

Minutes of the East Mersea Parish Council meeting held at East Mersea Village Hall on Thursday 10th October 2024

Present: Cllrs Jeff Mason (chair), Emma Green, Sandy Salmonese, Margaret Lawford, David Sunnucks, Clerk Sue Pullen, City Cllrs Martin Parsons, Robert Davidson and 1 member of the public

86.24 Apologies for absence: County Cllr Kevin Bentley

87.24 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12th September 2024, it was agreed by all and accepted as a true record of the meeting and signed by the chairman.

88.24 Declarations of Interest: None

89.24 Public Participation Session: It was noted that the Cudmore Grove entrance gate has been mended and is now in operation. We will suggest to ECC that a CCTV and or sign is installed for future observation. We will also complain to Highways that traffic lights are left up far too long after road repairs have taken place or, in some cases, for no apparent work taking place at all. With total disregard for the speed signs from some drivers we will request periodic attendance from the police operating speed gun checks and West Mersea Speedwatch Team.

90.24 City Cllr Report: The new refuse and recycling system will be rubber stamped at the next full council meeting. All households will receive a free black wheelie bin for general waste and a brown one for all recyclable items such as paper, card, plastic, tins; glass will still be put in the green boxes. The CCC Draft Local Plan timetable has been put back owing to changes to the National Planning Policy Framework.

91.24 Stunt Planes have been causing a nuisance and having now found out the contact details for the plane and flying club responsible we will try and negotiate a different area for these acrobatics to take place, preferably out and over the sea.

92.24 Seawall update: Repairs to the seawall have taken place by the Environment Agency. It would appear to be a good job although there is some concrete left on site. We will invite the chairman of the Essex Coast Organisation to the November parish council meeting to give us an update on the future of seawalls.

93.24 Village Party: Mersea Barns has agreed to host this event for the parish council again and it will take place on Saturday 7th June 2025. Invitation flyers will be delivered to all households in East Mersea. Entertainment, etc is yet to be arranged.

94. Affordable/Low-Cost Housing: A meeting was attended at the RCCE offices. A project was started about 10 years ago for a number of houses but owing to new government laws at the time the project came to a halt. Following the recent meeting with the CCC Local Plan Team a small number of houses was considered to be a good idea using Rural Exception Site legislation with possibly a second village envelope around the village hall, Mersea Barns, the church and Baring Gould Cottages. We will be holding a public meeting with RCCE officers in attendance in the village hall for all residents to put forward their views on the matter. Following the meeting the next step will be a survey delivered to all houses, to establish future housing needs, for completion and returned to RCCE with total confidentiality. We also hope to include local business workers. The government stipulates that housing in and around Colchester must increase by 1290 each year until 2041, with that in mind this would be

Signed _____ Thursday 14th November 2024

a small contribution to that fitting a small village like East Mersea in reference to a larger development.

95.24 Caravan Parks: Nothing to report

96.24 Schedule of payments to be made:

Oct 2024	Salary October	428.54
Oct 2024	Information Commissioner – Data Protection	40.00
Total		£468.54

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

Signed _____ Thursday 14th November 2024