

Minutes of the East Mersea Parish Council meeting held at East Mersea Village Hall on Thursday 8th February 2024

Present: Cllrs Jeff Mason (chair), David Sunnucks, Margaret Lawford, Emma Green, Sandy Salmonese, Clerk Sue Pullen, City Councillor Robert Davidson and 2 members of the public

14.24 Apologies for absence: County Cllr Kevin Bentley

15.24 To confirm the minutes for the meeting held on Thursday 11th January 2024, it was agreed by all and accepted as a true record of the meeting and signed by the chairman.

16.24 Declarations of Interest: None

17.24 Public Participation Session: A resident was critical of the parish council's commitment to getting the seawall repaired but we would disagree because we have engaged with the Environment Agency, who would be the body to carry out this work, we have a parish councillor who is on the committee of the Essex Coastal Organisation (ECO) that is also dedicated to see this work carried out and we know that County Cllr Kevin Bentley is also in contact with EA regarding this. As a parish council we have no powers to insist that the Environment Agency does any work at all.

18.24 County Councillor Report: None

19.24 City Councillor Report: Colchester City Council budget meeting will take place at the end of the month and it is expected that the council tax will increase by 3-4%. Following the consultation on the division boundaries they have now been confirmed. CCC has yet to decide how many City Councillors there will be.

20.24 East Mersea Footpaths: Sections of footpaths have been cleared by a local resident and a farmer. Future work will be assessed before taking place.

21.24 Seawall update: See public session above and we will continue our engagement with the Environmental Agency.

22.24 Caravan Parks: We have now received a reply to the letter sent to CCC requesting some positive action with regard to caravan parks' illegal residency which we are not happy with. A meeting with CCC Chief Executive will be requested and a meeting with the manager of a caravan park regarding a lighting issue.

23.24 Schedule of payments to be made:

Feb 2024	Salary	428.54
Feb 2024	Footpath clearance	105.00
Feb 2024	Speed signs	11,011.08
Total		£11,544.62

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 14th March 2024 in East Mersea Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Signed _____ Thursday 14th March 2024