

Draft



**Minutes of the meeting of Dedham Parish Council held on  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024 at 6:30pm at the Duchy Barn**

**Attendees:** Cllr Mole (Chairman), Cllr Goodall, Cllr Harrison, Cllr Bourn,  
Cllr McLaughlin, Cllr Sneddon, Cllr Martlew, Cllr Main

**Present:** Carol Harbach – Taking minutes  
11 Members of the public

**24/80 Appointment of Permanent New Clerk**

Carol Harbach declared an interest in this item and left the meeting at this point where it was discussed by the council. Councillors all agreed unanimously to appoint Carol as Parish Clerk.

Carol Harbach returned to the meeting and was offered the position of Clerk, which she accepted.

**24/81 Welcome and Apologies for absence**

Cllr Mole welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were received from Cllr Neville.

**24/82 Declaration of members Interests**

Any declarations of interest will be brought up and declared as they arise on the agenda.

The Clerk ask if she could request invoices from the Therapy Farm as to the use of the £10,000 donation for both the public's information and for the reasons of transparency.

This was agreed by the council. Clerk to contact the Therapy Farm for invoices.

**24/83 Public Open Forum (15 minutes)**

A resident stated the West End of village has a lot of sewage smells and that this has happened previously. Environmental Health has been informed and also the Local County Councillors. Previously this had been caused by chemicals running out in key sites. Anglian Water are being chased to rectify the issues.

A resident raised concerns regarding obstacles on the pavements e.g. chairs and tables, at the Old Bakery and are worried about the danger for wheelchairs and pushchairs. The council will speak to the bakery re the problem and request that the pavements are kept clear for pedestrians.

A resident raised the issue regarding the sign at Long Road crossroads which has been down for a while, although this has been reported to the Highways department before. There is now a sharp pointed rusted base which is dangerous. This has been reported to Highways and Clerk will report this again.

A resident asked about the problems at Petalo Lodge and what actions had taken place.

Cllr Mole had contacted the enforcement officer and Karen Syrett regarding these problems. The enforcement officer reported that he could not find the bump that had been reported and had looked at the drainage problems. The resident was asked to take photos of the bump and pass these on to DPC. The DPC have contacted all the relevant authorities regarding these issues and it was suggested that a meeting with Cllr Tom Rowe, the resident and DPC take place to see if some of the issues can be solved. DPC will contact Cllr Rowe and try to organise an appointment.

Residents requested that a letter be written to the occupants of Hill House and Mount Pleasant to request them to cut hedges at Lamb Corner.

A resident asked about the progress of obtaining the blue plaque approved by the council on the Essex Rose and also the memorial bench for Iris Hindley. The PC will be following this up to get these completed.

A resident requested what the outcome was with planning officer regarding the local plan and the sites put forward. There had been 3 sites put forward, 2 have previously been rejected. At the moment there is no further development or update. In the previous local plan there was an item relating to parking, this is being followed up with NEEP. It was reported that the people that attended were consultants and not officers. When feedback is received it will be passed on.

The Pylon response has been put forward and the response was in line with the Dedham Vale Society (DVS) and Colchester City Councils (CCC) and this will be on the website shortly.

Details of councillors will be updated asap and photos were requested from councillors to be sent to John Goldsbrough.

Royal Square – an update was requested – this is not being progressed at the moment.

**24/84 To approve the minutes of the last meeting (8<sup>th</sup> July 2024)**

These minutes had been previously circulated and were taken as a true and accurate account. There was an amendment under 24/66 which was agreed by the council. These were then signed.

Proposed Cllr Harrison seconded Cllr Bourn. All agreed.

**24/85 Visitors Report (CCC Thomas Rowe/ECC Cllr Lewis Barber)**

None present

**24/86 Clerks Report**

The previous Clerk had not left any report.

**24/87 Group 1 – Finance, Standards and Procedures**

To approve payments in accordance with the Budget Payments for August/September 2024

A Declaration of interests from Cllr Mole has an interest in a payment to be approved.

Payments to be approved;

Parish Clerk for August

£599.80

HMRC Tax/PAYE	138.20
Warden Salary	809.25
Materials for village - cement	19.47
PKF Littlejohn – External Auditor	504.00
LMC Media Management – Dedham Notes	120.00
Dedham Vale Tree Surgery – Coles Oak Lane	240.00
Colchester City Council – Contested Election Costs	1,687.80
Moser Groundcare – Ground Maintenance June	1,920.00
Moser Groundcare – Aug 24	612.00
S. Mole replacement security bollards	139.40
Freman & Sons – Footpath cutting July 24	1,800.00
	=====
Total	£ 8,349.92

These payments were proposed by Cllr Harrison Seconded by Cllr Mole All Agreed.  
These payments will be made by BACS by the signatories

Account balances;

Barclays Community Account £ 1,000.00

Barclays Business Account £282,292.70

The Cashbook and accounts were not available for the meeting as these have not been updated by the previous clerk. These will be updated and sent out via email when they are available.

There was a previous payment made to Colchester Borough Council (CBC) of £2,075.70 this was paid into the account number on the invoice. It appears that this was during the transfer to CCC from CBC. CCC have not received the money and they are looking into this and requesting payment again.

This payment is not going to be paid again by DPC until CCC have looked into this. This will possibly take a long while to resolve. DPC want to know where the money has been sent to before the new payment is made. The account number was clarified by CCC as being a previous CBC account.

Therapy fund invoices

The Clerk ask if she could request invoices from the Therapy Farm as to the use of the £10,000 donation for the public's information and for the reasons of transparency, this was agreed by the council. Clerk to write to the Therapy Farm for copies of the invoices.

#### **24/88 Group 2 – Community Environment**

Letter from Parish Council to National Grid in response to Pylons consultation.

This will be placed on the website.

#### **24/89 Group 3 Planning**

**Planning report recommendations on planning applications listed below**

89.1 Applications for discussion at meeting

**241439 – Mill House, Mill Lane, Dedham Colchester CO7 6DH**

Erection of detached 3-bay building for the undercover parking of domestic vehicles  
There have been no objections to this.

**PC Comment: No comment**

**89.2 Planning Applications – Observations conveyed under delegated authority since last meeting**

**241442 – Apple Tree Cottage, Anchor Lane, Dedham Essex CO7 6BX**

Proposed rearrangement of two internal doors to create an independent utility and install extraction fans in the utility and bathroom with joint exit vent through roof; replacement of existing glazed lantern in garden room with flush roof light and instal

**PC Comment No Comment**

**241466 – Monks Farm, Coles Oak Lane, Dedham Essex CO7 6DR**

Erection of two-storey rear extension and single-storey side extensions, including internal alterations; replacement outbuilding and new single-storey stable and store outbuilding

**PC Comment No Comment**

**241467 – Monks Farm, Coles Oak Lane, Dedham Essex CO7 6DR**

Erection of two-storey rear extension and single-storey side extensions, including internal alterations; replacement outbuilding and new single-storey stable and store outbuilding

**PC Comment: No Comment**

**241718 - Shermans House, High Street, Dedham Colchester CO7 6DE**

Internal alterations.

**PC Comment: No Comment**

**89.3 – Decisions received since last meeting**

**240947 –Thelthoma, Long Road West, Dedham Essex CO7 6EL**

Single storey rear extension, internal alterations and a new garage.

**Decision Approved Conditional**

**241058 –Little Garth, High Street, Dedham Essex CO7 6HJ**

Alterations to dwelling and garage to include changes to the fenestration and removal of external garage steps (REVISED DESCRIPTION)

**Decision Approved Conditional**

**24/90 Group 4 – Traffic & Parking (NEPP) sub group**

To discuss latest updates.

Cllr Neville was not at the meeting to report but the next NEPP meeting is September 10<sup>th</sup> a link will be sent round to councillors so they can join.

Nothing happened with the proposed changes that were discussed regarding charging in the High Street.

The road signs that were completed by the children are being appreciated around the village but unfortunately, the sign at the Manningtree Road has been taking down.

#### **24/91 Group 5 – River Management**

To discuss and approve Terms of Reference

An update was given with the river generally.

The survey has been taking place and DPC are waiting for this to come back. The landowner did not want the surveyors to go over his land individually which caused a bit of a problem.

There was a thought to have discussions in the future with the sewage people (Anglian Water) with regard to the sewage being put into the river water.

The Manningtree group are still monitoring the water condition and there will be a link on the website and a QR code will be made available on the bridge so people can see the quality of the water, this will show both good and bad water conditions.

There was a letter sent to Babergh and Suffolk County Council regarding signage, and these councils had no objections to signs being put up on the bridge regarding safety.

There are also conversations going on with Simon Amstutz of National Landscapes.

It was hoped to have these in place by next summer.

Following the last river meeting 3 councillors went to the Statford St Mary PC meeting where there was an exchange of conversations. There was agreement to have a joint meeting by both PC to discuss the river later in the year.

Website updating – This was raised and Cllr Sneddon will follow this up

The Terms of Reference had been previously circulated and were Proposed by Cllr Harrison and seconded by Cllr McLaughlin. All agreed. These will be published on the website.

#### **24/92 Dedham Youth Club.**

To discuss Funding from Locality Funding & the Local Community Fund

Cllr Main had circulated the information on this and the possible reinstatement of the Dedham Youth Club

4 Objectives were put forward ;

For YMCA, Church Volunteers/PCC, Independent DYC, East Anglia Youth Clubs to run the club. These were read out and discussed further.

The East Anglia Youth Clubs already runs Highwoods Youth Club and this will be investigated further by Cllr Main. The latter one seemed the best option for this village and DPC supported this in principle. This will be followed up by Cllr Main and brought back to the council with more details. A proper proposal will be put forward with funding and fundraising events suggested. Action Cllr Main

This would come under community group. Questions were asked regarding the costs of the staff and these were answered.

Cllr Main was thanked by Cllr Goodall for her work on this.

#### **24/93 Training Events**

93.1 Reports on attended events

93.2 Nomination for new events

Clerk to see if there are any new councillor training sessions available and to circulate dates.

**24/94 Information Exchange/Items for the next agenda**

Youth club update.

Footpath maintenance of path 48 which is not currently maintained. This will be brought forward for the cutting next year.

The trustees of the Munnings Museum requested a slot for the next meeting to present a proposal for use of their fields in the future.

This was agreed and Cllr McLaughlin will contact them.

Working groups will be revisited at the next meeting.

General discussions regarding committee size and wordings will be followed up at another meeting, updated placed on the next agenda.

**24/95 To confirm date and time of next meeting**

Date of next meeting Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 6:30pm

Cllr Mole stated that due to family reasons that he would be resigning as Chairman of the council after tonight's meeting. The Clerk advised that Council will not be properly constituted if it does not have a chairman and suggested that the current Vice Chair will take over the responsibilities of the Chair in the interim and at the next meeting (as not all the councillors are present at this meeting) a new Chairman and Vice Chairman will be voted on and agreed by the council.

This will be on the next agenda.

Proposed Cllr Harrison seconded Cllr McLaughlin. All agreed.

Meeting was closed at 19:28pm