

Minutes of the East Mersea Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall, East Road, East Mersea at 7.30pm on Thursday 8th January 2015.

Present: Cllrs: David Jones, David Sunnucks, Jeff Mason (chair), Anne Leggett-Auld, Margaret Lawford, Clerk: Sue Pullen, Borough Cllr: Robert Davidson and 2 members of the public.

120.15 Apologies for absence: County Cllr Kevin Bentley, Zone Warden

121.15 To confirm the minutes for the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 13th November 2014: Cllr Sunnucks proposed, Cllr Lawford seconded and all agreed that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting.

122.15 Declarations of Interest: None

123.15 Public participation session: The proposal of West Mersea closing all their public toilets except one was considered to be a very bad idea for many reasons, health and safety being the main objection. We will write to the appropriate body to express our major concerns. A hedge on the roadside edge of a property in Shop Lane is overgrown and the owner will be contacted to request trimming it back. A request was made for people who display posters advertising local events should remove them soon after the event has taken place.

124.15 To receive report Zone Warden: None received

125.15 To receive reports from County and Borough Cllrs: Road surface repair work has now been carried out along Bromans Lane. Cllr Davidson attended the NAP (Neighbourhood Action Panel) meeting held at West Mersea Town Council Offices which was not generally well attended and there was no police presence as they now hold their Local Community Meetings in various places around Colchester. At the parish council's request the Ivy Lane application has been 'called-in' and a parish councillor will hopefully attend the CBC Planning Committee Meeting when this application is discussed to express our concerns. CBC will be contacted about people now living at Cosways Caravan Park that were living at Coopers Beach as the latter has been closed due to renovation works taking place there.

126.15 Precept 2015/2016: After due consideration Cllr Jones proposed, Cllr Mason seconded and all agreed to keep our CBC precept/grant requirements the same as last year. Although our bank balance is reasonably substantial it was thought that with the on-going Rural Housing Scheme funds could well be required at some point.

127.15 Clerk's Salary: In line with National Salary Awards Cllr Mason proposed, Cllr Sunnucks seconded and all agreed for the clerk to be awarded the new rate of pay (totalling an extra £7.06 per month) and a one-off payment of £18.92 (pro-rata of £100 per 37 hour week) with effect from 1st January 2015.

128.15 Rural Housing: Discussions with Land Management will take place in the near future about area of land available/required.

129.15 Footpath Map: Colchester Press will be contacted for a price for printing.

130.15 Seawalls: A letter will be written from the parish council to the Environment Agency to express our deep concerns, particularly with regard to health and safety, about the crumbling and dangerous sea defence wall.

131.15 Newsletter: Someone has kindly agreed to put this together for the parish council and East Mersea residents and drafts for a format etc will follow.

132.15 Caravan Parks: A meeting had taken place between parish councillors and the Park Resorts Commercial Manager which proved reasonably positive including mention of no more advertising at The Strood and along East Road and an invitation to our February parish council meeting will be offered. It is hoped and will be requested for regular meetings with CBC for updates on their inspections and subsequent results at Coopers Beach.

133.15 Planning Applications:

134.15 Correspondence: circulated including CBC Development Policies and Core Strategy

135.15 Schedule of payments to be made.

08/01/15	260	Clerk's salary - Dec	321.63
08/01/15	261	EMVH - hire	120.00
08/01/15	262	EALC – Local Councils	53.49
08/01/15	263	Mark Farthing – grass cuts	100.00
08/01/15	264	SLCC – annual subs	61.13
08/01/15	265	Clerk's salary - Jan	321.63

£ 977.88

136.15 Matters to be raised on the next agenda

Caravan Parks

Seawalls

Rural housing

Supporting Independent Living presentation from Community Agent Tony King

Footpaths map

Newsletter

Meeting closed at 8.40pm