Minutes of the East Mersea Parish Council meeting held at East Mersea Village Hall on Thursday 12th October 2023

Present: Cllrs Jeff Mason (chair), David Sunnucks, Margaret Lawford, Clerk Sue Pullen, City Cllr Robert Davidson, and one member of the public

100.23 Apologies for absence: Cllrs Sandy Salmonese, Emma Green, County Cllr Kevin Bentley

101.23 To confirm the minutes for the meeting held on Thursday 14th September 2023: it was agreed by all and accepted as a true record of the meeting and signed by the chairman.

102.23 Declarations of Interest: None

103.23 Public Participation Session: ECC Head of Climate Adaptation & Mitigation has offered to come to a future parish council meeting to explain about utilising a field on Mersea for BNG and we will be accepting this offer. Overgrown footpaths will be addressed by a local handyman who will be approached for further regular work on the footpaths.

104.23 County Councillor Report: The worst pot holes can be reported for immediate repair to Cllr Bentley with photo evidence and What3Words.

105.23 City Councillor Report: Consultations are taking place about forming Greater Essex Authority which would include Southend and Thurrock. A Boundary Review will take place in 2026. Refuse Centres booking system is scheduled to continue but comments can still be lodged until 19th Oct. The next review of CCC Local Plan for 5 years has begun.

106.23 Speed Signs: The new signs have now been installed and various set-up problems have occurred and therefore one has been returned to the manufacturers for recalibrating. We are now taking names of any residents who would like to join a team of volunteers to carry out speed gun training and subsequent use of a speed gun in East Mersea, contact the clerk to add your name.

107.23 Update on bank accounts: Progress has been made re online banking.

108.23 Seawall update: Environmental Agency will begin repair work in early November this year. It has been requested that a more substantial and lasting job will be made of the repairs this time as the previous work was very poor with the use of inferior materials.

109.23 Caravan Parks: It was noted that evidence of people still residing in caravans on the caravan parks is obvious and we will endeavour to make progress again for with CCC with new members in office, for action to eradicate this unlawful behaviour.

110.23 Planning Applications:

232265 Proposal: Single storey side extension and enclosed porch, conversion of remaining garage and new garage at Wayside Elm, East Road – the parish council is supportive of this application.

232327 Proposal: Pond with spoil to be distributed around existing field at Reeves Hall, Meeting Lane – the parish council is supportive of this application.

Planning Decisions:

231930 (& 231929) Proposal: Change of use of barns at Rewsalls Old Barn, Rewsalls Lane – **Approve conditional**

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111.23 Schedule of payments to be made:

12/10/23	Oct salary	412.53
12/10/23	Data Protection	40.00
Total		£452.53

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 9th November 2023 in East Mersea Village Hall at 7.30pm.