPower £136.12  Staff costs £399.05 |  |
| 144/24 | Bank reconciliation – November 2024  Cllr Mattack approved. |  |
| 145/24 | Budget and Precept for 2025/2026 – this was agreed. Proposed by Cllr Palmer-Slater and seconded by Cllr Frost |  |
| 146/24 | Confirmation of the appointment of Mrs J Stobart as Internal Auditor for 2024/2025. Proposed by Cllr Frost and seconded by Cllr Mattack. | Clerk to book. |
| 147/24 | Confirm of instruction to Anglian Inspections to carry out the annual playground inspection. Proposed by Cllr Mattack and seconded by Cllr Frost | Clerk to book. |
| 148/24 | RCCE Rural Exemption Scheme – Terms of Reference – in the absence of Cllr Lambert his has been deferred to the next council meeting | Clerk to add to the agenda for January 2025 |
| 149/24 | Parish Magazine Advertising Rates – It was greed to increase the advertising rates as follows:  Full page advert from £50 to £52  Half page advert from £30 - £31.50 |  |
| 150/24 | Basketball court Cleaning – it was decided to look into this in the Spring | Clerk to add this to March Agenda |
| 151/24 | Review of Policies – the following policies have been reviewed and accepted.   * Code of Conduct * Advertising Policy for the Village Magazine * Complaints Policy * Data Protection Policy * Financial Regulations Policy * Freedom of Information Policy * Risk Management Policy * Training Policy   Cllr Mattacks was thanked for undertaking this task. | Clerk to upload to website. |
| 152/24 | Representatives Reports   1. Footpaths and tree warden – nothing to report 2. Abberton and Langenhoe Community Association – Friday night at Ed’s Bar was well received with 71 Turkey Dinners being served. Santa will be visiting the village on 15th December from 4pm and will be back at the hall by 5pm. A recital of A Christmas Carol will take place on 21st December 2024 tickets £10 in aid of the Food Bank. Tickets can be purchased from the shop. New Years Eve event 8pm – 12.30am £20 per ticket including buffet. 3. Edward Marke Trust – nothing to report 4. Church Matters – Remembrance Sunday Service was well attended. ALPC would like to thank the bugler 5. Grasscutting – Final cuts have been carried out 6. Neighbourhood Watch – Cllr Weavers highlighted the ‘Welcome to the Village’ information leaflet. There is a new window sticker displaying a QR which enables you to report a crime 7. Finance Working Party – as per item 145/24 8. Property Maintenance – nothing to report 9. CALC – Nobody had heard anything about whether the Revenue & LCTS grant was going to be paid again this year. There is a consultation about Remote meetings which has been circulated by NALC (mentioned most recently in the email you sent around on Friday) and all PCs are encouraged to respond. Deadline for responses is 19th December. Had a very interesting talk by 20s plenty. So far 78 parishes have expressed an interest to move to 20s plenty (out of about 270)...the advice is that we should regularly write to ECC Transport portfolio holder and our ECC representative asking for an update on where this is at (particularly in light of ECC's campaign to have zero road deaths by 2040). As this is something the village has publicly committed to try and push for (and Colchester City has also now endorsed) perhaps a regular request for update should be sent? Maybe on a quarterly basis? 10. Speedwatch – Cllr Crayston is undertaking training to volunteer for Speedwatch. 11. Highway Issues – nothing to report 12. Parish Magazine – Deadline for next edition is 3 February 2025 | Clerk to send thank you card. |
|  | Date of next meeting – 6th January 2025 |  |

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.30pm