



ST OSYTH PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held at the Village Hall, St Osyth on Thursday 20th January 2022 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT: Chairman: Cllr. Sonia Grantham, Vice-Chairman: Cllr. Alma Blockley
Cllr's Gary Coe, David Cooper, Ray French, John Lockwood,
Karen Sinclair, Michael Talbot, Julie Ward & John White

Cllr. Alan Goggin, Essex County Councillor (arrived at 8.35 pm)

APOLOGIES: Cllr's Mandy Kelly & Michele Thomas

MINUTES: Neil Williams (Parish Clerk)

PUBLIC PRESENT: None

OM-21-169 MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

The Chairman advised Councillors, that under Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011 and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012, they had a responsibility to declare any Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interests in any matter to be discussed.

Cllr. Coe declared a Non-Pecuniary Interest in respect of Planning Application 21/01910/FUL.

OM-21-170 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

	APPLICATION & ADDRESS	PROPOSAL
a.	21/01910/FUL Mr R Clarke Longbarn, Blackwater Farm Lee Wick Lane, St Osyth	Proposed change of use from existing agricultural building to a dwellinghouse. No objections.
b.	21/01930/FUL Mr & Mrs Green Building Adjacent to Westcroft Rectory Road, St Osyth	Proposed change of use of existing building from office to dwelling. No objections.
c.	21/01932/FUL Mr & Mrs Felton Bushwood, Rectory Road Weeley Heath St Osyth	Proposed conversion of existing chicken shed (unused and previously part of working farm) into 123sqm 4 bedroom C3 dwelling. No objections.
d.	21/01939/FUL Mr A White 92 Western Promenade Point Clear Bay	Proposed demolition of heavily damaged 2 bed dwelling and the erection of a new 2 bed replacement dwelling. No objections.

e.	21/02029/VOC Ms D Manning 289 Point Clear Road St Osyth	Variation of condition 5 (approved plans list) of 15/00884/FUL - revised window openings/roof light (retrospective). The Parish Council objects to this retrospective application on the basis that, whilst at first glance, the variation of condition appears to relate solely to the rotation of the approved single window from vertical to horizontal, the inclusion of a second horizontal window, gives cause for concern, given the comments of the occupant of the neighbouring property regarding intrusion into certain areas of their home. The Parish Council would request that if minded to approve this application, the District Council stipulate that at the very least, the glass in the windows on the eastern elevation of the first floor be fitted with obscured glass, to protect the privacy and amenities of the occupiers of the adjoining property.
f.	21/02059/FUL Atlant Builders Ltd Tamarisk Oakmead Road St Osyth	Erection of two semi-detached dwellings following demolition of existing dwelling (alteration to planning approval 20/00253/FUL). Whilst the Parish Council does not object to the application per se, Councillors have reservations as to the provision of sufficient parking, given that the two three-bed properties could potentially be home to eight adults of driving age. The Parish Council would also request that the first-floor windows, on both the eastern and western elevations, be fitted with obscured glass, so as to protect the privacy and amenities of the occupiers of the adjoining property.
g.	21/02082/OUT Mr S Singleton 225 Point Clear Road St Osyth	Outline with All Matters Reserved for a proposed residential dwelling. No objections.
h.	21/02129/FUL Park Holidays UK Ltd Oaklands Holiday Village Colchester Road St Osyth	Proposed use of land for the stationing of static holiday caravans and lodges and associated works. The Parish Council strongly object to this application on the basis that, if approved, the additional 138 pitches, will potentially result in an increase of 276 vehicles, entering and exiting the site, from and onto the B1027, in an area where there have been numerous accidents, including several fatalities.

		<p>Albeit that tourism is a major industry within Tendring District, the Parish Council has concerns that additional large scale holiday accommodation within the vicinity of St Osyth will impact on the already struggling infrastructure, especially the road system, which due to the use of the bridge linking the holiday parks at St Osyth Beach and Martello Beach, by visitors to the latter, together with residents of Jaywick, is seeing a marked increase in traffic passing through the village.</p> <p>The Parish Council is also aware that the owners of St Osyth Priory are planning to build out the Wellwick site (190 dwellings) within the next 18 months, which see potentially up to 360 additional vehicles, based on 2 cars per property.</p> <p>Additionally, the increase in visitors staying in holiday accommodation also impacts on retailers such as national supermarket chains, whose stock is often depleted, to the detriment of local residents.</p>
i.	<p>21/02152/TCA c/o Mr J Choat The Coach House 110 Colchester Road St Osyth</p>	<p>1 x Leyland cypress - fell and ground stump. 1 x Sallow Salix caprea - Reduce crown height by 3m and lateral spread by 1.5 / 2m to form natural domed crown shape. 1 x Sycamore Acer Pseudoplatanus - Reduce crown height by 3m and lateral spread by 1.5 / 2m to form natural domed crown shape.</p> <p>The Parish Council refers this application to the TDC Tree & Landscape Officer for consideration.</p>
j.	<p>21/02168/FULHH Mr & Mrs Martin Ampers Barn Rectory Road, St Osyth</p>	<p>Proposed two storey rear extension.</p> <p>No objections.</p>
k.	<p>22/00046/NMA St Osyth Priory Estate Ltd St Osyth Priory The Bury St Osyth</p>	<p>Non-material amendment sought to 18/01166/FUL to substitute the approved house type on plots 8 and 10 from house type G2 to house type F, there is no change to the unit mix proposed (both the approved and the proposed house types are 4 bed units). To extend the garage to the rear at plot 13 and to change the approved materials for plots 8 and 10 to brick and boarded (from brick and render).</p> <p><i>Noted - for information only.</i></p>
l.	<p>21/02003/LUPROP Mr S Byers 1 Spring Cottages Spring Road, St Osyth</p>	<p>Proposed ancillary building.</p> <p><i>Noted - for information only.</i></p>

OM-21-171 PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence was noted:

- a. Tendring District Council (TDC) weekly Notification of Decisions (Determinations) from 12th November 2021 to 3rd December 2021 and 10th December 2021 to 7th January 2022.
- b. Correspondence from the Planning Inspectorate with regards to the dismissal of Appeal APP/P1560/W/20/3259134, Land at Warren Farm, The Bury, St Osyth.
- c. Correspondence between St Osyth Parish Council and Tendring District Council with regards to the use of bridge between St Osyth Beach and Martello Tower Holiday Parks.
- d. Correspondence between St Osyth Parish Council and Tendring District Council with regards to the allocation of Public Open Spaces Contributions.
- e. Correspondence between the owner of a property on the Bel-Air Chalet Estate, TDC and Cllr. Goggin, Essex County Council concerning the upkeep of infrastructure on the estate.
- f. Correspondence from Bradwell B Project with regards to the approval of the Planning Appeal in respect of Bradwell B.
- g. Correspondence from the owner of a property on the Bel-Air Chalet Estate to TDC/ ECC/ Essex Police/ Essex County Fire & Rescue Service (ECF&RS) and the Environment Agency with regards to crime and safety concerns on the estate.
- h. Correspondence from St Osyth Parish Council to the Planning Inspectorate with regards to Planning Appeal APP/P1560/W/21/3279292 (TDC 19/01946/OUT) Land South of Clacton Road and East of Rochford Road, St Osyth.
- i. Correspondence from St Osyth Parish Council to the Planning Inspectorate with regards to Planning Appeal APP/P1560/W/21/3282299 (TDC 21/00351/FUL) 25 James Gardens, St Osyth.

OM-21-172 APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

RESOLVED: That having been previously circulated, the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 18th November 2021 be verified for accuracy by the Council and signed by the Chairman, as a true and accurate record. The motion was proposed by Cllr. Sinclair and seconded by Cllr. Lockwood. All agreed.

OM-21-173 SUMMARY OF ACTION:

- a. OM-21-155 a i. The Chairman informed the Council that the replacement of the 'St Osyth' letters on the central planter on The Bury was in hand.
- b. OM-21-156 d i. The Chairman informed the Council that having contacted BT, she had been informed that the restoration of the phone box was imminent.

- c. OM-21-159 & a iv. The Clerk informed the Council that he had received reports on overgrown vegetation, which he would discuss further with the Chairman.
- d. OM-21-160 a. The Clerk reminded the Council that the issue of Public Open Spaces Contributions would be discussed during the meeting.
- e. OM-21-161 e. The Clerk reminded the Council that the recruitment of a Deputy Clerk would be discussed during the course of the meeting.
- f. OM-21-163. The Clerk informed the Council that the Management Plan and Budget for 2022/2023 had been scrutinised by the Finance Committee during its meetings on 8th December 2021 and 12th January 2022.
- g. OM-21-164. The Clerk reminded the Council that the meeting with Tim Sargeant, owner of St Osyth Priory had been held on 18th January 2022.
- h. OM-21-165. The Chairman informed the Council that she had contacted the St Osyth Church of England Primary School's Community Cohesion Officer with a view to attending the February meeting of the Council to discuss the installation of an additional item of play equipment at Priory Meadow, which was to be chosen by the pupils of the Primary School.
- i. OM-21-166. The Clerk reminded the Council that the issue of Stone Point would be discussed during the meeting.
- j. OM-21-167 b. The Clerk reminded the Council that he had forwarded to Councillors the email detailing the Climate & Ecological Emergency Bill.
- k. OM-21-168 a. The Clerk informed the Council that he had forwarded correspondence on behalf of the Parish Council, raising concerns over the use of the bridge between St Osyth Beach and Martello Beach holiday parks, to the District Council.
- l. OM-21-168 b. The Clerk informed the Council that he had reported concerns about a property in Cow Lane to the District Council.
- m. OM-21-168 c. The Clerk reminded the Council that the issue of parking along D'arcy Road would be discussed during the meeting.

OM-21-174 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

OM-21-175 CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence was noted:

- a. Correspondence from the Essex Association of Local Councils (EALC) detailing the refusal of the Parish Councils application for funding by way of the Community Initiatives Fund (CIF). The Clerk stated that this would be discussed later in the meeting.
- b. Correspondence from the Royal British Legion thanking the Parish Council for the Annual Parish Grant.

- c. Correspondence from the Dumont Luncheon Club thanking the Parish Council for the Annual Parish Grant.
- d. Correspondence between St Osyth Parish Council and Cllr. Lee Scott, ECC Cabinet Member for Highways concerning the condition of the footway near the Curve Wake Park, Mill Street.

OM-21-176 FINANCE:

- a. Approval of payments for November and December 2021, as per the circulated lists were agreed by the Council.
- b. The following balances were noted and agreed:

Current a/c	£117,297.82
Deposit	£53,251.26
- c. Cllr. Sinclair enquired as to why the Council was still paying invoices by cheque. The Clerk confirmed that together with the RFO, he was in the process of moving regular payees across to online banking payments.

OM-21-177 APPROVAL OF THE BUDGET FOR 2022/2023:

The Minutes of the Finance Committee meetings of 8th December 2021 and 12th January 2022 having been previously distributed, the Clerk briefed the Council with regards to the setting of the budget for 2022/2023.

- a. The Clerk informed the Council that the budget for 2022/2023 took into account the inclusion of items/ projects contained within the Management Plan for 2022/2023, the latter having been approved by the Council on 18th November 2021.
- b. **RESOLVED:** That the Parish Council approve the Budget for 2022/2023, as recommended by the Finance Committee on 12th January 2022. The motion was proposed by Cllr. Sinclair and seconded by Cllr. Ward. All agreed

OM-21-178 APPROVAL OF THE PRECEPT FOR 2022/2023:

The Minutes of the Finance Committee meetings of 8th December 2021 and 12th January 2022 having been previously distributed, the Clerk briefed the Council with regards to the setting of the Precept for 2022/2023.

- a. The Clerk gave an overview of the Precept requirement, which the Finance Committee had, at its meeting of 12th January 2022, recommended be set at £151,258.00, resulting in an annual payable sum of £79.75 for a Band D property. This would represent an increase of £3.04 or 4.0% to the Precept from the previous year.
- b. **RESOLVED:** That the Parish Council ratify the recommendation of the Finance Committee, in that the Precept request to Tendring District Council for 2022/2023 be set at £151,258.00, an increase of £3.04 or 4.0% from the previous year, which would result in the annual payable sum for a Band D property being £79.75. The motion was proposed by Cllr. Ward and seconded by Cllr. Thomas. All agreed.

OM-21-179 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

- a. **Cemetery Committee:** The Clerk informed the Council that he had prepared the Minutes of the meeting of 23rd November 2021, however, he was at this time unable to locate them on the server. The Clerk stated that he would locate the Minutes or retype them in readiness for the February meeting of the Council.
- b. **Finance Committee:** The Minutes of the meeting of 8th December 2021, having been previously circulated, the Clerk informed the Council that the Minutes had already been approved by the Finance Committee at its meeting of 12th January 2022. The Chairman invited questions from those present. None were forthcoming.
- c. **Personnel Committee:** The Minutes of the meeting of 9th December 2021, having been previously circulated, were noted. The Clerk reminded the Council that the recruitment of a Deputy Clerk would be discussed later in the meeting.
- d. **Finance Committee:** The draft Minutes of the meeting of 12th January 2022, having been previously circulated, were noted.
 - i. The Clerk informed the Council that due to what both he and the RFO deemed to be an unreliable service by one of the current contractors, they had recommended to the Finance Committee that a new contractor be given a trial period in which to maintain sections of the Cemetery, and that the maintenance of the verges be taken on by two of the existing contractors working together.
 - ii. **RESOLVED:** That the Parish Council ratify the recommendation of the Finance Committee, that the following contracts be approved:
 - a) That Ben Kyte assume responsibility for Sections 1 – 3 (inclusive) of the Cemetery.
 - b) That Ben Kyte assume responsibility for the Garden of Remembrance within the Cemetery.
 - c) That Matthew Ford and James Handscombe assume responsibility for the maintenance of the verges.
 - d) That Matthew Ford assume responsibility for the maintenance of Cowley Park (Recreation Ground).

The motion was proposed by Cllr. Coe and seconded by Cllr. Talbot. All agreed.
 - iii. The Clerk informed the Council that the Finance Committee had, at its meeting of 8th December 2021, recommended the approval of all grant applications, which should have been presented to the Council at its meeting scheduled for 16th December 2021, which was subsequently cancelled following advice from the National Association of Local Councils (NALC). The Clerk continued that the approval of the Council was required before the respective organisations could be notified.

- iv. **RESOLVED:** That the Parish Council ratify the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve the Council's Annual Parish Grants, payable in October 2022. The motion was proposed by Cllr. Blockley and seconded by Cllr. Coe. All agreed.

OM-21-180 REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS:

- a. **Blooms in St Osyth:** The Chairman reported that she would be meeting with Cllr's Blockley and Ward during the week commencing 24th January 2022, to discuss planting for spring 2022.
- b. **Highways Working Party:**
The Chairman stated that whilst there had been no meetings of the Working Party, the Consultation in respect of the Design for Safety Improvements to the Crossroads was to commence on 27th January 2022, and that it would be live for 21 working days.
- c. **Martin's Farm Country Park:** The Chairman informed the Council that whilst a meeting had taken place on 18th January 2022, as Andrew Brown, ECC Land Operations Manager, had not been able to attend, due to having to undergo emergency surgery on the night of 17th January 2022, the key issues had not been discussed. The Chairman continued that in the absence of Andrew Brown, she would liaise directly with his Deputy, Ian James.
- d. **Playground, Youth & Open Spaces Working Party:**
 - i. Cllr. Ward reported that the new picnic bench and bin had been installed at Priory Meadow.
 - ii. The Clerk reminded the Council that he had received correspondence from EALC detailing the refusal of the Parish Councils most recent application for funding by way of the Community Initiatives Fund (CIF).
 - a) The Clerk stated that the reasons given by EALC for the refusal of applications in 2019 and 2020 had been on the grounds that the respective projects (additional play equipment for Priory Meadow) were deemed to have already commenced, despite similar requests by other Parish Councils being approved.
 - b) The Clerk stated that the reason given for the refusal of the application submitted in 2021 was that:

The Panel were of the opinion that given the stated level of unrestricted Reserves held by the Parish Council, the proposed project can be fully funded without the need for a Grant at this time.
 - c) Cllr. Coe commented that, in his opinion, the Parish Council was being penalised for being prudent with its finances. The Clerk stated that the RFO had used the same phrase.

- d) Cllr. Talbot commented that the decision of the panel went against the very principle for awarding the grants. He subsequently requested a copy of the letter, which he would raise with EALC.
- e) The Clerk informed the Council that having learnt of the reason for refusal, the Finance Committee had instructed the Clerk to liaise with NALC, and the RFO to liaise with the Internal Auditor, as to the required/ suggested level of unrestricted reserves to be maintained by a Council.

OM-21-181 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES:

- a. **Essex Police:** Having been previously circulated, the Council reviewed the Crime statistics for November 2021.
 - i. Cllr. Cooper informed the Council of offences in St Osyth by location and where practicable the status of the investigation.
- b. **Footpaths:** The Chairman informed the Council that Jake Moore, owner of the Curve Wake Park, having hired a mini-digger for a week, had completed planned works sooner than anticipated, and had therefore offered to relay part of Footpath 5, if the Council was able to obtain plainings. The Chairman continued that Peter and Robert Bond had given the Council 3 tonnes of plainings, which had been moved by Kendall Facility Management Ltd from Warren Farm to Footpath 5. The Chairman informed the Council that as Jake Moore was intending to do some more work during February, he had again volunteered to lay some more plainings, of which the Chairman had arranged for the delivery of 12-20 tonnes by Alan Howard, TDC Engineering Operations. The Chairman requested that the Clerk forward photographs of the work undertaken so far by Jake Moore to the Council.
- c. **Benches & Litter Bins:** The Chairman reported that 2 new 'compass bins' were to be purchased in the current financial year, which would replace the existing bins beside the telephone box and on The Bury, adjacent to the Priory Wall. The Chairman stated that she had also requested that the Sargeant Family replace the wooden gate on The Bury, which had literally fallen to pieces.
- d. **Planters:** Cllr. Ward confirmed that all of the planters had been cleaned and polished after the final grass cut for the year.
- e. **Tree Warden:** Nothing to report.
- f. **Tendring District Association of Local Councils (TDALC):**
Cllr. Talbot gave the following report:
 - i. The Executive of the Essex Association (EALC) next meets on 3rd February 2022 at 10 am, via Zoom. As part of the member training programme, being held via Zoom, on 27th January 2022, members will discuss Climate Change as part of their training.

g. **District Councillor's Report:**

i. Cllr. Talbot gave the following report:

- a) At this time, we have very strict instructions as to how our meetings should take place, in order to comply with the COVID rules and regulations.
- b) The next 'Full Council Meeting' will be held on 26th January 2022. As the Council have to make executive decisions, which cannot be done remotely via Microsoft Teams, the meeting is to be held in the Princes Theatre.
- c) We have received the new bathing water classifications for 2021. This official check on sea water quality in Tendring is based on monitoring data collected by the Environment Agency over the period 2017 to 2021. I will not print the whole list, but to save time, those near us are Clacton judged excellent, Jaywick judged good and Brightlingsea judged excellent.

ii. Cllr. White gave the following report:

- a) That having been approved by the Planning Inspectorate and the Council's own Committee, the District Council's new Local Plan had now to be presented to the Full Council for ratification on 25th January 2022, after which the Plan could be used.
- b) That the temporary Planning Manager, Trevor Faulkner, was leaving and that in an unprecedented move, Cllr. White was to be a member of the interviewing panel for the replacement Planning Manager.
- c) Cllr. Talbot added that the agenda for the Council meeting on 25th January 2022, comprised of a 456-page document, and that as of April 2022, the District Council would cease the distribution of paper agendas.

h. **Website:** Cllr. Lockwood reported that he had made some changes to the website, and that he had a number of small projects lined up.

i. **Community Speed Watch:** Nothing to report.

OM-21-182 REPORTS FROM NOMINATED REPRESENTATIVES & TRUSTEES:

a. **St Osyth Almshouse Charity:** Cllr. Sinclair gave the following report:

The Almshouse Charity held a meeting via Zoom on 30th November 2021.

The surveyor from Daniel Brewer, together with Rose Builders have inspected the roof and found several issues. The chimney stack needs re-pointing and a cowl placed on the chimney pots. Several tiles have moved both on the front and rear of the property. There is also significant damp in the roof space of No 27.

The scaffolding was erected by Rose Builders on a contingency should the problem be a fault from when they carried out the original roof repairs. This is not the case and because we would have to pay another contractor to erect scaffolding it was agreed that Rose Builders will carry out the necessary work. It will involve scaffolding being placed at the front of the building. Tenders for 27 Clacton Road have been received, the lowest being £56,000 plus VAT.

Both 25 and 27 Clacton Road have a major problem with white mould, the removal of which will, together with the roofing problems, cost in the region of £130,000.00 to £140,000.00. This will require a 0% loan over 10 years from the Almshouse Charity.

Despite attempts to contact Mike Caznaux, Essex Highways, problem with the air bricks remains extant. The Chairman and the Clerk stated that they would provide Cllr. Sinclair with an additional contact at Essex Highways, so that she could contact them regarding the air brick ventilation matter.

There are also issues with a property in St Clairs Road.

- b. **St Osyth Playing Field Charity:** The Clerk informed the Council that whilst matters relating to Cowley Park had been discussed and dealt with by the Council, there was a requirement for a separate meeting of the Playing Field Charity, dates for which he would discuss with the Chairman and Cllr. Thomas.
- c. **Point Clear Community Association:** Cllr. Blockley reported that a meeting of the new Committee was scheduled for 26th January 2022.
- d. **Village Hall Management Committee:** In the absence of Cllr. Thomas, the Chairman and Clerk gave the following report:
 - i. That new CCTV was to be installed, which would enable members of the Management Committee to view the hall via remote means.
 - ii. That the Management Committee was looking to replace the existing boiler, and was considering a number of options, including the installation of air-source heat pumps.
 - iii. That the Management Committee was considering the installation of a gate/ barrier at the entrance from Clacton Road, to restrict access to the rear of the hall, which was occasionally used for the sale of illicit substances.
- e. **St Osyth Priory & Parish Trust:** The Chairman reported that a number of school visits were being planned and that the Trust was looking to purchase a tractor and trailer, the latter capable of carrying 30 passengers, to enable trips around the Parkland. These trips would initially be during the week for schoolchildren, but there were plans to include trips from The Bury.

OM-21-183 MANAGEMENT PLAN:

The Clerk reported that whilst Councillors had received the Management Plan for 2021/2024, which had subsequently been approved at the meeting of 18th November 2021 and scrutinised by the Finance Committee ahead of the approval of the budget, there were a number of pages to be re-issued, as a result of formatting and several minor changes. The Clerk stated that he would action this accordingly.

OM-21-184 PERSONNEL MATTERS:

The Chairman reminded the Council that the Personnel Committee had recommended the Council proceed with the advertising of a vacancy for a Deputy Clerk and had subsequently prepared an application pack. The advertisement, job description and person specification having been previously distributed, the Chairman gave an overview of the recruitment process and notable dates.

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Cooper for drafting the application pack on behalf of the Council.

OM-21-185 DUMONT AVENUE PLAY AREA:

The Chairman informed the Council that she was continuing to liaise with Anglian Water following the request by the Parish Council for the felling of the trees along the boundary with the play area, which presented a safeguarding issue. The Chairman reported that Anglian Water had stated that they did not own the land, therefore she had forwarded to them a Land Registry plan, on which it named Anglian Water as being the registered owner of the land in question.

OM-21-186 PUBLIC OPEN SPACES CONTRIBUTIONS:

The Chairman reminded the Council, that as detailed in the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of 8th December 2021, the Committee had discussed the possibility of making a complaint to an Ombudsman in respect of the allocation of Public Open Spaces Contributions by the District Council, during which Cllr. Talbot had stated that he would liaise with the District Councils Legal Adviser, as he believed that the matter could be referred to the District Council to deal.

- a. The Chairman reported that she had instructed the Clerk to research the process for making a complaint to the District Council, should it be agreed by members of the Parish Council.
- b. The Clerk subsequently explained the District Councils complaints procedure.
- c. The Chairman informed the Council that the Parish Council had never made a formal complaint before, and that to do so would be a serious matter. A conversation ensued during which time the Chairman asked Councillors, individually, for their views as to whether the Parish Council should proceed with a formal complaint. The consensus of the Council was that the Council should pursue a formal complaint.
- d. **RESOLVED:** That St Osyth Parish Council make a formal complaint to Tendring District Council, following the allocation by the District Council of Public Open Spaces Contributions from the development at Melinda Lane (18/00379/OUT refers), located within the Parish of St Osyth, to the unparished Ward of Bockings Elm, Clacton on Sea. The motion was proposed by Cllr. Coe and seconded by Cllr. French. All agreed.

OM-21-187 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES:

- a. **Essex County Council:** Having arrived at 8.35 pm, and having wished all present a Happy New Year, Cllr. Goggin gave an overview of the following:
- i. That some 10% of the County Councils workforce was currently not working, due largely to the impact of Coronavirus. This meant that certain works, for which the County Council was responsible, were not being completed on time. The problem was further exacerbated by the fact that some officers were being approached by outside agencies/ businesses.
 - ii. That Westcotec had written to individual Councils within his electoral Division, providing tailored quotations for the supply of Speed Indication Devices (SID). Cllr. Goggin stated that if the funding by way of the County Councils Locality Fund was not utilised, the funding would be spent elsewhere.
 - a) Cllr. Goggin stated that several of the Councils had identified projects which were to be funded if they did not proceed with the purchase of the equipment from Westcotec, one example being a 'dog mess hoover.'
 - iii. That having received further reports of flooding on Spring Road, in an area where Anglian Water had carried out checks of the infrastructure, he would raise the matter again with Highways.
 - iv. That the repair of the pothole on the causeway was an example of how efficiently and effectively the Highways system could work, as having been reported as a defect likely to result in injury or damage by the Clerk, the pothole had been subject to a temporary repair within 4 hours of the Clerk contacting Highways.
 - v. That the County Councils budget was to be approved at the Cabinet meeting scheduled for 10th February 2022.
 - vi. That having met with Cllr. Lee Scott, ECC Cabinet Member for Highways, earlier in the day, the latter had confirmed that the damaged footway in Mill Street was to be repaired on 18th February 2022.
 - vii. The Chairman informed Cllr. Goggin that as there had almost been an accident, following a young child tripping and falling into the road, together with the Clerk and Community Warden, she had inspected the damaged footway, during which time the Community Warden, Clerk and herself had removed some of the asphalt which presented a trip hazard.

The Chairman continued that the Community Warden had subsequently removed more of the damaged asphalt and had laid sand to mitigate the trip hazard.
 - viii. That this year would be the 10th anniversary of the Pride of Tendring Awards, at which he would be the Master of Ceremonies.

Cllr. Talbot informed the Council that the Pride of Tendring Awards had in fact been introduced by Cllr. Goggin during his tenure as Chairman of the District Council, and that they had proven so successful that they had continued ever since.

- ix. The Chairman thanked Cllr. Goggin for his report.

OM-21-188 TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL PRIORITIES FOR 2022/2023:

The Chairman informed the Council that having received feedback from a number of Councillors, the Clerk had drafted a response on behalf of the Council. The Chairman continued that the Clerk had prepared a 5-page response to the 6 questions, which would be forwarded to Councillors for their information and interest.

OM-21-189 SUBMISSION OF A PLANNING APPLICATION - STONE POINT:

The Chairman informed the Council that the Working Party discussing the restriction of access to Stone Point had agreed that the time had come to submit a planning application to the District Council. The Chairman added that whilst the initial plan had been for the Parish Council to submit the application in order to qualify for a reduction in fees, this was not possible as the Council did not own the land to which the application related, therefore, the application would be submitted by The Orchards Holiday Park.

OM-21-190 DUMONT AVENUE PLAY AREA:

Cllr. Ward reported that having already agreed to retain the play area at a previous meeting, the condition of the play area had been discussed by the Finance Committee at its meeting of 12th January 2022. During the meeting the Committee had recommended the use of funds from either the forecast surplus or Unrestricted Reserves to offset the cost of the renewal of the safety surfacing within the play area.

- a. **RESOLVED:** That St Osyth Parish Council utilise funds from the forecast surplus for the financial year 2021/2022, or from Unrestricted Reserves, to offset the cost of the renewal of the safety surfacing at Dumont Avenue play area. The motion was proposed by Cllr. Ward and seconded by Cllr. French. All agreed.

OM-21-191 THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE:

The Chairman informed the Council that a number of Parish organisations were looking to the Parish Council to take the lead in arranging events to commemorate Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The Chairman informed the Council of the following:

- a. That the Jubilee Beacons were to be lit on the night of Thursday 2nd June 2022, and that it was planned to use the beacon in Point Clear Bay, although it would need to be inspected before use.
- b. That the Parish Council would host the Big Jubilee Lunch at Cowley Park on Sunday 5th June 2022, and that it was planned to have activities for children, in addition to live music.
- c. The Chairman stated that the Jubilee events (Beacons and Big Lunch) would be an agenda item at the February meeting.

OM-21-192 DOG FOULING:

Cllr. Sinclair raised the ever-present problem of dogs being allowed to foul pavements by their owners, as well as the accumulation of dog waste bags in bins, which were not being emptied regularly enough by Veolia. A conversation ensued during which Councillors discussed a number of areas where dog fouling presented a major problem, such as the 'coffin path.'

- a. The Chairman informed the Council that effective signage was required, as was action by the District Council. The Chairman continued that having looked at the footway linking St Clairs Road to Broadstrood, there had been no evidence of dog fouling, therefore, she had requested that the build-up of leaves be removed, and the area monitored. Should there then be any evidence of dog fouling, notices would be placed along the footpath, as they would along the 'coffin path.'
- b. Cllr. Talbot remarked that the problem was a District wide problem, which needed a number of high visibility prosecutions by the District Council.

OM-21-193 PARKING:

The Council discussed the problem of vehicles parking on pavements, especially along St Clairs Road and D'Arcy Road, during which the Chairman stated that whilst it was not an offence to park on the pavement, it was an offence to obstruct the pavement.

- a. The Chairman reminded the Council that letters had been sent to residents of St Clairs Road several years ago, and that this had resulted in fewer vehicles obstructing the pavement.
- b. Cllr's Ward and White remarked that the problem was slowly increasing, given the number of work/ trade vehicles being parked at night. Cllr. Coe added that it was not necessarily vehicles obstructing the pavement, but rather vehicles parking opposite each other, thereby reducing the width of the road for passing vehicles.
- c. It was agreed that the Clerk should review previous correspondence to residents of St Clairs Road and Colchester Road, and that the matter be included as an agenda item for the February meeting of the Council.

OM-21-194 ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL LOCALITY FUND:

The matter having been discussed briefly during the report given by Cllr. Goggin, the Council reviewed the suggestion that the fund be used towards the purchase of a SID.

- a. Councillors were asked their opinion of SID's, during which the overwhelming consensus was that the cost of a device, which would not result in any form of prosecution, was prohibitive.
- b. The Chairman enquired as to the criteria for utilising the Locality Fund, given Cllr. Goggin's comments at the meeting of 18th November 2021, when he stated that his choice was to fund portable VAS or SID.
- c. Cllr. Goggin apologised to the Council, stating that he had not meant to imply that the grant could only be used for the purchase of a SID.

- d. The Chairman suggested that the Locality Fund could be used towards the implementation of the Jubilee / Coronavirus Memorial copse at Cowley Park.
- i. Cllr. Goggin responded that the Council could apply to use the funding in any way it wanted, and again apologised for having misled the Council.

OM-21-195 VILLAGE CAR PARK:

Having previously been informed that the appeal in respect of land at Warren Farm had been dismissed, the Council were informed by the Chairman that, as confirmed by Mr Tim Sargeant during his virtual meeting with the Council on 18th January 2022, parking on The Bury, by courtesy of the Sargeant Family, would effectively end in 2023, thereby leaving the village without any off-road parking.

- a. At the request of the Chairman, the Clerk gave an overview of how the previously suggested use of Cowley Park would impact on the football teams now using the recreation ground on a weekly basis. The Clerk stated that in order to accommodate a car park, Cowley Park would need to lose 2 of the 4 pitches, which would effectively end the use of the recreation ground by Elmnden Rovers Youth Football Club, from which the Playing Field Charity now received a monthly income.
- b. The Chairman informed the Council that the Bond Family had the option to make a new application, which took into account the comments of the Planning Inspector, but that they [the Bond Family] would almost certainly want the backing of the Parish Council were they to do so.

OM-21-196 CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS COMPETITION:

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Goggin for judging the competition, before informing the Council of the winners:

- a. Overall Winner: Mollie's Gifts & Toosey Tackle.
- b. Joint runners up: NACO and L & K Funeral Directors.
- c. Special Mention: NISA, Boots and Point Clear Bathrooms & Kitchens.
- d. Child Friendly Vote: Naglotech.

The Chairman informed the Council that all entrants had been written to, thanking them for taking part in the competition.

OM-21-197 FURTHER MATTERS: None.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.55 pm.

The date of the next meeting was set for 7.00 pm on Thursday 17th February 2022.

**Summary of 'Action Required' from the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting
held on Thursday 20th January 2022**

OM-21-180 d ii d)	EALC CIF Letter	Clk to fwd to Cllr. Talbot
OM-21-181 b	Photographs of Footpath 5	Clk to fwd to Cllr's
OM-21-182 a	Essex Highways Contact Details	Chairman to action
OM-21-182 b	Playing Field Charity Meeting Date	Cllr's Grantham & Thomas to discuss with Clk
OM-21-183	Management Plan	Clk to action
OM-21-188	TDC Priorities for 2022/2023	Clk to fwd to Cllr's
OM-21-192 a	Dog Fouling	Area's to be monitored
OM-21-193 c	Pavement Parking/ Narrowing of Roads	PC to discuss in February

Signature: *[Signed on Original]*
SW Grantham
Chairman