



ST OSYTH PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held at the Village Hall, St Osyth on Thursday 17th February 2022 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT: Chairman: Cllr. Sonia Grantham, Vice-Chairman: Cllr. Alma Blockley
Cllr's Gary Coe, David Cooper, Ray French, Mandy Kelly,
John Lockwood, Michael Talbot, Michele Thomas & Julie Ward

Cllr. Alan Goggin, Essex County Councillor (arrived at 9.05 pm)

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Karen Sinclair (Prior engagement)
Cllr. John White (Self isolating)

MINUTES: Neil Williams (Parish Clerk)

PUBLIC PRESENT: None

OM-21-198 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. Kelly declared a Non-Pecuniary Interest in respect of Planning Application 22/00178/LUEX.

Cllr. Thomas declared a Non-Pecuniary Interest in respect of Planning Application 22/00039/FUL.

OM-21-199 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

	APPLICATION & ADDRESS	PROPOSAL
a.	21/02134/FUL Mr Akers The Leys Clay Lane St Osyth	Proposed annexe. The Parish Council objects to this application on the basis that there is no link to the primary dwelling, and that given the distance from the existing property, this application should be regarded as an application for a new dwelling.
b.	21/02177/FUL Ms Giwelb & Mr Greenblatt 35 Tower Estate Point Clear Bay	Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of a new dwelling. No objections.
c.	22/00039/FUL R Hasan 24 Wall Street Lee Over Sands St Osyth	Change of use of outbuilding to a dog daycare centre. Whilst the Parish Council has no objections to this application, Councillors would request that should the District Council be minded to approve this application, a condition of the decision be that there is no overnight use of the building.

d.	22/00042/FULHH Mr Brown Rose Cottage Daltes Lane St Osyth	Proposed extension of the property to the rear and side, and installation of new glazed entrance, with existing porch, conservatory and part of the rear wall are to be demolished to make way for the proposed works. No objections.
e.	22/00213/TCA Ms A Ward 84 Clacton Road St Osyth	Front: 2 No. Silver Birch - remove, remaining Silver Birch - prune, Conifer Hedge - remove. Rear: 2 No. Silver Birch - remove, 3 No. Conifer – remove 1 No. Mulberry - remove, small group of trees - reduce to 1.5 m, Laurel Hedge - prune. The Parish Council refers this application to the TDC Tree & Landscape Officer for consideration.
f.	22/00146/NMA St Osyth Priory Estate Ltd St Osyth Priory The Bury St Osyth	Non-material amendment sought allow natural light to loft storage space and stairs up to loft space for safe access. Minor elevational changes. <i>Noted - for information only.</i>
g.	22/00178/LUEX Miss I Blaser 110 Colne Way Point Clear Bay	Lawful Use Certificate for existing use as a C3 dwelling house in breach of condition for a continuous period in excess of 10 years. <i>Whilst there is no requirement for the Parish Council to submit a response, it should be noted that the Parish Council supports the application.</i>

OM-21-200 PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence was noted:

- a. Tendring District Council (TDC) weekly Notification of Decisions (Determinations) from 14th January 2022 to 4th February 2022.
- b. Correspondence between the owner of a property on the Bel-Air Chalet Estate and Tendring District Council concerning the upkeep of infrastructure, crime and safety concerns and Enforcement in respect of the Chalet Estate.
- c. Correspondence from Tendring District Council with regards to the adoption of the Tendring District Local Plan 2013-2033 and Beyond: Section 2.
- d. 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.

OM-21-201 APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

RESOLVED: That having been previously circulated, the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 20th January 2022 be verified for accuracy by the Council and signed by the Chairman, as a true and accurate record. The motion was proposed by Cllr. Ward and seconded by Cllr. Coe. All agreed.

OM-21-202 SUMMARY OF ACTION:

- a. OM-21-180 d ii d). The Clerk informed the Council that he had forwarded to Cllr. Talbot correspondence from the Essex Association of Local Councils (EALC) detailing the rejection of the Parish Councils application for a grant via the Community Initiatives Fund (CIF).
- b. OM-21-181 b. The Clerk reminded the Council that he had forwarded photographs of the recent improvements to Footpath 5, kindly carried out by Jake Moore, owner of the Curve Wake Park.
- c. OM-21-182 a. The Chairman informed the Council that she had forwarded to Cllr. Sinclair the details of a point of contact within Essex Highways as requested.
- d. OM-21-182 b. The Clerk informed the Council that a date and time for a dedicated meeting of the Playing Field Charity had yet to be arranged.
- e. OM-21-188. The Clerk reminded the Council that he had forwarded to Councillors, the response on behalf of the Council in respect of the TDC Priorities for 2022/2023.
- f. OM-21-192 a. The Clerk informed the Council that the ongoing problem of dog fouling would continue to be monitored.
 - i. Cllr. Talbot remarked that dog fouling was a major issue throughout the District with no fines having been issued by the District Council in recent years.
- g. OM-21-193 c The Clerk reminded the Council that the topic of parking would be discussed later in the meeting.

OM-21-203 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

OM-21-204 CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence was noted:

- a. Correspondence from the St Osyth Allotments Association thanking the Parish Council for the Annual Parish Grant.
- b. Correspondence from Brightlingsea Harbour Master thanking the Parish Council for the Annual Parish Grant.
- c. Correspondence from the St Osyth Business Association thanking the Parish Council for the Annual Parish Grant.
- d. Correspondence from the St Osyth News Editorial Team thanking the Parish Council for the Annual Parish Grant.

- e. Correspondence from the Essex & Herts Air Ambulance Trust thanking the Parish Council for the Annual Parish Grant.
- f. Correspondence from the Dumont Luncheon Club thanking the Parish Council for the Annual Parish Grant.
- g. Correspondence from the Point Clear Art Group thanking the Parish Council for the Annual Parish Grant.
- h. Correspondence from the Women's Institute (WI) requesting the permission of the Parish Council to plant 3 native species trees at Priory Meadow play area.
 - i. By way of a PowerPoint slide, the Clerk was able to show the Council the proposed location of where the trees were to be planted.
 - ii. Following a discussion, it was agreed that whilst in principle the Council was willing to approve the request, a map and further information as to the type of maple to be planted and maintenance/ watering regime would be required.
- i. Correspondence from Tendring District Council Parking Services regarding road closures required as a result of events to commemorate Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.
- j. Correspondence from James McColl Smith, Point Clear & St Osyth Disabled Persons Club, confirming the continuation of the club.

OM-21-205 FINANCE:

- a. Approval of payments for January 2022, as per the circulated lists were agreed by the Council.
- b. The following balances were noted and agreed:

Current a/c	£109,317.87
Deposit	£53,251.26
- c. Cllr. Kelly enquired as to the expense in respect of a signpost. The Chairman stated that it was for the replacement of the old coach sign at the junction of Colchester Road and the B1027, which due to its age and condition had been replaced.

OM-21-206 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

- a. **Cemetery Committee:**
 - i. The draft Minutes of the meeting of 23rd November 2021, having been previously circulated, the Chairman invited questions from those present. None were forthcoming.
 - ii. The draft Minutes of the meeting of 15th February 2022, having been previously circulated, the Chairman invited questions from those present. None were forthcoming.

- a) The Clerk drew the attention of the Council to the proposed increase in fees, which he added would be an agenda item at the March meeting of the Council.

OM-21-207 REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS:

- a. **Blooms in St Osyth:** The Chairman remarked how good the blooms outside of the Village Hall looked before reporting that having met with Cllr's Blockley and Ward to discuss planting for the summer, it had been agreed that the blooms should be red, white and blue. The Chairman continued that Cllr. Ward had already ordered the blooms.
- b. **Highways Working Party:** The notes of the meeting of 9th February 2022, having been previously circulated, the Chairman invited questions from those present. None were forthcoming.
 - i. The Clerk informed the Council that the work to repair Beach Road, on the approach to the holiday parks, was due to commence on 21st February 2022 for 9 days.
- c. **Martin's Farm Country Park:** The notes of the meeting of 18th January 2022, having been previously circulated, the Chairman invited questions from those present. None were forthcoming.
- d. **Playground, Youth & Open Spaces Working Party:** The notes of the meeting of 14th February 2022, having been previously circulated, the Chairman invited questions from those present. None were forthcoming.
 - i. The Clerk informed the Council that the Working Party and the Finance Committee had both recommended the renewal of the safety surfacing at Dumont Avenue play area, which had subsequently been approved by the Council at its meeting of 20th January 2022. The Clerk continued that he would instruct the contractor to schedule for the work to be carried out as soon as possible.

OM-21-208 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES:

- a. **Essex Police:** Having been previously circulated, the Council reviewed the crime statistics for December 2021.
 - i. Cllr. Kelly informed the Council of offences in Point Clear by location and where practicable the status of the investigation.
 - ii. Cllr. Cooper informed the Council of offences in St Osyth by location and where practicable the status of the investigation.
 - iii. The Clerk then gave an overview of the crime statistics for the period between 1st October to 31st December 2021. The Clerk subsequently informed the Council that since the recording of crime statistics began in August 2014, there had been 4,914 crimes reported to date within the Parish.

- b. **Footpaths:** The Chairman informed the Council that having already undertaken the resurfacing of a section of Footpath 5, Jake Moore, owner of Curve Water Sports, had carried out further resurfacing along the remaining part of the footpath adjacent to Mill Dam Lake. The Chairman continued that Essex Highways should have completed the resurfacing works in 2021/2022, however, given the condition of the footpath, and the offer by Jake Moore to carry out the work, she had liaised with Alan Howard, TDC Engineering Operations, who had provided approximately 15 tonnes of plainings. The Chairman requested that the Clerk write to Mr Moore, on behalf of the Parish Council, to formally thank him for his efforts.
- c. **Benches & Litter Bins:** The Chairman reported that Harps Corp would be carrying out the maintenance of the wooden benches throughout the Parish, and that the damaged bench on Colchester Road had been repaired.
- d. **Planters:** The Chairman reported that Peter Tidy would be replacing the St Osyth lettering on the central planter on The Bury, as the lettering had deteriorated over time.
- e. **Tree Warden:** Cllr. French stated that he would give a report later in the meeting.
- f. **Tendring District Association of Local Councils (TDALC):**
Cllr. Talbot gave the following report:
 - i. The Tendring District Association last met by Zoom on 26th January. During the meeting questions were raised about the understanding of s106 decisions and where the money was to be spent. I reported that St Osyth was intending to make a formal complaint about money from a development within our boundary going to another area and not our Parish. Members were understanding of our problem. Concerns were also raised by Parishes facing proposals for power lines and stations from offshore Wind Farms to be sited within their boundary, and what measure of control was being applied to applications.
 - ii. The Executive of the Essex Association (EALC) met by Zoom on 3rd February. It was quite a straightforward meeting, but one of the things being dealt with was the quality of correspondence emanating from the Essex Association. I spoke of St Osyth's grant application rejection, where the correspondence referred to the Parish having sufficient uncommitted reserves to be able to do the work without grant help. I said that this gave entirely the wrong picture, and it was above Peter Davy's signature. It would have been sufficient just to say that 'X' sum was applied for but only 'Y' money was available. I said my Parish now thinks the reason it has lost all its recent applications for the County money that EALC administer, is that its balances are too big, and this should not be a reason for rejection.
- g. **District Councillor's Report:**
 - i. Cllr. Talbot gave the following report:

- a) I am reporting on only one item. On Tuesday Tendring District Council had its Budget meeting to set the Budget requirement for the coming year 2022/2023. This contains a £5.00 increase to Council Tax, built into the long-term forecast. This will mean that our Council Tax for the coming year will be £182.64, out of which we perform all the duties imposed on us by legislation. Do not forget that this is only a small portion of the total sum we collect on behalf of the County Council, The Police and Fire authority and of course the Parish and Town Councils precepts.

- b) In introducing the Budget, the Council Leader spoke of work either in hand or proposed, including:
 - i) the provision of a covered market and managed workspaces in Jaywick;
 - ii) the development of the former Starlings site in Harwich;
 - iii) projects set out within the Back to Business action plan;
 - iv) supporting the development of the major Freeport project centred on Harwich;
 - v) replacing the all-weather pitch at Clacton Leisure Centre along with wider investment in the centre;
 - vi) supporting celebratory events such as Clacton 150th and Mayflower 400 in Harwich;
 - vii) the replacement of our cremators at Weeley Crematorium;
 - viii) supporting our heritage assets such as the Treadwheel Crane in Harwich;
 - ix) undertaking cliff stabilisation work along Clacton and Holland seafronts;
 - x) demolition of a multi-storey car park in Harwich, to be replaced with housing; and
 - xi) the disposal of the former Weeley Council office site, which will not only provide us with additional housing, but will also enable us to secure the full savings from disposing of the site.

He also proposed to make an additional £1,000.00 available to each member of the Council in 2022/2023, to enable them to support 'Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee' celebrations within their wards.

- c) Our Revenues and Benefits Team is currently working on delivering the recently announced Council Tax rebate of £150.00 for those in band A to D properties, and we understand the Government's measures also include a £144m discretionary fund for Councils to support vulnerable people and individuals on low incomes, who do not pay council tax, or who do pay council tax and live in the higher band E-H properties.
- h. **Website:** Cllr. Lockwood reported that he had made some corrections with regards to the Village Hall. The Chairman enquired as to whether Cllr. Lockwood had published the recent weather warning on the website. Cllr. Lockwood stated that he had not received any requests to do so.

The Chairman stated that Cllr. Lockwood had previously asked for articles/ information for inclusion on the website, and that the Clerk had been instructed to forward details to Cllr. Lockwood. The Clerk confirmed that he had forwarded the weather warning to all Councillors.

- i. **Community Speed Watch:** Cllr. Cooper reported that he would be writing to the Community Speed Watch Coordinator about the process for issuing correspondence to those motorists observed speeding.
 - a) Cllr. Talbot remarked that it was ironic that the Police were advocating the use of cameras, including dashcams, to prosecute motorists, but were not prepared to accept eyewitness testimony from individuals performing an activity on behalf of the Police.

OM-21-209 REPORTS FROM NOMINATED REPRESENTATIVES & TRUSTEES:

- a. **St Osyth Almshouse Charity:** Having been previously circulated, the report of the meeting of 15th February 2022 was noted.
 - i. There have been several meetings held to discuss the refurbishment of 27 Clacton Road. Following the tenders received it was decided that because of the extraordinary high quotes that a local building firm will be asked to quote for modified work. This has been a lesson in too many people being involved and therefore hampering the decision-making process. This will not be happening in the future. As a charity, we have lost nearly a year's income on this property.
 - ii. We have another vacancy at 3 St Clairs Road. The work needed at this property is mainly redecoration, electrical safety check, gas boiler certification and minor electrical work. It is felt by the Trustees that this work should be awarded to a small firm, preferably local which will reduce any costs considerably. It can be managed by Trustee oversight.
 - iii. There has been interest in both properties and when the properties are available for let then it will be advertised in the Parish Magazine. Any prospective resident will have to meet the criteria for housing.
 - iv. On a more positive note, Catherine Venables one of our Trustees has recently taken on a new role. She is now employed by The Rural Community Council of Essex as a United in Kind coach. Her role will be to tackle social isolation and loneliness as well as promoting acts of kindness within our community. The service is for anyone over the age of 18 but especially focussing on older people, carers, those with mental health issues or who have a learning disability. I would propose that once Catherine has been in her role for a few months that we invite her to address the Parish Council.
 - v. If you have any questions regarding this report, please direct them to Councillor White and Councillor Cooper.
 - a) In the absence of Cllr. Sinclair, Cllr. Cooper was asked by the Chairman to elaborate on why local firms had not been asked to provide quotations in the first instance.

- i) Cllr. Cooper reported that there had been a number of issues with contractors working on the refurbishment of 27 Clacton Road, and that given the nature of the works to be completed, the original decision had been made to approach larger regional/ national firms, but now local firms were being asked to quote.

- b. **St Osyth Playing Field Charity:** Cllr. Thomas reported that the pavilion was looking good, and that the recreation ground side of Cowley Park was being very well used, however the increased use meant that people were now parking along Mill Street. Cllr. Thomas continued that there were a number of gaps in the perimeter hedge along Mill Street which could do with filling, by way of planting.

- c. **Point Clear Community Association:** Cllr. Blockley reported that the new Committee had assumed responsibility as of 26th January 2022.

- d. **Village Hall Management Committee:** Cllr. Thomas reported on the following:
 - i. That the financial position of the Management Committee was good.
 - ii. That following the recent upgrade to the CCTV system, consideration was being given to incorporating an alarm system to the existing CCTV.
 - iii. That a new caretaker had been employed.
 - iv. That at the recent meeting, the WI had suggested planting a tree outside of the Hall to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee.
 - v. That she [Cllr. Thomas] would be reviewing utility provision, given the rise in energy costs.
 - vi. That there would be an increase in fees, effective from 1st May 2022.

- e. **St Osyth Priory & Parish Trust:** The Chairman reported that two new Trustees had been appointed, namely David Harrington and William Grinstead. The Chairman continued that the Trust would be submitting an application for a grant of £5m, from the National Heritage Lottery, towards the restoration of the Tithe Barn.

OM-21-210 PERSONNEL MATTERS:

The Chairman informed the Council that of the 6 applicants, 2 had been shortlisted for interviews to be held on 1st March 2022. The Chairman requested that should the Personnel Committee decide either of the candidates to be suitable, that the Committee be given the authority to offer the post and appoint the successful candidate as the Deputy Clerk.

RESOLVED: That St Osyth Parish Council authorise the Personnel Committee to appoint a suitable candidate to the post of Deputy Clerk. The motion was proposed by Cllr. Coe and seconded by Cllr. Lockwood. All agreed.

OM-21-211 PUBLIC OPEN SPACES CONTRIBUTIONS:

Correspondence of 10th February 2022 on behalf of the Parish Council to Ian Taylor, TDC Head of Public Realm, was noted. Cllr. Talbot informed the Council that Mr Taylor had been away, which would account for the lack of a response.

OM-21-212 PREPARATION OF THE ANNUAL PARISH REPORT:

The Clerk informed the Council that contributions for the Annual Parish Report were required by 9th March, adding that articles should not exceed 80 words and that photographs would be beneficial. The Clerk informed the Council that he would forward the Annual Report for 2020/2021 as a guide.

OM-21-213 CONSECRATION OF SECTIONS 6 AND 7 OF THE CEMETERY:

The Clerk informed the Council that the provisional date for the consecration of the Cemetery extension had been set for the morning of Monday 9th May 2022, as this was the only date on which both the Bishop of Chelmsford and the Registrar would both be available for some time. The Clerk added that the ceremony would more than likely be at 11 am, as the Registrar would have to travel from London.

- a. Cllr. Kelly enquired as to whether residents would be invited to watch the ceremony and whether there would be refreshments before or after the consecration.
- b. The Chairman suggested that an article could be published in the May edition of the Parish magazine.

OM-21-214 LOCAL TRUST COMMUNITY RESEARCH:

The Chairman informed the Council of the meeting with Eleanor Langdale of a company called Renaisi on behalf of the Local Trust Community Fund, at which the Clerk had also been present.

- a. The Chairman reported that St Osyth had been chosen as one of four wards in England, which was deemed to have been left behind, by way of being underfunded or underserved.
- b. At the request of the Chairman, the Clerk informed the Council of the types of questions which had been asked by Ms Langdale, such as:
 - i. Were there areas of deprivation within the Parish?
 - ii. Where did residents of the Parish meet socially?
 - iii. What activities did residents partake in?
- c. The Chairman stated that Ms Langdale would be preparing a report based on the result of the meeting, but that it was unknown what effect, if any, this would have for the Parish.
- d. Cllr. Talbot reported that he had also been approached by the same company, but that having referred the matter to the National Association of Local Councils (NALC), he had been advised to refrain from any contact with Renaisi, which had no true association with any Parliamentary groups.
- e. Cllr's Thomas and Coe informed the Council that a search via the internet listed Renaisi as having been set up 20 years ago by Hackney Council, and that its main aim was that of regeneration.

OM-21-215 ST OSYTH ALLOTMENTS:

- a. Cllr. Blockley gave a report, following which the matter of the rent was discussed at length. Cllr. Thomas subsequently moved that the allotment rent be increased by £10.00.
- b. The following vote took place:
 - i. In favour: Cllr's Blockley, Coe, Lockwood, Thomas & Ward.
 - ii. Against: Cllr's Cooper, French & Kelly.
 - iii. Abstained: Cllr. Talbot.
 - iv. Did not vote: Cllr. Grantham.
- c. **RESOLVED:** That St Osyth Parish Council increase the rent of the allotments from £30.00 to £40.00 for a whole plot and from £15.00 to £20.00 for a half plot. The motion was proposed by Cllr. Thomas and seconded by Cllr. Ward.

OM-21-216 TELEPHONE BOX FOODBANK:

The Chairman reminded the Council that during the first Coronavirus lockdown, the telephone box had been used as a foodbank, however, towards the end items such as toys and books had been left within the telephone box.

The Chairman continued that due to the telephone box being in need of restoration the resident responsible for organising the foodbank had been asked to remove all associated contents until such time as BT had carried out the necessary work.

The Chairman subsequently gave an overview of events to date:

- a. After BT had undertaken repairs in November 2021, the Community Warden had inspected the work, which in his opinion had not been completed satisfactorily.
- b. The resident responsible for the foodbank had requested that she be allowed to recommence the foodbank within the telephone box. The Chairman had informed the resident that this would not be possible until such time as BT has carried out the outstanding repairs and restoration, as originally planned, however, it was agreed that the foodbank be permitted over the Christmas holidays.
- c. Due to the need for BT to carry out further work to the telephone box, the resident had been asked to remove all items associated with the foodbank until such time as the work had been completed.
- d. The resident had subsequently contacted the Chairman requesting that the foodbank be reinstated. The Chairman had stated that it was not possible at this time and that perhaps the Village Hall might be a good location. During a subsequent meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee, members had voted no to having the foodbank on the premises or surrounding land for fear of vandalism. It had also been ascertained that the resident did not want to relocate from the telephone box.

- e. The Chairman had contacted English Heritage (EH), due to the telephone box being listed. The response from EH was that they had no objections to listed telephone boxes being used for secondary uses, such as a location for a defibrillator or library etc, but this was in telephone boxes where the payphone had been removed.
- f. The Clerk had contacted BT to enquire as to whether they would permit a secondary use of a telephone box in which there was a serviceable payphone.

The Chairman concluded that until such time as BT responded the resident would not be permitted to reinstate the foodbank within the telephone box, which she [the resident] was adamant she wanted to use. The Chairman added that were BT to have an objection to the use of the telephone box as a foodbank, and subsequently refuse to carry out any further maintenance, the responsibility and cost would fall to the Parish Council, which was not what the Council wanted.

OM-21-217 SUBMISSION OF A PLANNING APPLICATION - STONE POINT:

The Chairman informed the Council that a planning application had been prepared by William Coulet, of Exo Environmental, on behalf of the Orchards Holiday Village. However, as there had been no contact with Grant Ewens and Darren Burton, General Manager and Facilities Manager of the Orchards Holiday Village respectively, until such time as certain formalities were completed, it was not possible to submit the application.

OM-21-218 THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE:

The Chairman reminded the Council of the national celebrations planned to commemorate Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee, which would include:

- a. The lighting of Jubilee Beacons on the night of Thursday 2nd June 2022.

The Chairman informed the Council that the beacon at Point Clear Bay was in need of repair and that whilst the Council were willing to arrange for the necessary repairs, the cost would have to be covered by the Orchards Holiday Park, who owned both the beacon and the land on which it was situated.

- b. The Big Jubilee Lunch on Sunday 5th June 2022.

The Chairman informed the Council that the Parish Council would host a Big Jubilee Lunch at Cowley Park, which would include a band and activities, such as bouncy castles, trampolines and games, for children.

- c. The Chairman reminded the Council of the plans for the Queens Canopy - Jubilee/ Memorial copse at the western end of Cowley Park, which would be planted to commemorate not only the Jubilee, but also those residents who had passed as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic.
- d. By way of a PowerPoint presentation, the Clerk produced a plan of the copse. The Chairman explained that the plan was to have a mixture of native standards and feathered whips, which would be sponsored by Parish organisations and/or individuals. The Chairman continued that it was planned to have 34 trees, with the rest being feathered whips.

- e. Following a conversation as to the type and size of trees to be planted, the Chairman informed the Council that together with Cllr. French and the Clerk, she would be visiting a nursery in Dedham on 23rd February 2022.

OM-21-219 PARKING:

Having been discussed previously at the meeting of 20th January 2022, the Chairman enquired of Cllr. Coe as to whether there had been any improvement or worsening of the parking situation in and around the area of St Clairs Road and D'Arcy Road.

- a. Cllr. Coe reported that parking had been worse in recent weeks, especially with vehicles, mainly trade vans, parking opposite each other, which resulted in the narrowing of the road. He continued that the way in which some people were parking demonstrated a lack of consideration for others, such as those who parked on the junction of D'Arcy Road and Clacton Road.
- b. The Clerk informed the Council that having previously raised the issue of parking with both Essex Police and the North Essex Parking Partnership (NEPP), the former would only deal (if there was sufficient resources) if the vehicles were causing an obstruction, whereas the NEPP would only deal if there was a violation of parking restrictions, of which there were none in either St Clairs Road or D'Arcy Road.
- c. The Chairman informed the Council that she sometimes placed cards on vehicles which were parked in such a way that they restricted the use of pavements and suggested that it might be beneficial to use similar cards, with amended wording, to be printed at half A4 size, which could then be placed on vehicles. It was agreed that a trial should be implemented.
- d. A number of Councillors raised concern over the parking by contractors working on the development adjacent to the Coach House on Colchester Road, which frequently resulted in vans being parked close to the junction of Colchester Road and the bypass. The Chairman requested that the Clerk liaise with the District Councils Planning Enforcement team.

OM-21-220 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES:

- a. **Essex County Council:** Having arrived at 9.05 pm, Cllr. Goggin gave an overview of the following:
 - i. That it had been fabulous to see the Chairman and Cllr. Talbot at the Pride of Tendring Awards, together with the nominated recipients for St Osyth, who were very humble in receipt of their award.
 - ii. That the date by which funds available from the County Council Locality Fund was to be extended until the end of April, or possibly May 2022.
 - iii. That he had forwarded an email from the Clerk about the continual flooding on Spring Road to Highways, with his [Cllr. Goggin's] support.
 - iv. That the County Council had approved a budget of £2,000m, for the year 2022/2023, of which £700m alone would be used on combined adult social care and childcare.

- v. That a resident of Flag Hill had made a complaint about Cllr. Goggin, due to the lack of a consultation in respect of the B1027 in the vicinity of Flag Hill. Cllr. Goggin added that he had been assured that the consultation would take place within Q4 of the current financial year.
- vi. That Tom Eng, David Gollop and Vicki Presland were all leaving Essex Highways.
- vii. That the installation of the speed cushions at Bar Corner would be delayed due to the condition of the existing road surface. Therefore, the crossroads and part of the adjoining roads were to be resurfaced at a cost of approximately £80,000.00, within the next few months, after which the traffic calming measures would be installed.
- viii. That the planned repair of the footway in Mill Street was scheduled for 18th February, however, given the current and pending weather warnings, it was possible that the 'gang' which had been tasked to carry out the repairs could be reallocated to deal with fallen trees and storm damage instead.
- ix. Cllr. Talbot enquired as to the reason for the involvement of the 'Task & Finish' Group in respect of the Local Highways Panel (LHP). Cllr. Goggin explained that there were 3 Task & Finish Groups, which were responsible for scrutinising Committees and their respective responsibilities. In the case of the LHP, of which there were 12 across the county, the Task & Finish Group would be looking at how the LHP's might be doing things differently, and their efficiency, as they were now involved in matters which were never intended to be actioned at local level.
- x. Whilst acknowledging Cllr. Goggin's previous report that some members of ECC staff were unable to work, due largely to Coronavirus, the Clerk requested that Cllr. Goggin look at a number of reports of faulty/ unserviceable streetlights which had been reported but which had yet to be repaired. Cllr. Goggin informed the Clerk to keep reporting the faults until such time as the repairs were carried out.
- xi. The Chairman thanked Cllr. Goggin for his report.

OM-21-221 CLIMATE CHANGE:

The Chairman informed the Council that together with the Clerk, she had, on 27th January, taken part in a virtual Climate Change conference hosted by EALC. The Chairman continued that whilst some of the subjects discussed would have no bearing on the Parish Council, both she and the Clerk felt that the Council would benefit from some of the content raised during the conference.

The Chairman suggested that the Council should meet, either during an afternoon or an evening, to view the recording.

- a. As both Cllr's Coe and Sinclair worked during the day, the Chairman enquired as to their respective preferences.
 - i. Cllr. Coe stated that he was unable to attend on either a Tuesday or Friday evening, therefore it was agreed that the Council meet on a Monday, Wednesday or Thursday evening.

- b. Cllr. Talbot informed the Council that he had earlier that day, in his capacity as District Council Portfolio Holder for Environment & Public Space, forwarded correspondence to all Town and Parish Councils within Tendring, requesting that they appraise Lee Heley, TDC Corporate Director for Project Delivery, of any climate change related initiatives which they had implemented.

OM-21-222 FURTHER MATTERS:

- a. Cllr. French reported that the recently installed wooden barrier at the exit to the allotments had blown over. The Chairman requested that the Clerk arrange to move the barrier.
- b. Cllr. Thomas reported that the mobile caterers were back outside the NISA store in Point Clear Road on a Friday and Saturday night. The Clerk was requested to liaise with TDC Planning Enforcement.
- c. Cllr. Talbot informed Cllr. Goggin that he had almost witnessed a collision between a car and a young boy, who whilst wheelieing along Mill Street, had cycled into the road to avoid the damaged footway outside of the Curve Water Sports. Cllr. Talbot stated that the County Council should have repaired the defect by now, especially as it had been reported some 5 months ago. Cllr. Lockwood added that he had also been involved in a collision in the same area, after a small child had stumbled on the defect and had fallen into the road.
- d. Cllr's Lockwood and Thomas reported that the eastern side of the causeway was again flooding, presumably due to blocked drains. The Clerk stated that the drains had been cleared, but that he would report the fault to Highways.
- e. Cllr. Kelly informed the Council that the funeral of the late Billy Taylor would be taking place on Friday 18th February 2022.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.30 pm.

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

**Summary of 'Action Required' from the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting
held on Thursday 17th February 2022**

OM-21-204 h ii	WI Tree Planting	Clk to request details of planned maintenance
OM-21-206 a ii a)	Cemetery Fees	Clk to include on agenda
OM-21-207 d i	Dumont Avenue Play Area Surfacing	Clk to action
OM-21-212	Preparation of Annual Parish Report	Clk to email Cllr's
OM-21-213 b	Consecration of Cemetery	Article required for Parish magazine
OM-21-219 c	Parking of Trade Vehicles	Clk to prepare notices
OM-21-219 d	Parking on Colchester Road	Clk to liaise with TDC Planning Enforcement
OM-21-221	Climate Change Meeting	Date to be agreed
OM-21-222 a	Barrier at Allotments	Clk to action
OM-21-222 a	Mobile Catering Vendors	Clk to liaise with TDC Planning Enforcement

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