

Serving the Communities of Abridge & Lambourne End

# MINUTES

Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 7.45pm in the Abridge Village Hall.

In attendance: Cllr D Hardy (Chairman), Cllr D Moggridge (Vice Chair), Cllr M Drewe, Cllr H Moore, Cllr W Knowles

Also in attendance: Mrs A Jones (Locum Clerk), PC Andy Cook\*, 11 members of the public including 3 representatives from Theydon Mount Parish Council\*

\* for part of meeting

# 23.214 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Karbaron and Cllr Shreeve.

# 23.215 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

# 23.216 RIDE LONDON / ESSEX

Mr Chris Davey from London Marathon Events had given his apologies, however Cllr Moggridge confirmed she had received information from Mr Davey that would be going out on social media and Link-Up in March addition.

#### 23.217 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman welcomed members of the public who were present. PC Cook provided a verbal update advising that the latest crime statistics indicated there were no burglaries, no thefts, and no criminal damage, with 22 reported incidents to Essex Police. Overall, it was a good month. PC Cook advised that some community work was completed which included a visit to a number of areas within the Parish with students delivering leaflets about the change in law regarding weapons and knives. He confirmed that one stolen vehicle had been found at Pancroft. Cllr Moore advised of the abandoned vehicle by Rose Villa, which had already been reported. The Chairman thanked PC Cook for his report. [PC Cook left the meeting]

# 23.218 MINERALS LOCAL PLAN

Councillors noted that communication had been received from Cllr Connell of Theydon Mount Parish Council regarding the current consultation on the Minerals Local Plan, and the Chairman invited Keith Farrow, Vice Chairman of Theydon Mount to address the Council. Cllr Farrow provided Councillors with an update on the Minerals Local Plan, advising the current consultation included an additional proposal site located within three parishes, which included Lambourne (numbered A63). The new plan would run to 2040, and Essex County Council needed to secure enough mineral sites for this period.

Cllr Farrow provided a precis of the consultant's report which evaluated the site, noting the following major factors which would affect residents in both this Parish and surrounding Parishes if it were to go ahead:

Increased traffic – noise and light contamination – general disturbance – residents quality of life
– loss of animals habitat – potential contamination of the River Roding – unpredictable impact on
water table (cannot control water – it needs to be pushed somewhere else) – detrimental visual
impact – possible on-site hazardous materials – site within Flood Zone 3 – increased bird



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population with potential of aircraft strike given its proximity to the air strip – archaeological impact, etc.

Cllr Farrow advised that Theydon Mount PC was doing everything it could to raise public awareness of the matter, as it was possible that this could simply pass residents by. He advised that following their Parish Council meeting schedule to be held the following Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> February, they were planning to hold a public meeting on the matter. The Chairman advised that Lambourne PC had only just been made aware of this, and that it would take some time for the information to filter out to residents. He also confirmed that all Lambourne Parish Councillors had received the information, including the consultant's report, and that information had been published on social media, however it was too early to expect to receive any feedback from residents.

After further detailed discussion, it was **AGREED** that a meeting would take place with members of both Theydon Mount PC and Lambourne PC after the meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> February to consider the most appropriate way forward. This could possibly include using the Abridge Village Hall as the location for a public meeting, as well as facilitating a collective response from Parish Councils in the area. The Chairman also confirmed he would speak with EFDC Cllr Craig McCann regarding the matter. The deadline for consultation responses was 19<sup>th</sup> March. The Chairman thanked the public who attended. [10 members of the public left the meeting]

# 23.219 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024 were **AGREED** and signed.

# 23.220 CLERKS REPORT

No report.

# 23.221 PLANNING

Councillors considered the following planning matters:

Number:	EPF/0221/24
Address:	Hawthorns, 90 Hoe Lane, Lambourne, Romford, RM4 1AU
Application:	Proposal for a replacement dwelling with associated landscaping works and
	enhancements.
Deadline:	4 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
Response:	The Parish Council <b>OBJECTS</b> to this application on the basis of overdevelopment. This
	development is contrary to policy DM4 (c) (iv) of the adopted Local Plan as the proposed
	building is materially larger than the one it replaces, and DM9 (d) (ii) as it fails to relate
	positively to the form, scale and massing around the site.

Councillors noted the following planning application for which EFDC would not normally accept comment:

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It was agreed that Cllr Moggridge would contact the neighbouring resident to advise.

Councillors noted the following appeals:

Number:	EPF/1959/236 (Appeal against refusal – AP-13295)
Address:	67 Fancy Free, Hoe Lane, Lambourne, Romford, RM4 1AU
Application:	Single-storey flat-roof rear extension at ground floor, set in from the existing structure, to
	contain workshop and w.c. Simultaneous application also submitted for roof extensions.
Number:	<u>EPF/1961/23 (Appeal against refusal – AP-13296)</u>
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Address:	67 Fancy Free, Hoe Lane, Lambourne, Romford, RM4 1AU
Address: Application:	67 Fancy Free, Hoe Lane, Lambourne, Romford, RM4 1AU Proposed addition of second floor, new roof structure with dormers towards rear of the

### 23.222 HR USE FOR COMPLIANCE

Councillors noted there was a saving to be had when purchasing bulk hourly time from Worknest to provide HR support to the Council. It was *AGREED* to purchase 10 hours in advance, representing a saving of £150. Cllr Knowles confirmed he would check if there was any restriction in terms of timeframe for use of these pre-purchased hours.

#### 23.223 REPORT FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

None.

#### 23.224 HIGHWAYS REPORT

Cllr Moore advised that she had been trying to liaise with Highways, who had in turn passed her on to District, and that she was still waiting for a response on various matters.

# 23.225 NEW PARISH COUNCILLORS

It was noted that Cllr Moggridge had been contacted by a resident who may be interested in becoming a Councillor, and who also may be able to complete playground maintenance. Cllr Knowles expressed caution about any conflict of interest. The Chairman noted that the other interested party could not be present this evening. *AGREED* this item should be deferred to the next meeting.

# 23.226 FINGER POST HOE LANE/MANOR ROAD

It was noted that a further quote had been received, the cost of which was £700 to manufacture and supply one period road sign painted in a black and white finish. 50% deposit would be required at the time of booking, and the balance due on collection of the item. This cost did not include installation. Proposed by Cllr Hardy that this quote be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Moore, after which a vote was taken, the result of which was unanimously *AGREED*. Councillors *AGREED* the up-front payment for Tim of £350.

#### 23.227 REVIEW OF COUNCIL POLICIES

As not everybody had received a copy of the policies in question, it was **AGREED** to defer this item to the next meeting.

### 23.228 CONFIRM THE INTERNAL AUDITOR FOR 23/24

Councillors **AGREED** to confirm the appointment of Val Evans PSLCC as the Internal Auditor for 23/24, however it was noted that it was not good practice to retain the same auditor for a prolonged period of



time, and as such it was agreed this matter should be considered again at a future meeting with reference to the 24/25 financial year's audit.

# 23.229 REPORT OF RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER

a) Councillors authorised the payment of cheques listed on the RFO Report which was tabled at the meeting. The cheques are:

101183 – Pinnacles Housing (grass cutting) 101184 – TSB Hygiene (dog bins)	£ 240.00 £ 153.72
101185 – WorkNest Ltd. (HR)	£4460.40
101186 – <i>cancelled</i> 101187 – A&J Lighting (Steet light mtce)	£ 98.40
101188 – N Power Commercial Gas (Electric/lamppost)	£ 77.89
101189 – T.C.Barr Woodworx Ltd. (deposit finger post)	£ 350.00
Direct Debit – A.Carter (Clerk)	£ 810.87

b) Noted that a Bank Reconciliation was not available for the meeting.

### 23.230 INFORMATION EXCHANGE

The following matters were raised:

- Cllr Moggridge advised that EFDC would be supplying this Parish Council with a free portrait of King Charles III.
- Cllr Moore advised she had looked into the cost and supply of speed signage, with prices ranging from £184-£230, albeit signs were also available at a much cheaper price on Amazon. Noted that Cllr Moore and the Chairman would walk around the Parish to establish suitable locations at which to locate this signage. This matter should be an agenda item for the March meeting.
- Cllr Moore advised that Community Speedwatch Volunteers were still needed. Cllr Knowles advised he was happy to assist with the Lambourne Ward, stating that a specific location needed to be agreed. Training can be either online or in person. It was noted that information asking for volunteers would be placed on social media to try and encourage more volunteers, with comments being available on the community page.
- Cllr Drewe advised he was still waiting to hear back from the Diocese regarding the removal of the Clock from the Church building in Abridge, noting that the clock will need to be removed and altered to electric operation.
- The Chairman advised that the Christmas Lighting contract had come to an end, and that three quotes would be obtained for periods of 1 and 3 years. This needed to be resolved and a contract in place by mid-year.
- Cllr Moore advised there was a company in Aythorpe Roding who provided 30ft Christmas Trees, including delivery, and was waiting to hear back on pricing.
- Cllr Moggridge advised that the Link-Up deadline was this coming weekend, and that she would put something together with useful information including all the normal items, Ride London, the Minerals Local Plan, and anything else of relevance from this evening's meeting. Noted that the matter of funding for Link-Up, along with Stapleford PCC, should be followed up.



**23.231 DATE OF NEXT MEETING/AGM** Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024 in the in the Abridge Village Hall.

# Meeting Closed 8.55pm

Signed.....

Date.....