

Dedham Parish Council

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Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of the Parish Council on Monday 2nd November 2020

Attendance: Cllr Kevin Taylor (chairman), Cllr Nicola Baker (vice-chair), Cllr Ann Follows, Cllr Sheila Beeton, Cllr Christine Frost, Cllr Jeffrey Herbert, Cllr Jane Meakin.
Emma Cansdale- Clerk.

County Councillor Anne Brown, Borough Councillor Nigel Chapman
Members of public: 2

20.112. Apologies for absence

Cllr Jonathan Smith

20.113. Declaration of Interest. Councillors to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests, other pecuniary interests, and non-pecuniary interests not already declared.

Non -Interest Cllrs Herbert and Follows. Matters of continuing reference- Long Road West

20.114. Minutes

The minutes of meeting dated 05.10.2020 were accepted as a correct record.

20.115. Have Your Say.

Maximum of 3 minutes per person/group to make representations to the Parish Council, to a total of 15mins

Report from Cllr Nigel Chapman. Ward Councillor.

Cllr Chapman reported that he has been involved in the covid situation at CBC, who are working on managing the situation.

He also reported on the new Cycle Lanes scheme for Colchester. He raised the need to improve access into Colchester from the outlying villages, however, this has been entirely missed and the proposed routes are in Colchester town itself.

Report from Cllr Anne Brown. Essex County Councillor.

Cllr Brown reiterated Cllr Chapman's point, that leaving out the villages is disgraceful. It sends the message out that Colchester doesn't go beyond the A12.

Cllr Brown also reported that she has attended meetings recently where ECC have been given money for going into Tier 2. Some of the money has been devolved to the Boroughs and Districts. She suggested businesses that are struggling due to covid, should approach CBC. Without a direct name to approach at this stage, she recommended speaking to the Chief Executive. Cllr Chapman also agreed to investigate and find a contact for T2 business support funding

As a resident, Cllr Brown spoke about the dirt and mud in Southfields. Vehicles are churning up the road, and with no drain in the area, it is becoming very muddy. There are still potholes on Southfields

Residents reiterated Cllr Brown's point about Southfields and The Drift. Bad potholes. They also reported the bad state on the highway on Stratford Road. Despite their response from Essex Highways saying it is not a high priority, Cllr Brown reassured them that it is on the high priority list.

20.116. Update on items from last meeting, not reported separately and other updates and reports.

- The Drift Improvement Project- Cllr Smith *appendix 1*
- a) Legal Challenge from Dedham Vale Society regarding lighting scheme. Cllr Taylor *appendix 2*

Cllr Beeton suggested that FJG should also be approached, and thought that previously FJG were appointed as the solicitors for DPC. This will be investigated, and multiple quotes will be sought, once the background work has been completed.

It is noted, that to deal with the Dedham Vale Society complaint it will incur costs to DPC.

b) To agree any necessary additional hours for the Clerk, in order to respond and deal with The Dedham Vale Society legal challenge.

Agreed by all

20.17. Accounts/Finance.

a) **To receive accounts and agree payments** ** appendix 3

Proposed: Cllr Jeffrey Herbert

Seconded: Cllr Baker

Agreed by all

20.118. Planning Advisory Group. Cllr Christine Frost.

a) To receive and agree recommendations on the following planning applications:

202120 The Villa, East Lane, Dedham Colchester CO7 6BG. Single storey cream foil Edwardian style UPVC conservatory to the rear of the property.

Recommendation: No objection

202163 Coopers Bottom, Coopers Lane, Dedham Colchester CO7 6AX. Extension to existing garage to create study space, associated WC and storage

Recommendation: We have no objection in principle but would suggest that it is only used for purposes ancillary to the residence and not as overnight accommodation

202178. The Vicarage, High Street, Dedham CO7 6DE. Rebuilding, repair and realignment to the Boundary wall on the High Street at St. Mary's Church in Dedham.

Recommendation: No objection.

Cllr Brown offered funding to the diocese if they have to move the wall, and therefore extend the footway. She will investigate what the current position is.

202098: Dedham Oak, Coles Oak Lane, Dedham CO7 6DN Proposed Swimming Pool and Pool building

Recommendation: No objection.

Proposed: Cllr Frost

Agreed by all.

20.119. Remote Meetings Policy ** appendix 4

It is resolved to adopt the Remote Meetings Policy, adapted from the Colchester Borough Council policy.

Proposed: Cllr Taylor

Seconded: Cllr Frost

Agreed by all

This will be added to the website

20.120. Website renewal

It is resolved to renew the website hosting with OneSuffolk at £50 (+VAT. £60)

Proposed: Cllr Baker

Seconded: Cllr Taylor

Agreed by all

20.121. Removal of riverside bin- review appendix 5

Following Cllr Taylor's report on the effectiveness of the removal of the bin next to the riverbank entrance on Dedham Road, it was agreed that the bin will not be replaced.

20.122. Parish Office *appendix 6*

Following a discussion on the renewal of the lease of the parish office expiring in January 2020, it was resolved not to renew, due to the change in working practices as result of COVID-19.

The report covered all the key points raised by the Strategic Development group.

Cllr Beeton questions whether Munnings had been involved in the discussion as they financially and physically contribute to the Tourist Information Point.

It was confirmed that they were unfortunately never able to provide any volunteers during the three years, and have not contributed financially in the last 2 years.

Cllr Beeton wished her objection to this resolution to go on record, due to a fundamental objection to the philosophy

Proposed: Cllr Taylor

Seconded: Cllr Frost

1 objection, 6 in favour.

Carried.

20.123. Correspondence. Clerk

- Consultation EALC
- Consultation Cllr Nigel Chapman
- UKPN have sought permission to carry out tree work on playing field, where branches are becoming dangerously close to their overhead cables. They will remove all debris.
- Cllr Frost received a request from the Church to consider providing an Afternoon tea to elderly residents' homes, in the run up to Christmas. This is being done by Gt Bentley PC. However, given we are now in lockdown, it is not logistically viable to do this.
- Signs at The Heath which have been knocked down have been reported.
- DPC have been made aware of the pollarding of the Oak tree on Crown Street. Councillors and Cllr Anne Brown are investigating, and the maintenance manager for the area is also looking into it. The clerk will follow this up.

20.124 Matters of continuing reference

Long road West/East/Ardleigh Rd traffic issues.

Cllr Herbert reported that the speed and traffic count cables were placed at the same as Gigaclear/T J Ram were working in the area, with traffic signals. This has had an impact on the results. Essex Highways will put them down again, and it was agreed to request that this is done in January, when hopefully traffic is 'normal'. **Action EC**

Cllr Brown has a meeting with the spatial planners to hopefully address the issue of increased development in Tendring, which is causing an increase in traffic through Dedham as people try to access the A12.

Cllr Meakin asked if Ardleigh Road would be included in the next speed and traffic count. That has been requested.

Cllr Jeffrey Herbert also asked the minutes to reflect that DPC are working on the issues raised by the residents, but often we have no power to do the work. We continue to report the issues to the relevant bodies.

Date and Time of the next meeting. Monday 7th December 7.30pm

Forthcoming events

N/A

** reports available from the clerk