

WORMINGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 11TH JANUARY 2024 IN WORMINGFORD VILLAGE HALL

In the Chair: Cllr. Bentley
Present: Cllrs. Baker, Byrne, Cook, Fenn & Patmore
Clerk: Mrs Cook
Also Present Cllr Lewis Barber & nine members of the public

24/001	<p><u>WELCOME, APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting at 7.00pm. Cllr Boyce sent his apologies due to a volunteering commitments.</p>
24/002	<p><u>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</u></p> <p>Cllrs Patmore & Baker declared an interest due to their properties sharing boundaries with planning application 232777, both would not vote on this agenda item.</p> <p>Cllr Byrne declared a non-pecuniary interest with regards to the Rec Trust & Wormingford in Bloom.</p> <p>Cllr Cook declared a non-pecuniary interest with regards to the Rec Trust.</p>
24/003	<p><u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION WITH RESPECT TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AND OTHER MATTERS THAT ARE OF MUTUAL INTEREST</u></p> <p>A member of the public spoke about application 232777 – Abberton Rural Training and raised the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Worthwhile charitable organisation.❖ Building should remain temporary with an extension of time – not to remain in perpetuity. It should also be tied to ART rather than the site.❖ Area is in the AONB, Conservation area and dark sky area.❖ Screening should be requested.❖ Access to site is dangerous. <p>A member of the public raised the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ The football club and Rec Trust lease hire.❖ Disappointment that the Parish Council voted not to increase their Councillor details on Social Media.❖ Disappointment at the lack of service and disrupted service of Heddingham Buses. <p>Cllr Bentley confirmed that with regards to the lease to the football club, this needed to be raised directly with the Rec Trust as the Parish Council had no authority over the running of the Rec Trust.</p>
24/004	<p><u>WARD & COUNTY COUNCILLORS TO ADDRESS THE MEMBERS IF PRESENT OR BY EMAILED REPORT</u></p> <p>Cllr Barber spoke briefly on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Problems with the bus service can be reported directly to him, along with times/dates of the disruption so that this can be investigated further. TravelEssex app has been launched and is very useful for tracking public transport in real time.❖ Confirmed that while the enforcement appeal at the Land at Fairfield Farm was in progress work can carry on at the site.❖ Confirmed that he was a Trustee via Essex County Council for ART and he understood that the deadline for comments would be extended due to not all neighbouring properties being informed about the current planning application from ART.❖ The Essex County Council budget would be circulated to the Parish Council, any comments could be relayed back.❖ Cllr Barber noted that the main road by Wormingford Hall was badly affected by flood water. It was a key priority for the repairs to the road surface to be carried out.

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	<p>❖ Cllr Cook asked Cllr Barber if the contractor could be asked back for the works that were carried out on the Fordham Road as the edges were already started to fall away. Cllr Barber agreed to look into this.</p>
24/005	<p><u>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES</u></p> <p>24001 RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 9th November 2023 held in the Village Hall were a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.</p>
24/006	<p><u>PLANNING APPLICATIONS</u></p> <p>1) PLANNING APPEAL: APP/A1530/W/23/3333621 & 3333623. THE CROWN, MAIN ROAD, WORMINGFORD, COLCHESTER, CO6 3AB. ALTERATIONS TO PROVIDE A NEW RECEPTION AREA, KITCHEN, DINING ROOM, IMPROVED WC FACILITIES AND PROVISION OF GUEST ACCOMMODATION IN THE GROUNDS OF THE CROWN PUBLIC HOUSE.</p> <p>24002 RESOLVED that Wormingford Parish Council would not make any further comments. The comments from the original planning application will be automatically viewed by the Planning Inspector.</p> <p>2) PLANNING APPLICATION: 232777. ABBERTON RURAL TRAINING, THE OLD ST. ANDREWS PRIMARY SCHOOL, CHURCH ROAD, WORMINGFORD. APPLICATION FOR REMOVAL OR VARIATION OF A CONDITION 1 FOLLOWING GRANT OF PLANNING PERMISSION. (090745) TO ALLOW EXISTING TEMPORARY CLASSROOM BUILDING TO REMAIN.</p> <p>24003 RESOLVED that Wormingford Parish Council raise the following comments on application 232777 Abberton Rural Training:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllrs would recommend that the temporary building is given an extension of time to remain, rather than it being allowed to remain in perpetuity. • Screening and landscaping to be included as part of the condition, to limit the visual impact on the conservation area and non-designated heritage asset (the former Wormingford Primary School). • A risk assessment to be carried out on the road leading to the site and where possible mitigation measures put in place to assist with safety to all road users. • Wormingford Parish Council recognises the value of ART's contribution to the wider community. <p>3) PLANNING APPLICATION: 232743. FAIRFIELDS FARM, FORDHAM ROAD, WORMINGFORD, COLCHESTER, CO6 3AQ. APPLICATION FOR PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF AGRICULTURAL OR FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT – PROPOSED ROAD.</p> <p>24004 RESOLVED that Wormingford Parish Council have no comment on application 232743. This comment was sent to Colchester City Council using delegated powers to the Clerk due to the deadline to respond. Colchester City Council have subsequently approved this application.</p>
24/007	<p><u>UPDATE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS:</u></p> <p>1) PLANNING APPLICATION: 232352. 5 CHANTRY DRIVE, WORMINGFORD, CO6 3FD. CONDITIONAL APPROVAL.</p> <p>2) PLANNING APPLICATION: 232514. FAIRFIELDS FARM, FORDHAM ROAD, WORMINGFORD, CO6 3AQ. CONDITIONAL APPROVAL.</p> <p>3) PLANNING APPLICATION: 232281. LAND TO THE NORTH OF 3 BOWDENS LANE, WORMINGFORD. WITHDRAWN.</p> <p>4) ENFORCEMENT APPEAL: APP/Z1585/C/23/3324623. LAND AT FAIRFIELDS FARM, FORDHAM ROAD, WORMINGFORD, CO6 3AQ. NO DECISION.</p> <p>5) PLANNING APPLICATION: 231185. LAND ADJACENT, COCKRELLS COTTAGES, LITTLE HORKESEY ROAD, WORMINGFORD, CO6 3AP. CONDITIONAL APPROVAL.</p> <p>6) PLANNING APPLICATION: 222491. RESERVOIR, FAIRFIELDS FARM, FORDHAM ROAD, WORMINGFORD, CO63AQ. CONDITIONAL APPROVAL.</p> <p>7) PLANNING APPEAL: APP/A1530/W/22/3291210. OAK FOLLY COTTAGE, COLLETT'S CHASE, WORMINGFORD, COLCHESTER, CO6 3AU. APPEAL DISMISSED.</p>
24/008	<p><u>RURAL AREA DESIGNATION</u></p> <p>24005 RESOLVED that the Clerk's delegated powers were used due to time restraints to send an email of support to Colchester City Council to include Wormingford in their application for Rural Area Designation after consultation with Councillors.</p>
24/009	<p><u>RURAL HOUSING SURVEY</u></p> <p>This item would be brought back to the February meeting, due to waiting for further information from RCCE regarding</p>

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	possible Housing Associations.
24/010	<p><u>S106 WISH LIST</u></p> <p>Officers at Colchester City Council had suggested that a S106 wish list is produced to sit on file in case of new development in the village. A list would be comprised that would need to fall into the criteria of Community or Leisure including project title, estimated cost, details and reason for the project and benefit to the local community. Projects cannot cover any maintenance.</p> <p>Cllrs discussed possible options of play equipment for older children, outdoor gym equipment.</p> <p>24006</p> <p>RESOLVED to place an article in the Worm magazine asking for suggestions from residents.</p> <p>The item would be brought back to the February meeting.</p>
24/011	<p><u>WAR MEMORIAL</u></p> <p>Cllr Bentley confirmed that the site that the war memorial is located is deteriorating with vehicles parking on the grass. Essex County Council had been approached to see whether bollards could be installed. They were not keen and explained that they would need to be off-set by 450mm from the edge of the carriageway and therefore vehicles could still pull onto the verge. They had suggested planters instead, although this would be problematic with regards to maintenance. (The war memorial is not a Parish Council asset and the land that it sits on is owned by Essex County Council).</p> <p>Cllrs had raised the question whether the war memorial could be moved to a more accessible location, the Clerk had provided them with some information from the War Memorial Trust confirming that war memorials are extremely emotive objects and as a result the issue of their relocation can be controversial and needs to be handled sensitively. Cllrs agreed that this was both a short term maintenance project and that further discussions should continue to take place regarding the long term location of the war memorial with further research and discussions required. A resident suggested that the War memorial could be sponsored by a local business, Cllr Cook and Bentley agreed to look into this further.</p> <p>24007</p> <p>RESOLVED to write to Cllr Barber requesting bollards be installed off-set by 450mm from the carriageway by Essex County Council in order to protect the surrounding area of the War Memorial.</p> <p>Cllr Barber confirmed that there was no current funding for financial year 2023/24.</p>
24/012	<p><u>LOCAL BUSINESS LIAISON GROUP</u></p> <p>This item would be brought back to the February meeting after further discussions with Cllr Barber and Fordham Parish Council.</p>
24/013	<p><u>CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING HELD ON THE 20TH NOVEMBER 2023</u></p> <p>Cllrs Cook & Byrne attended the on-line training and gave a brief report and raised the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Obligation of the Councillor to declare any conflict of interest. ❖ Guidance on using Social Media. ❖ Advice to disclose everything, just in case.
24/014	<p><u>REC TRUST</u></p> <p>Cllr Byrne confirmed that a solar panel quote had been sourced and that grants were being explored. A RCCE Energy Assessment would be carried out and possible grants may follow.</p> <p>Cllrs discussed whether the relationship between the Rec Trust and the Parish Council were confusing to residents with this item being a monthly agenda item at the Parish Council meeting. Cllr Bentley confirmed that this was a historical item. Cllr Baker raised the issue of Cllr Byrne and Cllr Cook leading on this item at the Parish Council meetings with being Councillors and also Rec Trust Trustees. She confirmed that this was a possible perception issue rather than an actual reflection of conflict of interest.</p> <p>24008</p> <p>RESOLVED that the Rec Trust remains as an agenda item each Parish Council meeting, but that the report would be given either verbally or in written format by a Trustee who is not also a Parish Councillor.</p>
24/015	<p><u>PARISH PATH PARTNERSHIP (P3)</u></p> <p>Cllr Bryne confirmed that there were 5 volunteers and Cllr Boyce was leading this project. Cllr Boyce was currently in conversations with Essex County Council regarding training and the logistics of the project. They hoped to be able to start on the Woodhall footpath once they got the go ahead from Essex County Council.</p>

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	<p>Quiz – 16th February Coffee morning – 6th March Summer event was being planned by the Rec Trust.</p>
24/020	<p><u>CHAIRMAN’S SOCIAL MEDIA NOTES</u></p> <p>Cllr Bentley confirmed that an article would be written for the next Worm Magazine and this would also be put on the Parish Council website and Facebook page.</p>
24/021	<p><u>CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED</u></p> <p>All correspondence had been circulated to Councillors.</p>
24/022	<p><u>CHAIRMAN & CLERK’S REPORT</u></p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that one further volunteer was needed in order to go forward with the Speed Watch initiative.</p> <p>The email from Essex Police confirming that they had assessed Main Road was discussed. Essex Police found it to be too dangerous to stand on and conduct speed checks, They need a long run up to spot the car, speed gun them, signal for them to stop and a large safe area to pull the car's into to issue tickets. It was noted that Cllrs were disappointed with the response but did note that Essex Police would carry out high visibility patrols in the area as part of their usual daily patrols.</p> <p>It was noted that the salt bin leading to ART has failed the salt bin assessment. If it is still in a serviceable condition, it will remain in place and continue to be refilled. If it is beyond its serviceable life and is in a potentially unsafe condition, Essex County Council will arrange its removal.</p> <p>The salt bin near Tippells and adjacent to the PROW, has passed the assessment and will be replaced as soon as possible. The Clerk would follow up with the salt bin on the junction of Bowdens Lane and Church Road.</p>
24/023	<p><u>ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS</u></p> <p>Rural Housing Survey S106 Wish List War Memorial Local Business Liaison Group Parish Council Emails</p>
	<p>Cllr Bentley thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.18pm.</p> <p>The date of the next meeting would be Thursday 8th February 2024 in the Village Hall at 7pm.</p> <p>Signed:.....</p> <p>Chairman of the Parish Council Date: 8th February 2024</p>

MRS HELEN COOK
 CLERK TO WORMINGFORD PARISH COUNCIL, E-MAIL: wormingford@outlook.com