

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 29 July 2020 at 7.30 pm via Zoom

Present: Cllrs L Anstee
 S Berlyn (Chair)
 A Chapman (Vice Chair)
 G Chapman
 B Hallett
 M Hessing
 A Keller
 P Sutton

In attendance: Ms M Harper, Clerk

20/21.18 Apologies for absence

Cllr J Thombs

20/21.19 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 were 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. Members have dispensation to discuss and vote in respect of matters relating to the Precept and the DCA.

There were no declarations of interest.

20/21.20 Public Question Time

There were no members of the public present

20/21.21 To approve Minutes of the Parish Council meetings held 27 May 2020

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 27 May 2020 be approved and signed as a correct record

20/21.22 Co-Option Policy

After lengthy debate it was agreed that the council would defer a decision on amending the Co-Option Policy in line with the advice from NALC until the consultation on the Code of Conduct had been completed. The Clerk was requested to write to NALC outlining the concerns of the council.

RESOLVED: that the council would defer a decision on amending the Co-Option Policy until the outcome of the Code of Conduct review being carried out by the Local Government Association had been completed, proposed by Cllr Keeler and seconded by Cllr Chapman, carried by a majority vote

20/21.23 Reports from Committees

20/21.23.1 Resources Committee

20/21.23.1.1

The minutes of the last meeting were noted

20/21.23.1.2

RESOLVED: to approve the System of Internal Controls, proposed by Cllr Sutton and seconded by Cllr Berlyn, all agreed

20/21.23.1.3

RESOLVED: to approve the Financial Risk Management Scheme, proposed by Cllr Sutton and seconded by Cllr G Chapman, all agreed

20/21.23.1.4

RESOLVED: to approve Standing Orders, proposed by Cllr Sutton and seconded by Cllr A Chapman, all agreed

20/21.23.2 *Planning Committee*

20/21.23.2.1

The minutes of the last meeting were noted

20/21.23.2.2

RESOLVED: to approve delegated authority to the Clerk to respond to the planning applications that were due to be reviewed at the meeting on 27 July and planning applications that are due to be reviewed during August, based on comments from committee members, proposed by Cllr Berlyn and seconded by Cllr Keeler, all agreed.

20/21.23.3 *Environment Committee*

20/21.23.3.1

The minutes of the last meeting were noted

20/21.23.3.2

RESOLVED: to approve the Volunteers Policy, proposed by Cllr A Chapman and seconded by Cllr Hallett, all agreed

20/21.23.3.3

RESOLVED: to approve the Litter Picking Policy and attachments, proposed by Cllr A Chapman and seconded by Cllr Hallett, agreed by a majority vote

20/21.23.4 *Facilities Committee*

20/21.23.4.1

As the minutes of the last meeting were not available, Cllr G Chapman updated the meeting on the actions including considerations to the posts around Eves Corner, Copt Hill, Old Pavilion and Elm Green; playground inspection report of very low or low items to be considered and the works carried out recently at the DCA

20/21.23.4.2

The Clerk updated Members on actions taken so far: removal of both Dens and the felling of trees in the Den on Pitch 4. This has been reported to the police who will be increasing their patrols and we are awaiting further information on the patrols taking place in Danbury and on tackling the anti-social behaviour

20/21.23.5 *Community Engagement Committee*

20.21.23.5.1

The minutes of the last meeting were noted. Cllr Berlyn congratulated Cllr A Chapman on the latest edition of The Danbury Times

20/21.23.6 *Health & Wellbeing Committee*

20/21.23.6.1

The minutes of the last meeting were noted. Cllr Anstee advised that the first meeting of the Virtual Carers Group would be held on Friday 14 August at 2pm

20/21.24 To ratify the Annual Return for 2019 - 2020

20/21.24 – 1

The Internal Auditors report for year end 2019/2020 was noted. Cllr Berlyn thanked the Clerk for her hard work in obtaining another clear audit

Members are requested to approve the Chairman and Clerk to sign the Annual Return for 2019/2020:

20/21.24 – 2

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council completed and approved the Annual Governance Statement 2019/2020 (Section 1), proposed by Cllr Sutton and seconded by Cllr Hallett, all agreed

20/21.24 – 3

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council approved the Accounting Statements 2019/2020 (Section 2), proposed by Cllr Sutton and seconded by Cllr G Chapman, all agreed

20/21.25 Community Governance Review

20/21.25 – 1

It was agreed that Cllr Berlyn and the Clerk would attend the virtual meeting with Chelmsford City Council regarding responses to Covid-19 and to receive an update on the proposed Community Governance Review

20/21.25 – 2

It was agreed that the Parish Council would discuss with Chelmsford City Council to consider reducing the total number of parish councillors.

20/21.26 Parking Permits at Copt Hill

After lengthy discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would contact South Essex Parking Partnership regarding the permit parking system and the best solutions to the problems experienced by the residents

20/21.27 Reports from Village Organisations

Cllr Hessing advised that the Danbury Coronavirus Volunteers Group had seen a reduction in calls and would be reviewing the situation from September.

20/21.28 Matters for Report (for information only)

Cllr A Chapman advised that an application had been made for 70 lodges at Warren Golf Club, the Planning Committee were making a response to Maldon strongly objecting and requesting that the council are made official consultees on this application. Councillors were requested to make individual responses

20/21.29 Dates of next meeting

Wednesday 30 Sep 2020 to be held remotely by Zoom at 7.30pm

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.19pm.

Chairman

Date