

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 27 November 2024 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs J Armstrong, S Berlyn, A Chapman (Chair), G Chapman, B Hallett, M Hessing (Vice Chair), L Naggs, A Keeler, N Orange and U Rasiule

In attendance: Ms M Harper (Clerk)

24/25.70 Apologies for absence

Cllrs Churchouse and Sutton

24/25.71 Declarations of Interest

Members are required to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they know they may have in items of business on the meeting's agenda. They are reminded that they will need to repeat their declaration at the appropriate point in the meeting and leave the room if the interest is a prejudicial one. Unforeseen interests must be declared similarly at the appropriate time.

There were no declarations of interest

24/25.72 Public Question Time

Members of the public are invited to address the Council, give their views and question the Council on issues on this agenda, or raise issues for future consideration (at the discretion of the Chairman). Members of the public may not take part in the Council meeting itself. At the close of this item members of the public will no longer be permitted to address the Council unless invited to do so by the Chairman. The session will last for a maximum of 15 minutes with any individual contribution lasting a maximum of 5 minutes. Members of the public should address their representation through the Chairman of the meeting.

There were no members of the public present

24/25.73 To approve Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Parish Council meeting held 25 September 2024

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 25 September 2024 be approved and signed as a true record

24/25.74 Reports from Committees

24/25.74.1 Community Engagement

The minutes of the last meeting as published were noted. The Committee Chairman reminded councillors of the Christmas Fayre taking place 7 December

24/25.74.2 Environment Committee

The minutes of the last meeting as published were noted.

24/25.74.3 Facilities Committee

The minutes of the last meeting as published were noted. The Committee Chairman advised that a Sub Committee had been set up at the last meeting to manage the implementation of the carpark management solution

24/25.74.4 Health & Wellbeing Committee

The minutes of the last meeting as published were noted

24/25.74.5 Leisure Centre Committee

24/25.74.5.1 The minutes of the last meeting as published were noted. The Committee Chairman gave an update on the refurbishment of the bar area

24/25.74.5.2 RESOLVED: that Utility Aid would be approved for completing electric and gas supply contacts at the Leisure Centre when the current contracts expire and that the Clerk be delegated responsibility to agree the contract, proposed by Cllr A Chapman and seconded by Cllr Hessing, all agreed

24/25.74.6 Planning Committee

24/25.74.6.1 The minutes of the last meeting as published were noted. The Committee Chairman advised Wickham House application had been withdrawn

24/25.74.6.2 The Committee Chairman advised a fundraising event – an Evening of Promises – was to be arranged with local businesses to provide additional funds for any legal expenses in relation to the potential development at Hammonds Farm and that Freedom of Information requests had been submitted to Chelmsford City Council for additional information on the Local Plan process

24/25.74.7 *Resources Committee*

The minutes of the last meeting as published were noted. The Committee Chairman advised that a Working Party had been set up to review the investment and allocation of council monies

24/25.75 Consultation on Remote Meetings

A response to the government consultation on remote meetings and proxy voting was completed and submitted

24/25.76 Interim Internal Audit

Congratulations were given to the Clerk on achieving a good audit result

RESOLVED: the Interim Internal Audit be approved, proposed by Cllr Hessing and seconded by Cllr Orange, all agreed

24/25.77 A414 pedestrian Crossing near Bell

Councillors discussed the potential of re-siting the bus stop near on the A414. It was agreed the Clerk would collate the responses and circulate for further comment before sending a response to County Councillor John Spence

24/25.78 Donation Monies

RESOLVED: that the following projects totalling £44,620.00 would be funded from the donation monies received, proposed by Cllr Hallett and seconded by Cllr Orange, all agreed:

- 1 year funding for YMCA Youth Club for 10-4 year olds
- Bench by Old Pavilion flower bed
- Additional noticeboards in Mayes Lane carpark and on Eves Corner and opposite Tesco's, subject to permission from landowners where necessary
- Information Board on Dawson Memorial Field
- New gate on Footpath 16
- Remedial works on Eves Corner and Runsell Green ponds
- Clock on the front of the Leisure Centre
- £25,000 sum for projects to be suggested by residents as part of a consultation in 2025

24/25.79 Budget and Precept 2025/26

Thanks were expressed to the Clerk for the work that has gone into producing the budget sheets. The first draft of the budget was reviewed and will be brought back to the next Parish Council meeting for approval

24/25.80 Reports from Village Organisations

Cllr Berlyn noted he had attended the funeral of an ex-councillor and that the Danbury Society AGM had been a successful event

Cllr Chapman noted that the Chelmsford Association of Local Councils was being reformed and councillors had been asked if they would be interested in joining. It was agreed that the Clerk would submit an expression of interest

24/25.81 Community Engagement

Advertising of the Danbury Neighbourhood Plan Referendum

24/25.82 Matters for Report (for information only)

Cllr Rasiule advised that there were overgrown hedges near the crossing in Well Lane

24/25.83 Dates of next meeting

Wednesday 29 January 2025 at 7.30pm

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.12pm.

Chairman

Date