



Clerk to the Council: Bridget Tighe

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Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held in the Small Hall, Ogilvie Hall, Wignall Street, Lawford, CO11 2JG on Monday 20th January 2025 at 6.30pm

Present:

Cllr V Guglielmi	Cllr C Guglielmi
Cllr T Barrett	Cllr B Chester
Cllr M Kinsmore	Cllr L Castell
Cllr W Saint James	Cllr D Thurlow
Cllr K Symon	Cllr D Harty

In attendance B. Tighe (Clerk)

291/2024 Apologies for Absence There were no apologies for absence received.

292/2024 To receive members declarations of interest on items that appear on the agenda.
There were no declarations of interest received.

293/2024 Minutes

- a) It was **resolved** to approve the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 16th December 2024 and they were signed by the Chair.

294/2024 Public Participation – Representatives from Rose Builders and PACE attended the meeting along with two members of the public.

- A member of the public spoke about the risks to pedestrians using Manningtree Station as there was no safe crossing. This was discussed and it was agreed that Cllr C Guglielmi would send the resident a copy of the most recent correspondence on the issue
- A representative from Rose Builders explained the workings of the hybrid batteries in the new building and the number of batteries required was discussed
- A representative from Rose Builders presented the option of extending the red lines outside Lawford School further along the Avenue. This was discussed.
- John Hall from PACE updated the meeting on progress with organising the Earth Festival for 2025 and said he would update again in the future and would also be asking for a financial contribution for the event
- A member of the public thanked Cllr C Guglielmi for his work on getting repairs to Wignall Street footpath and Cllr C Guglielmi said he would keep him updated on progress.

295/2024 To receive reports and updates.

The Councillors and Police Reports:

- a) The District Councillor report. This report was noted.
- b) The County Councillor's report. This report was noted.
- c) Operation Quasar report. This report was noted.

296/2024 To receive general updates.

- a) Planning review. Cllr Chester had previewed the planning applications (24/01851/LUXX and 24/01730/FULHH) and suggested that no comment was required by the Parish Council. This was agreed.

- b) Website and social media review. Cllr D Harty said he would arrange some training with the Clerk for the new website. Some Councillors mentioned they were having difficulty accessing documents from the google drive so Cllr Harty said he would look at this.
- c) Manningtree as a Hub. Cllr Barrett said he was chasing the Xmas lights spend and would report at the next meeting.
- d) Civic Building. The task list was discussed, and it was agreed to discuss further at the meeting on Thursday 23rd January with Rose Builders. It was **resolved** to install the minimum hybrid batteries for now, carry out a data usage assessment after one year and then add more batteries if required.
- e) Play Zone. Cllr C Guglielmi reported that Mistley PC had also put reserves aside for this project and he would know more about the decision to award after his meeting with Tendring District Council.
- f) Devolution meeting update. Cllr C Guglielmi reported that Essex County Council had submitted a letter to Government asking to be considered to take part in the Priority Programme for Devolution. The Council should hear before 24 February 2025 whether this request has been accepted and Cllr Guglielmi would update at the next meeting.
- g) Lithium-ion batteries campaign. It was agreed that Cllr C Guglielmi would raise this campaign at Essex County Council.
- h) Quasar Enforcement Powers. Update Cllr C Guglielmi said he would arrange to meet with ACC Andy Mariner and report back at the next meeting.

297/2024 To receive Public Realm committee updates:

Street lighting

- a) Streetlighting on Mill Hill. Cllr Thurlow reported that there had been no update received on this licence application.
- b) Streetlighting on Riverview. Cllr Thurlow updated the meeting saying he was considering putting 4 off grid streetlights on Riverview footpath that would be dual solar/wind. All agreed for him to seek funding for this project. However, Cllr B Chester asked if Cllr Thurlow could investigate whether there would be a noise impact on the residents from the hum of the turbine. Cllr Thurlow agreed to investigate this and it was suggested that there could be a pilot of one light initially to understand the level of noise created. Cllr Thurlow said this would not probably be delivered until 2026.

Grass cutting

- c) Discussions with Tendring District Council - grass cutting. Cllr C Guglielmi said he would chase this

Trees

- d) Tree to be felled at 55 School Lane. The Clerk agreed to check whether the crowning of this tree had been completed.
- e) John O'Mara Memorial Tree. Cllr C Guglielmi reported that a Cherry Tree was the preferred option for the family and Cllr D Thurlow said he would action this.
- f) Annual Tree inspections. Cllr D Thurlow said these were resuming on Monday 27th January 2025.

General

- g) Bus shelter on Wignall Street. Cllr C Guglielmi reported that this was a work in progress, and he would update at the next meeting.
- h) Pavement on Wignall Street. Cllr C Guglielmi had shared email correspondence regarding this issue and said he would update at the next meeting as the work was ongoing.
- i) Bus shelter on Queensway. Cllr Thurlow reported that this was ongoing.
- j) Parking issues at Lawford School. This was discussed and councillors **resolved** to extend the red lines outside Lawford School further along the Avenue. Cllr L Castell said she was still waiting to hear from the school regarding the Mosaic Project and would update at the next meeting.



- k) Parking issue on Cotman Avenue. Cllr C Guglielmi reported that he was still waiting for the costs for further restrictions and would update at the next meeting.
- l) Island at junction of Dedham Road/Harwich Road/Wignall St. The island was now complete with new signage to be installed, and new street name signage required. This would be discussed at the next meeting.
- m) PACE permission to run a pond survey workshop at Summers Park Pond. This was discussed and agreed.
- n) COVID Day of Reflection Sunday 9th March. This was discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk would ask the Church if they had any plans for this.
- o) Pride of Tending Awards Invitation. This was discussed and agreed that two members would attend on behalf of the parish council
- p) The TDC Heritage List Consultation. There were no suggestions received at this meeting, but it was agreed that the Clerk would send out the paperwork again as a reminder of the sorts of structures that could be included in the list.

298/2024 To receive Administration Committee updates:

a) Council's expenditure

- i) It was **resolved** to approve the list of expenditure for January 2025 as below:

Direct Debits		Amount	VAT	£
BT	Office phone	61.97	12.39	74.36
Ogilvie Hall	Monthly Rent for the Parish Office	500.00		500.00
Barclaycard payments				-
Buzzsprout	Podcast facility*			-
Items for BACS payment				-
Salary	Month ending January 2025	1,363.47		1,363.47
LGPS	Month ending January 2025	551.64		551.64
Ogilvie Hall	Room rental	27.50		27.50
Dependable Dave	Handyman Services in December	520.00		520.00
Npower Business Solutions	Streetlight power for January 2024	84.27	4.21	88.48
Barclaycard	Minimum amount	62.24		62.24
Evergreen Office Supplies	Black bin bags	58.96	11.79	70.75
Monthly Spend		3,230.05	28.39	3,258.44

*\$18.00 paid to Buzzsprout for podcast facility. I will know amount in £ when goes through bank.

- ii) It was **resolved** to approve the bank reconciliation for December 2024.
- iii) Bank Statement closing balance for December was noted at £92,274.34.
- iv) Budget variance report was noted.
- v) Budget showing earmarked reserves report was noted.
- vi) Verification of bank reconciliations. Cllr W Saint James reported that she had verified the Quarter 3 accounts with the bank balance.

- vii) Roadmap of capital projects. Cllr Harty said he would like feedback on the format and the projects. This was agreed.

299/2024 Any Matters for Future Discussion

- a) Stand at Tendring Show 2025. It was agreed to set up a Sub-Committee for this event and Cllrs V Guglielmi, L Castell, M Kinsmore, B Chester and W Saint James would be its members.
- b) VE Day 80 Event. Being discussed at Public Realm Committee.
- c) Policy review. Cllr W Saint James reminded the meeting that another date was required to resume the policy reviews. This was agreed. The Clerk to action.
- d) Pavement on Cox's Hill. It was agreed that the Clerk would take photographs of the narrow part of the pavement on Cox's Hill and send to Cllr C Guglielmi so he could raise with Essex Highways.

300/2024 Any Items for information

- a) Swings on School Lane – being removed by Cllr Harty in the spring.

Signature (Chair):

Date: