

WORMINGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 8TH FEBRUARY 2024 IN WORMINGFORD VILLAGE HALL

In the Chair: Cllr. Bentley
Present: Cllrs. Baker, Boyce, Byrne, Cook & Patmore
Clerk: Mrs Cook
Also Present: Nineteen members of the public

24/024	<u>WELCOME, APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting at 7.00pm. Cllr Fenn sent his apologies due to work commitments.
24/025	<u>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</u> Cllr Patmore declared a pecuniary interest on planning application 240154 and would leave the meeting. Cllr Baker declared an interest due to their properties sharing boundaries with planning application 240154 and would not vote on this agenda item. Cllrs Byrne & Cook declared a non-pecuniary interest with regards to the Rec Trust and would leave the meeting for item 24/048.
24/026	<u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION WITH RESPECT TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AND OTHER MATTERS THAT ARE OF MUTUAL INTEREST</u> A member of the public raised the issue of the padlock on the Speed VAS rattling in the wind – Cllr Byrne agreed to look into this. A member of the public raised the following points: <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Cost with regards to the defibrillator.❖ Cost of the Post Office to the Parish Council when they have not turned up every week.❖ Cost of having the VAS sign moved over the year.❖ Why the Parish Council is paying for the Rec Trust insurance.❖ Questioning whether the full accounts can be on the agenda. Two members of the public raised the question of why the public would be excluded at the end of the meeting. A member of the public questioned how much the Local Business liaison meeting would cost the parishioners. A member of the public raised the item of the cost of the Worm magazine and why no advertising was allowed by businesses but it was acceptable for Charities to advertise their events. The future of the Worm magazine was raised. Cllr Bentley addressed several issues raised including the annual maintenance cost of new battery and pads for the defibrillator. The requirements that a full trained individual is required to download the data and move the VAS. Cllr Byrne confirmed that the issues with the Post Office were recent and no other bookings could be made in such short notice to cover the shortfall. Cllr Bentley confirmed that the last item on the agenda was so that the Parish Council could discuss legal advice received and decision would still be minuted. Cllr Bentley also confirmed that this was a Parish Council meeting rather than a public meeting and the section for the public to participate was now closed.
24/027	<u>WARD & COUNTY COUNCILLORS TO ADDRESS THE MEMBERS IF PRESENT OR BY EMAILED REPORT</u> No Councillors were present and no report had been received.
24/028	<u>UPDATE FROM WORMINGFORD RECREATION TRUST</u>

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	<p>A report was read out from the Trustees and included the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Thanks to a grant allocation from the Essex Council Locality Budget, supported by Cllr Lewis Barber, The Rec Trust has restarted the Warm Kitchen. ❖ Quotes for the installation of Solar Panels, a Battery and possibly an EV charge point at the village hall are being obtained. There are several grant schemes currently available. ❖ The Recreation Trust are supporting the football club in their review of match scheduling and parking arrangements following an unfortunate event scheduling error on Sunday 28th January. This led to excessive street parking and inconvenience to residents, for which the club has publicly apologised on Social Media. ❖ The next fundraising events are a quiz night on Friday 16th February and a Coffee morning on Saturday 2nd March. All are welcome.
24/029	<u>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES</u>
24016	RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 11th January 2024 held in the Village Hall were a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.
24/030	<u>PLANNING APPLICATIONS</u>
	Cllr Patmore left the meeting at 7.17pm
	PLANNING APPLICATION: 240154. OAK LODGE, CHURCH ROAD, WORMINGFORD, CO6 3AZ. NEW GATES AND POST.
24017	RESOLVED that Wormingford Parish Council have no comments to raise on application 240154.
	Cllr Patmore re-joined the meeting at 7.18pm
24/031	<u>UPDATE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS:</u>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) PLANNING APPEAL: APP/A1530/W/23/3333621 & 3333623. THE CROWN, MAIN ROAD, WORMINGFORD, COLCHESTER, CO6 3AB. NO DECISION – HEARING DATE SET FOR 27TH FEBRUARY. 2) PLANNING APPLICATION: 232777. ABBERTON RURAL TRAINING, THE OLD ST. ANDREWS PRIMARY SCHOOL, CHURCH ROAD, WORMINGFORD. CONDITIONAL APPROVAL. 3) ENFORCEMENT APPEAL: APP/Z1585/C/23/3324623. LAND AT FAIRFIELDS FARM, FORDHAM ROAD, WORMINGFORD, CO6 3AQ. NO DECISION.
24/032	<u>NORWICH TO TILBURY – NATIONAL GRID MEETING – 16TH JANUARY 2024</u>
	Cllr Bryne attended the meeting on-line and explained that it had been a briefing from the Colchester City Planning Officer. The process was complex and that there were eight stages and currently they were on stage three. While the project was not currently planned to impact Wormingford the construction stage could cause issues to residents. Any issues in the future could be brought back to the Planning Officer as the process progressed.
24/033	<u>RURAL HOUSING SURVEY</u>
	This item would be brought back to the March meeting, due to waiting for further information from RCCE regarding possible Housing Associations. Chelmer Housing Partnership were preparing documents to send to the Parish Council for their review.
24/034	<u>S106 WISH LIST</u>
	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.
	Cllrs discussed possible options of play equipment for older children, outdoor gym equipment.
	No suggestions from residents had yet been received following on from the Worm article. It was agreed to repost this on social media and bring the item back to the March meeting.
24/035	<u>SPEED WATCH</u>
	The Clerk confirmed that ten volunteers had now come forward.
24018	RESOLVED the following possible sites to send to Essex Highways to enable them to be risk assessed:

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Crown Pub: ///hence.pinch.runways ❖ Church Road nr Bungalows: ///heartache.science.audibly ❖ Chapel Corner facing towards the village: ///telephone.trailing.comical ❖ Nr Wood Hall: ///torn.uppermost.unscrew 																		
24/036	<p><u>WAR MEMORIAL</u></p> <p>24019 RESOLVED that Cllr Cook attended the War Memorial Course held on the 6th February.</p> <p>24020 RESOLVED that a bursary of 75% of the War Memorial Course was applied for.</p> <p>Cllr Cook gave a report on the War Memorial Course that he attended on the 6th February and spoke briefly on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Relocation is only recommended when there is no other option, this is a very sensitive topic. ❖ Grant are available, but only when war memorials are unstable or damaged. ❖ Refurbishment. ❖ The law surrounding war memorials ❖ The war memorials in Wormingford. <p>Cllr Bentley explained that a meeting had been held with Mr Strathern along with Cllr Cook as his land backs on to the War Memorial. This was a very productive meeting where all parties agreed that the War Memorial needed to be maintained going forward. Further decisions would take place along with Cllr Barber on how to take this further. This would be reported back to a future Parish Council meeting.</p>																		
24/037	<p><u>LOCAL BUSINESS LIAISON GROUP</u></p> <p>Cllr Bentley gave a brief outline on the idea that had been put forward by Cllr Barber to have a liaison group with local businesses who have large vehicles that use the roads through both Wormingford and Fordham. Discussions were currently being had with regards to the aims of the group alongside what format to hold such meetings.</p> <p>This item would be brought back to the March meeting after further discussions with Cllr Barber and Fordham Parish Council.</p>																		
24/038	<p><u>LITTER PICK</u></p> <p>Cllrs agreed to hold a litter pick in the February half term a date would be circulated after the meeting.</p>																		
24/039	<p><u>ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING</u></p> <p>24021 RESOLVED to hold the Annual Parish Assembly Meeting on the 14th March at 8pm, refreshments would be available at 7.45pm. Local groups, Cllr Barber & Cllr Laws would be invited to speak alongside seeing if a guest speaker from Neighbourhood Watch could attend.</p>																		
24/040	<p><u>COURSES</u></p> <p>24022 RESOLVED that Cllr Byrne attend the Public Rights of Way course being held in February. A bursary for 75% of the cost would be applied for.</p>																		
24/041	<p><u>FINANCIAL MATTERS</u></p> <p>1) FINANCIAL STATEMENT</p> <p>The six invoices including the Standing Orders for the Clerks Salary & Pension were checked by Councillors.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Payee</th> <th>Description</th> <th>Chq Number</th> <th>Net</th> <th>VAT</th> <th>Gross</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Design Sweet</td> <td>Worm Magazine</td> <td>BACS</td> <td>£99.00</td> <td>£0.00</td> <td>£99.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EALC</td> <td>War Memorial Course</td> <td>BACS</td> <td>£75.00</td> <td>£15.00</td> <td>£90.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Payee	Description	Chq Number	Net	VAT	Gross	Design Sweet	Worm Magazine	BACS	£99.00	£0.00	£99.00	EALC	War Memorial Course	BACS	£75.00	£15.00	£90.00
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24023	Employee	Expenses	BACS	£31.58	£0.00	£31.58
	Employee	February Salary	SO	£367.32	£0.00	£367.32
	Essex Pension Fund	February Pension	SO	£119.49	£0.00	£119.49
	Information Commissioner Office	Data Protection	DD	£35.00	£0.00	£35.00
<p>RESOLVED that after further consideration six payments detailed on the schedule be authorised for payment.</p> <p>2) MONTHLY BUDGET INFORMATION</p> <p>The Clerk had circulated the budget information prior to the meeting. No questions were raised.</p>						
24/042	<p><u>VILLAGE EVENTS – COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE</u></p> <p>The following events were raised so that Councillors could put it in their diaries: Quiz – 16th February Coffee morning – 2nd March</p>					
24/043	<p><u>CHAIRMAN’S SOCIAL MEDIA NOTES</u></p> <p>Cllr Bentley confirmed that a reminder for ideas for the S106 would be circulated on Social Media.</p>					
24/044	<p><u>CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED</u></p> <p>All correspondence had been circulated to Councillors. It was noted that an email had been received about the football car parking which had been sent to the Rec Trust to respond. It was also noted that an email had been received regarding lack of planning permission for the parking area on the Rec, details of how to report this to Colchester City Council had been sent.</p>					
24/045	<p><u>CHAIRMAN & CLERK’S REPORT</u></p> <p>No items were raised.</p>					
24/046	<p><u>ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS</u></p> <p>Rural Housing S106 Wish List</p>					
24/047	<p><u>MOTION</u></p> <p>RESOLVED to temporarily exclude the press and public from the meeting to consider legal advice from their solicitor. Communications between the solicitor and the client council which is for the purpose of giving legal advice is protected by legal professional privilege and therefore confidential. While the legal advice is the property of the council, the publicity of it is likely to prejudice the legal position of the council.</p> <p>7.57pm Cllrs Cook & Byrne left the meeting along with all members of the public.</p>					
24/048	<p><u>CUSTODIAN TRUSTEE</u></p> <p>Cllr Bentley gave a history of the Parish Council’s role as Custodian Trustee. Cllrs discussed the advice given by both RCCE, EALC and Sparling Solicitors.</p> <p>RESOLVED to write to Sparlings Solicitors giving the Rec Trust permission to instruct them with regards to registering the land. All financial transactions must be between Sparlings Solicitors and the Rec Trust directly. The Parish Council would request that both the Rec Trust and Sparlings Solicitors keep the PC up to date with the process.</p>					
24024	<p>Cllr Bentley thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.43pm.</p> <p>The date of the next meeting would be Thursday 14th March 2024 in the Village Hall at 7pm.</p> <p>Signed:.....</p> <p>Chairman of the Parish Council</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Date: 14th March 2024</p>					
24025	<p>Cllr Bentley thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.43pm.</p> <p>The date of the next meeting would be Thursday 14th March 2024 in the Village Hall at 7pm.</p> <p>Signed:.....</p> <p>Chairman of the Parish Council</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Date: 14th March 2024</p>					

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

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