

Minutes of the East Mersea Parish Council meeting held at East Mersea Village Hall on Thursday 13th June 2024

Present: Cllrs Jeff Mason (chair), David Sunnucks, Margaret Lawford, Emma Green, Sandy Salmonese, Clerk Sue Pullen, City Councillor Martin Parsons and 5 members of the public

48.24 Apologies for absence: County Cllr Kevin Bentley

49.24 To confirm the minutes for the meeting held on Thursday 9th May 2024, it was agreed by all and accepted as a true record of the meeting and signed by the chairman.

50.24 Declarations of Interest: None

51.24 Public Participation Session: A question was raised about the future of St Botolph's car park. The City Councillor explained that there is a proposal submitted for developing the site but he will make further enquiries. It was said that any development would potentially cause further congestion for coming into Colchester from Mersea Island and that Colchester City Council only appears to consider the inner part of Colchester and not the rural surrounding villages which is a much bigger area in total. Enquiries were also made about the proposed site for houses on Peldon Road, Abberton, details can be found on the CCC planning website. It was noted that Cudmore Grove sign at Bromans Lane has been replaced yet again and thanks were expressed to County Cllr Kevin Bentley for his work on getting this achieved. It is hoped that it will not be removed as has previously happened.

52.24 City Councillors Report: Owing to the forthcoming general election most CCC matter are on hold. The clear refuse bags will be delivered in July.

53.24 Bus shelter: Having received several quotations for a replacement shelter situated on East Road it was agreed to use the cheapest from the worthy charity organisation North Colchester Men's Shed. Removal of the old will be looked into in time for installation of the new one in late August or early September.

54.24 CCC Local Plan: The visit from the Local Plan officers, including a drive round the whole village, was considered to be worth while with discussions about a possible second settlement boundary taking in the village hall, Mersea Barns, Baring-Gould Cottages and the Church and with consideration to the reemergence of our original plan from a number of years ago to build about 6 houses including 3 or 4 affordable houses including a village green in front of the houses on the plot of land opposite the village hall. A building plot that had been submitted for a large number of houses would change the whole feel of the village. The lack of infrastructure including no mains sewage or gas, weak bus service and poor road network emphasised the view that this country village could not support any significant enlargement.

55.24 Paragliders and jet skiers: Contact has been made with the club organiser to request that paragliders do not hover over the houses but after take-off they go up high swiftly. A suggestion has also been made to them that they use quieter engines which some have now but others can adapt to achieved this. A response from WM will be chased up re jet skiers and better signage at the launch points will be requested. **The Marine Police can be reached by phoning 101 if people have an instance noted of dangerous behaviour that they want to report.**

56.24 Seawall update: At the meeting of the Essex Landowners attended by a parish councillor there was assurance from the Environment Agency that repairs to the seawall

Signed _____ Thursday 11th July 2024

will be taking place late summer early autumn this year but Essex County Council, as owners of the seawall, must be prepared for maintaining the wall in the future.

57.24 Caravan Parks: It was noted that Away Resorts will be holding a weekend music event 2nd to 4th August this year and having engaged with them previously it is hoped that they will be considerate to local residents who do not want to have this music blaring loudly all weekend and be able to use their gardens if they so wish. Complaints can be made on the CCC website or call on 01206 282581/2 to the CCC Environmental Protection Dept. but they only operate in normal working hours.

58.24 Planning applications:

241045 Proposal: Reuse of existing historic barn to a single dwelling and demolition of modern barn and replacement with extension at Barns, Northlands Farm, Meeting Lane

59.24 Schedule of payments to be made:

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|--------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| June 2024 | Salary | 428.54 |
| June 2024 | George Hall – footpath and tree | 82.50 |
| June 2024 | Community Heartbeat – Defib support | 162.00 |
| | | |
| Total | | £673.04 |

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 11th July 2024 in East Mersea Village Hall at 7.30pm