

ABBERTON AND LANGENHOE PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING – 6th September 2021

A meeting of the Council took place on Monday 6th September 2021 at 7.30pm, at the Village Hall, Edward Marke Drive, Langenhoe

Cllrs Present Simon Dougherty – Vice Chairman
 Jonathan Andrews
 Alan Frost
 Peter Hine
 Doug Kibblewhite
 Malcolm Mattack
 Margaret Palmer-Slatton

Also in attendance – ECC Cllr K Bentley, CBC Cllr R Davidson, Shane Taylor – NEPP, 6 members of public and Clerk

071/21	Apologies for absence – Cllrs Wormell and Grover	
072/21	Announcements – the Clerk advised that she will be on annual leave w/b 13 th September	
073/21	Public Questions – a member of public advised that she had joined the Speed Watch group and enquired if the radar gun that had been loaned to the Peldon Speed Watch group could be retrieved. It was noted that Speed Watch is not a Parish Council function and Cllr Dougherty advised that he was unaware of what arrangements had been made with Peldon for using/returning the gun. This will be looked into. ECC Cllr Bentley said that he would speak to Police and Crime Commissioner about the provision of equipment to Speed Watch groups.	
074/21	Declarations of Interest – none	
075/21	Reports from county and Borough Cllrs ECC Cllr Bentley provided an update on the Afghan refugees that had been relocated to Essex. He explained that funding at ECC was very tight with the largest proportion of funding being used for Adult Social Care which could result in other services suffering cut backs. News was awaited from Central Government about increases to the Adult Social Care Fund. Cllr Bentley outlined the ECC Corporate Strategy for this administration. Cllr Davidson said that some outstanding highway projects could be referred to the Local Highways Panel. CBC had purchased a fleet of electric/hybrid vehicles. The CBC budget	

	<p>had a £2m deficit. He advised that the grass verges were now being cut.</p> <p>The next 2 items were brought forward with the agreement of those members present</p>	
076/21	<p>Bracken Way Parking</p> <p>Cllr Dougherty thanked Shane Taylor from NEPP for attending the meeting and invited his participation.</p> <p>Cllr Kibblewhite provided an update on the current situation – the confusion over the red/yellow lines and also the visits of the Parking Attendants at inappropriate times. After some discussion it was agreed that the appropriate way forward would be to retain the existing double yellow line markings and proceed with the junction markings in Bracken Way and Meadow Way. Remove the single yellow line markings and install red lines at both entrances to the school. Cllrs Kibblewhite and Mattack will produce a questionnaire to be distributed to all affected properties which will be brought to the next meeting for agreement before circulation. Shane Taylor also advised that residents could request – at their expense – H bar markings to protect their driveways.</p>	Action – Cllrs Kibblewhite and Mattack to produce questionnaire for next meeting
077/21	<p>Highways Issues</p> <p>Cllr Kibblewhite expressed his frustration at the lengthy delays in actioning Highway matters and felt that the existing liaison with Cllr Bentley was no longer working. Cllr Bentley explained that all the matters referred to him had been reported, but due to budgetary cuts ECC Highways were having to prioritise the order of work and unfortunately this would lead to a delay in some issues being rectified. Cllr Bentley urged the council to again consider participating in the Devolution Scheme. He suggested that neighbouring parishes could join together to pool their resources. Cllr Dougherty said that the Council would consider this again.</p> <p>Cllr Bentley and Shane Taylor left the meeting</p>	
078/21	<p>Minutes of Meeting – 12th July 2021</p> <p>The minutes as previously circulated were signed as a correct record by Cllr Dougherty. Proposed by Cllr Frost and seconded by Cllr Andrews.</p>	
079/21	<p>Planning applications and decisions</p> <p>Applications</p> <p>212173 – 2 The Retreat, Glebe Lane – two storey extension to rear of existing dwelling and single storey garage extension – no objection</p> <p>Decisions – Approvals</p> <p>211709 – 26 Fingringhoe Road</p> <p>211660 – Willowview Cottage, Layer Road</p>	

080/21	<p>Correspondence</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. E-on – notification of price increase for unmetered supply to streetlights – noted 2. EALC – invitation to participate in Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Beacons event – noted 3. PFK Littlejohn – notification of conclusion of audit 2020/21 – noted 																					
081/21	<p>Finance and Accounts – August and September 2021 The following accounts were approved for payment, schedule 005/21 (August) and signed by Cllrs Dougherty and Hine</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Thinksay Creative – newsletter</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£336.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>J Knight – grass cutting</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£350.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A&J Lighting – call out</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£609.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A&J Lighting – August maintenance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£60.90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E-On – streetlight electricity August 21</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£61.79</td> </tr> </table> <p>Schedule 006/21 was signed by Cllrs Dougherty and Hine</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>J Knight – grass cutting</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£350.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PFK Littlejohn – audit fees</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£240.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A&J Lighting – Sept maintenance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£60.90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>T Mabbitt – village sign refurbishment</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£210.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Staff costs – Sept 21</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£387.62</td> </tr> </table>	Thinksay Creative – newsletter	£336.00	J Knight – grass cutting	£350.00	A&J Lighting – call out	£609.60	A&J Lighting – August maintenance	£60.90	E-On – streetlight electricity August 21	£61.79	J Knight – grass cutting	£350.00	PFK Littlejohn – audit fees	£240.00	A&J Lighting – Sept maintenance	£60.90	T Mabbitt – village sign refurbishment	£210.00	Staff costs – Sept 21	£387.62	
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082/21	<p>Bank reconciliation – July 2021 Cllr Mattack had agreed the reconciliation</p>																					
083/21	<p>S106 – to consider future projects Due to the lateness of the meeting this item to be deferred. Cllr Frost advised the meeting that the Community Association was intending to request S106 funding towards the renewal of the heating in the village hall.</p>																					
084/21	<p>Review of policies All policies had been previously circulated for comment</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Standing Orders – reviewed and accepted 2. Freedom of Information – reviewed and accepted with following amendments – information on notice boards to be updated, hyperlinks inserted to other policies and removal of acronyms 3. Advertising – reviewed and accepted with the amendment of deleting the quarter page adverts 4. Financial Regulations – reviewed and accepted 5. Date protection – deferred for further discussion 	<p>Action – Clerk to make necessary amendments</p>																				
085/21	<p>To consider the purchase of new laptop The Clerk had reported that the existing laptop was slow and coming to the end of its use. Cllr Andrews offered to see if he could speed up the existing laptop before considering a new purchase.</p>																					

086/21	<p>Representatives' reports</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Footpaths and tree warden – the annual cut of the footpaths by ECC had begun and thanks were extended to Cllr Wormell for cutting back the hedges 2. Abberton and Langenhoe Community Association – Cllr Frost thanked all the volunteers who had worked to cut the grass and hedges prior to the Fun Day. The Fun Day had raised £1900 and had been very successful and well received in the village. Cllr Palmer-Slatter was thanked for her work in organising the event. The CA are making an application to the CIF fund for funding towards renewing the heating and would like the Parish Council to consider making a donation. This will be considered at the next meeting. 3. Edward Marke Trust – the AGM will take place on 12th September 4. Church Matters – the church had reopened for a service on 29th August 5. Grass cutting – cutting is continuing. A quote to cut back the hedges had been received - £100 to cut and remove cuttings. Cllr Frost proposed and Cllr Mattack seconded accepting this quote. Agreed. 6. Neighbourhood Watch – nothing to report 7. Youth Liaison – some of the children's activities were restarting at the Village Hall 8. Finance Working Party – nothing to report 9. Property Maintenance – the seats on the triangle may need refurbishing in the spring 10. CALC – nothing to report 11. Broadband – County Broadband was now available and was working well 12. Speedwatch – a session had been held on 19th July – 48 vehicles had been registered as speeding with the top speed being 50mph another session held on 11th August had recorded 60 vehicles speeding with a top speed of 45mph 13. Social media – deadline for items for the next edition of the newsletter is 13th September and Facebook continues to be popular 	
087/21	Date of next meeting – 4 th October 2021	

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.25pm