

Wormingford Parish Council (WPC)  
Report for the month of January 2024

This report covers the meetings held on 11th January 2024, no meeting was held in December.

The Council noted that following consultation at the end of 2023, Colchester City Council has included Wormingford and other out-lying parishes in their application for Rural Area Designation. Once approved it will give Colchester planners the right to insist on the inclusion of Social Housing on all developments of five or more homes.

A follow up discussion on Wormingford's Housing Needs Survey was deferred to the February meeting. We are still waiting for the Rural Communities Council of Essex to establish if there are any housing associations with an interest of developing a small number of homes in the village. Any potential developers would then work with RCCE and WPC to establish if there are any viable plots of land available.

Colchester City Council have asked Wormingford and other parishes to establish a wish list of community and leisure projects, should future S106 funding become available (S106 funding is the community surcharge placed on new private and commercial developers when granting planning permission). If anyone has any ideas please email your suggestion to [wormingford@outlook.com](mailto:wormingford@outlook.com)

We are still short of one volunteer to enable the training and establishment of a local Speed Watch Group. Anyone willing to put their name forward should contact the Parish Clerk.

Options on how to improve the maintenance and appearance of the war memorial on Fordham Road were explored. A request will be renewed to Essex County Council to install bollards inset from the road to prevent the area being used as a lay-by. Councillors are also reviewing options to establish a care and maintenance program.

A village footpath maintenance team has been established under the Parish Path Partnership Scheme. There are five volunteers who will shortly undergo training and hopefully will start work on some of our PROW in the Spring.

The draft Biodiversity Policy discussed at the November meeting was adopted.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on 8<sup>th</sup> February at the Village Hall, commencing at 7.00pm.

Please email any comments or views to the Parish Clerk at [wormingford@outlook.com](mailto:wormingford@outlook.com). Further information and the latest draft minutes and past copies of the Worm can be found at <http://www.wormingford.org>