



# MISTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council's Meeting held on Monday 10 December 2018 in the Lounge at the Village Hall, Shrubland Road at 19.30

Present Cllrs. Birch (Vice-Chairman), Burton, Carter, Fairhall, Peacock and Rayner (Chairman). Mr. A Lee (Temporary Clerk), D. Cllr. Coley, C. Cllr. Guglielmi and two members of the public were present. No representatives of the press were present.

### **151.18 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Chaplin, Howell and Kent, which were accepted unanimously.

### **152.18 Minutes of the previous meeting**

The Minutes of the meetings held on 5 November and on 17 November 2018, having been circulated previously, were agreed as true records. Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr. Burton and were approved unanimously, and signed by the Chairman.

### **153.18 Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

### **154.18 Public Voice**

No members of the public spoke.

D. Cllr. Coley provided an overview about the purpose of the Lawford Housing Enterprise Trust to encourage young people to progress to independent living in their local community, with the aspiration of home ownership. The Trust will eventually own and manage 31 dwellings for the purposes of providing affordable dwellings to eligible young people. The Trust was set up to ensure that such housing would always remain available for rental and would not be subject to right to buy that had depleted so much rental stock. In this context, means: a person who is at least 18 years but under 40 years of age on the date of application; who has successfully applied to be included on the Local Authority Housing Needs Register; is currently in full or part-time employment for at least the previous year; and also possess a sound checkable credit history. The applicant must also either: currently reside in the Parish or Ward where the available dwelling is located or; was brought up in the Parish or Ward where the available dwelling is located or; has a close relative living in the Parish or Ward where the available dwelling is located. The rent charged is no more than the relevant Local Authority housing rent levels and below market private rent levels, where applicable. Applying for Trust Housing is a competitive process, which is likely to be oversubscribed, therefore the directors' decision to award tenancies is final and is not subject to appeal. Successful tenancies are initially for one year and a maximum of five years. Applications need to be made online at: <http://www.lhet.org/>. Applications for the nine dwellings at the River Reach development were being encouraged by the Trust.

### **155.18 District and County Councillors Reports**

D. Cllr. Coley reported that at Tendring District Council's Planning Committee meeting on 13 November, there were two speakers in opposition to the planning application concerning land south of Long Road, when the application was rejected, despite the Planning Officer's recommendation for approval. Cllr. Fairhall enquired about the role of Planning Officers and whether their recommendations were considered to be balanced by the Planning Committee. C. Cllr. Guglielmi explained that Planning Officers had delegated responsibility for determining 95% of planning applications, while about 80 planning applications were determined by the Planning Committee. Following a review of the planning system in 2008, because there had been a strong bias towards Planning Officers' recommendations. Subsequently, Planning Officers' reports had become shorter and balanced.

D. Cllr. Coley reported that revisions to the Braintree, Colchester and Tendring Councils' Garden Community proposals are expected to go before the Government's Planning Inspector in the autumn of 2019. Tendring District Council's new combined reception centre handling enquiries for opened on the 10 December. The Pier Avenue building will be the one-stop shop for people accessing housing or benefits services. The Police, Crime and Fire Commissioner is to attend a public meeting in Manningtree (venue to be confirmed) on Wednesday 16 January 2019, to address questions concerning Policing and Fire & Rescue cover in the locality.

The Chairman thanked D. Cllr. Coley for his report and also for intervening with the PCSOs to make regular patrols of the Furze Hill car park.

The Chairman enquired about Essex County Council's public consultation about future library services and whether Tendring District Council would consider using Manningtree library as an ideal venue for enabling access for the community to its services. C. Cllr. Guglielmi explained that Tendring District Council would be responding to Essex County Council's public consultation, but it might be helpful if the Chairmen of the three local Councils got together to share a strategy.

C. Cllr. Guglielmi to forward his report about Essex County Council to the Clerk for dissemination to Members.

**Action: Clerk**

#### **156.18 Matters arising from previous minutes**

- (a) Item 141.18 – The Chairman announced that at the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council, the Personnel Committee's recommendation that Susan Clements be appointed as Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer to the Council had been approved unanimously. The new Clerk would commence on 2 January 2019.
- (b) Item 43.18 – It was agreed unanimously to amend dates of two meetings in 2019: Full Council scheduled for Monday 22 April is on Easter Bank Holiday, would be moved to Tuesday 23 April; and Planning Committee scheduled for Thursday 11 April be rescheduled to 18 April.

**Action: Clerk**

#### **157.18 Councillors to report on Meetings attended**

- (a) EDME – Cllr. Rayner reported that EDME's public consultation about the planned move from Mistley to an industrial site at Horsley Cross had been signalled in the Draft Local Plan, because more space was required to expand the business. EDME had also agreed to hold a public meeting at Mistley Village Hall on Tuesday 18 December between 15.00 and 19.00.
- (b) Tendring District Association of Local Councils – Cllr. Rayner reported the concern that recommendations made by Tendring District Council's Planning Officers might be used by developers in support of their appeals of planning decisions. The organisers of the Chelmsford Motor Club's Special Stage Rally 2019 were to: make minor changes to the route so that between competitive stages the vehicles would go through centres of population; and would engage with landowners to improve parking. Cllr. Rayner had raised the issue of the lack of high-visibility vests and safety equipment being made available by Tendring District Council to community litter-picking events organised by Parish and Town Councils.
- (c) Essex Association of Local Councils Police and Fire Conference – Cllr. Rayner reported that there were a series of presentations and discussions, including the plan to recruit Community Special Constables to operate in local areas. It was estimated that each Special Constable would require funding of £1,000 from a local authority, which would also be involved in the recruitment process. Support was being given to Speed Watch groups with the provision of TruCam detectors and the deployment of mobile average speed detectors. It was also stated that VAS signs were not the way forward to deter speeding

#### **158.18 Consideration and adoption of:**

- (a) Personnel Committee's Terms of Reference (Items 115.18 and 141.18) and the Council's Policy Statements for Equal Opportunities, Health and Safety at Work, and General Data Protection Regulation. It was agreed unanimously to defer this item to the next meeting.

**Action: Clerk**

#### **159.18 Clerk's Report**

The Clerk reported that five street lights required repair by the contractor between November and December. The insurance claim for the street light destroyed in August had been approved by the insurance broker and now awaiting notification of when the contractor will replace the light column. The handyman had been requested to empty the Cemetery Soil Bin. A parishioner had written to one of the District Councillor's about the Council's decision in December 2013 concerning joint funding of PCSOs. The Essex Association of Local Councils had advised that the matter be dealt with as a Freedom of Information Act request. Tendring

District Council had formally confirmed approval of a Tree Planting Grant of £223, which needed to be claimed before 22 February 2019. Following the relocation of Alison Mercer, the Council had a vacancy for a volunteer Tree Warden.

**Action: Clerk**

**160.18 Finance Report**

- (a) Noted the following Standing Order and Direct Debit had been paid since the last meeting: J Hinson £563.33 (salary – November)  
A and J Lighting £341.64 (street lights maintenance – November)
- (b) Noted the following cheques have been signed since the last meeting:  
Essex Association of Local Councils £25.00 (conference)  
Philip Liverton Ltd. £300.00 (grass-cutting)  
Bruce Landscapes Ltd. £108.00 (repairs to Children’s Playground)  
B Forrester £119.50 (wages – November)  
A Lee £ 308.85 (stationery, postage, refuse bags and office, telephony and broadband allowances between October and December)
- (c) There were no other invoices received after agenda was prepared.
- (d) Considered the quotations received for removing the reinforced concrete foundation from the former Skateboard Ramp at Furze Hill. Following a discussion of the quotations received, the Chairman proposed, Cllr. Birch seconded and agreed unanimously that the quotation from John O’Connell Limited be accepted.

**Action: Clerk**

**161.18 Correspondence – Clerk to report on correspondence not dealt with by agenda items:**

- (a) Noted the following:
  - (i) Letters of thanks for section 137 grants made to: East Anglia’s Children’s Hospices; Essex and Herts Air Ambulance; Acorn Village; Citizens Advice Tendring; and Manningtree Museum and Local History Group.
  - (ii) Letter of thanks for a donation made to the Royal British Legion.
- (b) Discussed the letter about the launch of the Tendring Community Safety Partnership’s Community Days of Action and considered whether to apply for a Community Day of Action. It was agreed unanimously that the Clerk seek further information.
- (c) Considered and agreed unanimously to accept an offer by the Chairman of a shrub rose to be planted in the centre of the seating at Memorial Island.
- (d) Considered Essex County Council’s public consultation on Essex Future Library Services Strategy (2019- 2024) and noted that responses were encouraged from individuals and organisations. It was noted that the public consultation would end on 20 February 2019. It was agreed unanimously to defer this item to the next meeting.

**Action: Clerk**

**162.18 Dates of next Parish Council meeting in the Village Hall:**

Finance Committee – Thursday 20 December 2018  
Planning Committee – Thursdays 20 December 2018, 17 January and 7 February 2019  
Full Council – Monday 28 January 2019

*There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.20.*

Signed ..... Chairman      Date .....