

**Dedham Parish Council**  
www.dedhamparishcouncil.co.uk



Clerk to the Council: Emma Cansdale 2 Goose Green Cottages Colchester Road Wix, Manningtree CO11 2PD
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clerk@dedhamparishcouncil.co.uk
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Tel. 01255 871483
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Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council in the Duchy Barn on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019 at 7.30pm

**Present:** Cllr Sheila Beeton (chair), Cllr Nicola Baker (vice-chair), Cllr Kevin Taylor, Cllr Ann Follows, Cllr Jane Meakin, Cllr Jonathan Smith

**105.19. Apologies for absence.**

Cllr Herbert, Cllr Frost

**106.19. Declaration of Interest.** Councillors to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests, other pecuniary interests, and non-pecuniary interests not already declared.

None

**107.19. Minutes**

The minutes of meeting held on 01.07.2019. were accepted as a correct record, and duly signed by the chair.

**108.19. Update on items from last meeting, not reported separately and other updates and reports.**

- **Environment, Safety & Infrastructure group update.** Cllr Follows reported that a number of complaints regarding overgrown hedges and verges and overhanging trees had been received. There are a number of environmental and parking issues around the river. Large amounts of rubbish are being left along the river, by the overflowing bins and in the river. Neighbourhood Watch has had some teething problems sending emails to all members, but this has now been resolved. Speed watch are seeking additional volunteers. They also highlighted the speeding issue on Long Road West, The 30mph limit request to the LHP is to be resubmitted.

Increasing prevalence of fly tipping in the village.

Parking - survey has been carried out. There is a general improvement, however, towards the end of the summer it has deteriorated. Over the bank holiday weekend, the parking was again appalling, with numerous instances of illegal parking.

There is a parking review meeting with CBC next week where this issue will be discussed.

- **Lighting project update**  
There will be a working group meeting between now and the next meeting.

**109.19. Have Your Say.**

**Report from Cllr Nigel Chapman. Ward Councillor.**

Speed on Castle Hill is a real concern, particularly with an increased volume of visitors going into Munnings, which needs to be included in the LHP application.

**Report from Cllr Ann Brown. Essex County Councillor.**

None

Resident - Speed of traffic particularly on Crown Street is getting worse. Clerk to speak to John Tavener (SW) to request a speed watch team on Crown Street and to also speak to them about Trucam.

Resident- There are a number of anti-social and parking issue on Manningtree Road.

**110.19. Accounts.**

- a) To receive accounts and agree payments, cheques/Bacs totally £2,459.01  
**Proposed: Cllr Follows**  
**Seconded: Cllr Baker**  
**Agreed by all**

**111.19. Planning Advisory Group.** Cllr Kevin Taylor.

- a) To receive and agree recommendations on the following planning applications.  
191971 Thorne Roughets, Anchor Lane, Dedham. Detached single garage, one and a half storey and single storey rear extensions, insertion of a new rear dormer window and remodelling of the 19th century extension, plus partial demolition.  
*Recommendation: No objection to the revised plans.*
- 192015 Brook House- Garden shed.  
*Recommendation: No objection*

**Proposed: Cllr Taylor**  
**Agreed by all**

- b) To note comments made on the following applications during August.

192015  
191943  
191894  
191861  
191835

A no objection recommendation was given for all the above applications.

Langham Development,  
191830, School Road, Langham. Concerns raised regarding the discharge of surface water into a local waterway, which may lead in to Black Brook, which may affect water flows.  
**DPC will comment on this application including the potential flood risk to Dedham.**

- c) Local Plan update  
Public consultation now open until 30<sup>th</sup> September.  
DPC agreed to submit a response again, to the new consultation, which more specific issues, rather than the original broad response.

**112.19. Play Equipment\*\***

It was resolved to relocate and modify the existing wooden adult equipment in line with the report. Quotes to be taken under a closed session- item 120/19  
This will be reviewed again next summer.

**Proposed: Cllr Baker**  
**Seconded: Cllr Taylor**  
**Agreed by all**

Comments: A resident complained about the location of the items near his property. Some of the pieces are being used regularly, especially throughout the summer. The use is a) families with young children, who make a lot of noise, and b) by adolescents who 'hang around' the two large pieces particularly in the evening. They are often shouting, swearing and playing loud music. He had no objection to the increasing number of football matches and practices and other sports activities that also caused noise but he did wish to have some peaceful enjoyment of his garden. He does not believe the Parish Council should be supporting equipment that encourages this sort of anti-social behaviour and whilst he appreciated the offer to relocate two pieces of equipment (the gate climb and parallel bars) the retention of the chin up bars would still, in his view, cause some remaining nuisance. He indicated that if a piece of equipment was to be retained, he would prefer this to be the parallel bars rather than the gate climb.

Cllr. Baker responded that it should be acknowledged that notwithstanding the above comments the equipment does still get regular use for the intended purpose i.e. exercise equipment. It was also the case that in relocating any of the equipment in question she had to take account of the views of the tennis club which also had concerns about the

proximity of equipment to the courts. Her proposals therefore represented a compromise solution which she hoped that all would buy into.

In discussion cllrs explored the potential for moving the gate climb rather than the parallel bars but this was not considered sensible because the proximity of the bars to the remaining hurdles made this a sensible piece of equipment to relocate.

It was **agreed by all** to relocate the equipment in accordance with the revised report with the retention of the chin up bars in their current location being regularly monitored to access any continuing impact of noise abuse.

#### **113.19. Litter Picker Vacancy**

To note the resignation of the litter picker, and agree for the Personnel Committee to review the schedule, risk assessments and contract prior to advertising the post.

**Agreed.**

#### **114.19. Hedges and Verges**

To resolve to undertake regular verge and hedge cutting on additional problematic areas around the village, and to seek quotes.

**Withdrawn. To bring back a detailed formal proposal to the next meeting.**

#### **115.19. VE Day Celebrations**

- a) To receive a report on the proposed village event
- b) It was resolved to support the event in general and to provide financial support for the over 70's afternoon tea.
- c) It was resolved to give a donation to the event organisers of £695 for the express purpose of the band costs, with an initial deposit of £100, made payable to Dedham PCC.

**Proposed: Cllr Taylor**

**Seconded: Cllr Meakin**

**Agreed by all.**

#### **116.19 Website**

Cllr Taylor gave a report on the proposed changes to our current website provider, EssexInfo (via ECC), who plan to end the service from next year.

The impact on parish councils (and other sport/community groups that use the service) will be great. There is not simple way to transfer a website to another provider. Each site will have to be created from scratch. This will take time and cause inconvenience, and may result in parish councils not complying with the Transparency Act. It was agreed that DPC should write to the EALC and express a wish for them to co-ordinate with parish councils in coming to a resolution. If the reason for ECC no longer providing this service is the cost, many parish councils may be willing to pay for it.

It was also agreed for submit an FOI to ECC to establish the existing cost of running the service.

#### **117.19. Flood Planning**

To discuss proposed dates for the Environment Agency's (EA) consultation.

Cllr Smith reported that the EA have completed the recent flood model.

The details will be shared with the householders (but not the parish council).

The EA would like to hold a drop-in session for the residents affected, and any other interested residents.

Date to be set for mid to late October.

#### **118.19. Correspondence. Clerk**

- Parking and access issues on the playing field during medical emergencies- First responders/ambulance service.

There has been another instance of the football pitch of an injury, where the ambulance couldn't get through, either via Southfields because of the parked cars, or past the flower pots and vegetation on the Drift coming from Royal Square. The barrier gateway very narrow.

Serious consideration needs to be given to how to resolve this issue, but in the short term it was agreed that the sports club should look into how to get their members to park appropriately, reducing the vegetation on The Drift, and leaving the Duchy barn end bollards down.  
Short term help would be to leave them down.

- EALC AGM will be held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September. DPC will ask for the website issues to be discussed.

**119.19. Matters of continuing reference.**

- **BT Manhole leakage.**
- **Highways Devolution.**
- **Special Constable.**

**Date and Time of the next meeting.** Parish Council Meeting, Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2019, 7.30pm Duchy Barn

**Forthcoming events**

Coffee with Cops Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September, Duchy Barn, 10.30- 12.30

Tea and Tablets Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September, Duchy Barn. 2pm-4pm

*Closed session in accordance with the Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960*

**120/19- Wooden Play Equipment relocation**

To receive quote for the relocation of the Play Equipment- as agreed on item 112/19

Quotes were discussed and a contractor appointed, subject to further confirmation.

**121.18. Correspondence pt2**

- Royal Visit. Essex Police

\*\* reports available on the website or from the clerk