



ST OSYTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held at St Osyth Village Hall on Thursday 20th April 2023 at 7.00 pm



PRESENT: Acting-Chairman: Cllr. Karen Sinclair
Cllr's Clive Atkins, Alma Blockley, Ray French, Mandy Kelly,
John Lockwood, Michael Talbot, Michele Thomas, Julie Ward &
John White

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Gary Coe (Work Commitment)
Cllr. David Cooper (Personal)

Cllr. Alan Goggin, Essex County Councillor (Holiday)

MINUTES: Neil Williams (Parish Clerk)

PUBLIC PRESENT: Four

OM-23-001 CHANGE OF AGENDA ORDER:

The Acting-Chairman advised Councillors that she had been notified by the Clerk that members of the public wished to address the Council on the subject of Personal Water Craft (PWC) ahead of the report from Cllr. Lockwood on the same subject. The Acting-Chairman therefore requested that public participation be deferred until later in the meeting, so that the two agenda items were dealt with consecutively. All agreed.

OM-23-002 MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

The Acting-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.

OM-23-003 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

	APPLICATION & ADDRESS	PROPOSAL
a.	22/02020/FULHH Mrs C Vickery 11 D'Arcy Road, St Osyth	Proposed two storey rear extension. Approved on 30th March 2023.
b.	23/00361/FUL Mr R East Oakdene Wenlock Road Weeley	Replacement dwelling (following demolition of existing dwelling and detached garage). No objections. Approved on 19th April 2023.
c.	23/00381/LUEX Mr A Gibbs Chapel Barn Crosslands Game Farm Clay Lane St Osyth	Proposed application for a Certificate of Lawfulness for Existing Use for continued use of land for bottling and sale of gas cylinders (Use Class Sui Generis). Whilst the Parish Council has no objections to the application itself, there were concerns as to the storage of cylinders, and the requirement for proper and regulated safety measures.

d.	23/00441/FULHH Mrs D Townsend 177 Point Clear Road St Osyth	Proposed ground floor rear extension, part garage conversion and internal alterations to provide disabled facilities. No objections.
e.	23/00509/TCA Mr Osborne 95 Mill Street St Osyth	1 No. Eucalyptus - fell to ground level. This application is referred to the TDC Tree & Landscape Officer for consideration.

OM-23-004 PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence was noted:

- a. Tendring District Council (TDC) weekly Notifications of Decisions (Determinations) from 10th March 2023 to 7th April 2023.
- b. Correspondence from residents of Cow Lane, Point Clear to Essex County Fire & Rescue Service, copied to the Parish Council, with regards to the obstruction of fire hydrant as a result of Unauthorised Development.
- c. Correspondence from the Planning Inspectorate with regards to the approval of Appeal APP/P1560/W/22/3308647 (TDC 21/01000/FUL) 700 & 762 St John's Road and St John's Nursery, St John's Road, St Osyth.
- d. Correspondence from the Planning Inspectorate with regards to the approval of costs in respect of Appeal APP/P1560/W/22/3308647 (TDC 21/01000/FUL) 700 & 762 St John's Road and St John's Nursery, St John's Road, St Osyth.
- e. Correspondence from the Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm concerning the Statutory Consultation 14th March to 12th May 2023 - Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 ('the Act') and Regulations 11 and 13 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ('the 2017 Regulations').
- f. Correspondence from St Osyth Parish Council to the Planning Inspectorate with regards to Appeal APP/P1560/W/22/3311836 (TDC 22/00315/FUL) Land Rear of 172 Point Clear Road, Point Clear.
- g. Correspondence from Tendring District Council with regards to Appeal APP/P1560/D/23/3318207 (TDC 22001763/FULHH) High Birch Farmhouse, High Birch Road, St Osyth

OM-23-005 APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

RESOLVED: That having been previously circulated, the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 16th March 2023 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. Kelly. All agreed.

OM-23-006 SUMMARY OF ACTION:

- a. OM-22-233 c. The Clerk informed the Council that he had written to the Planning Inspectorate with regards to Appeal APP/P1560/W/22/3311836 (TDC 22/00315/FUL) Land Rear of 172 Point Clear Road, Point Clear.

- b. OM-22-237 a iii. The Clerk informed the Council that he had passed details of officers responsible for recycling at TDC to Cllr. Blockley.
- c. OM-22-237 b. The Clerk reminded the Council that the subject of PWC would be discussed later in the meeting.
- d. OM-22-237 c iii. The Clerk reminded the Council that the subject of street lighting along Point Clear Road would be discussed later in the meeting.
- e. OM-22-242 b ii. The Clerk enquired of Cllr. Atkins whether he would obtain the posts to be used for Way Markers, or whether he [Cllr. Atkins] would prefer that the Clerk/ Community Warden obtain them. Cllr. Atkins requested that the Clerk/ Community Warden obtain the posts, the measurements of which should be 3" x 3" x 94".
- f. OM-22-242 f ii a). By way of a PowerPoint presentation, the Clerk briefed the Council on the wording of the interpretation boards to be located at the Queen Elizabeth II Arboretum, at Cowley Park.
 - i. The Clerk subsequently produced scale drafts of the interpretation boards, which he added would be erected so as to make them a feature within the Arboretum, although the exact locations of where the five boards would be positioned had yet to be confirmed.
 - ii. The Clerk produced a photograph of a similar board erected at the entrance to the play area at the opposite end of Cowley Park, erected in 2017, which to date had been oiled once and cleaned once, and which was still in excellent condition.
 - iii. The Clerk informed the Council that the cost of the interpretation boards would be covered by donations from the Making A Difference Locally (MADL) Charity, and from local businesses including Nisa Local, the National Association of Caravan Owners (NACO), Leisurefame and the Blue Garden Café.
- g. OM-22-247. The Clerk requested that any outstanding lists of street signs be returned by Friday 28th April 2023.
- h. OM-22-249 b. The Clerk informed the Council that he had written to the Project Director of St Osyth Priory with regards to the Council's concern following the culling of deer, which had been reported on social media.

OM-23-007 CORRESPONDENCE:

The following correspondence was noted:

- a. Correspondence from Tendring District Council Environmental Protection Team concerning the discharge of waste at St Osyth Boatyard.
 - i. The Clerk having narrated extracts of the correspondence, Cllr. Lockwood expressed concern as to the lack of action, adding that the relevant Water Authority had a responsibility to ensure that the water was safe. He continued that the owner of the boatyard had applied to have the boatyard connected to the main sewage system, but that he had no further knowledge as to the progress of this application.

- ii. Cllr. Thomas stated that one only had to look in the area of the boatyard side of the sluice-gate, or around some of the moored vessels to see evidence of waste from some of the vessels.
 - a) Cllr. Lockwood agreed, adding that the waste expelled from the vessels within the boatyard had to be having an impact on the quality of the water within Mill Dam Lake. He continued that the gates had previously been opened to allow for tidal flow into the lake.
 - b) For the benefit of the Council, the Clerk explained that the sluice-gates were left open in January and February, for a period of about six weeks, in order to ensure the continued bio-diversity of the lake, which contained brackish water. The Clerk added that not only did the lake fill as a result of tidal water, but that it also received run-off from fields from as far as Pump Hill, the water entering the lake via St Osyth brook.
- iii. Following a brief conversation, it was requested that the Clerk write to Anglian Water with regards to the discharge of sewage from some of the vessels within the boatyard, and its potential impact on the quality of the water within Mill Dam Lake.
- b. Correspondence from The Local Government Boundary Commission for England with regards to the consultation in respect of changes to the Electoral Divisions in Essex.
- c. Correspondence from the Chairman of St Osyth Allotment Association concerning the length of the lease of the allotments site and the use of polytunnels.
- d. Correspondence from TDC with regards to the adoption of the new Code of Conduct and return of Councillor's Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) forms.
 - i. The Clerk informed the Council that both the new Code of Conduct and return of DPI forms would be an agenda item at the next meeting.
- e. Correspondence from His Majesty King Charles III expressing his appreciation to the Parish of St Osyth for its condolences following the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth.
 - i. By way of a PowerPoint presentation, the Clerk was able to show Councillors the card and wording contained therein.
- f. Correspondence from TDC with regards to the Parish Independent Remuneration Panel Review of January 2023.
 - i. The Clerk suggested that this be reviewed by the Finance Committee at its next meeting. All agreed.
- g. Correspondence from the Editorial Team of St Osyth News thanking the Parish Council for its grant towards the running of the magazine.

OM-23-008 FINANCE:

- a. Approval of payments for March 2023, as per the circulated list were agreed by the Council.
- b. The following balances were noted and agreed:

Current a/c	£120,325.81
Deposit	£53,268.77

OM-23-009 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

- a. **Cemetery Committee:** Cllr. Sinclair gave a report during which the following was noted:
 - i. Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC)
 - a) That a number of residents were looking into whether they had any association with the four servicemen buried within the Cemetery.
 - b) That there was a fifth serviceman buried within the Cemetery, however, they did not fall under the coverage of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.
 - c) That in addition to the plaque to be provided by the CWGC, there would also be information about the four servicemen placed in the notice board in front of the Chapel, together with four small brass plaques inscribed with the names of the four servicemen.
 - d) Cllr. Sinclair concluded her report with regards to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission by informing the Council that she had written an article for inclusion in the May edition of the Parish magazine.
 - ii. Opening of the Cemetery Chapel
 - a) Cllr. Sinclair reported on the opening of the Chapel, which took place between 2 pm and 4 pm on Saturday 18th March 2023, during which time many relatives had visited the Cemetery to lay flowers to mark Mother's Day. Cllr. Sinclair continued that 8 or 9 people who did not have any relatives interred within the Cemetery had visited the Chapel to reflect on the loss of relatives elsewhere.
 - b) Cllr. Sinclair stated that it was intended to open the Chapel again ahead of Father's Day.

OM-23-010 REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS:

- a. **Blooms in St Osyth:** Cllr. Ward reported on the need to deadhead the daffodils throughout the village, and that any help would be appreciated.

- i. Cllr. Sinclair reminded the Council of her email informing Councillors that the deadheading would take place on Saturday 29th April 2023 at 2 pm.
- b. **Highways Working Party:** Having been previously circulated, the notes of the meeting of 15th March 2023 were received by the Council.
 - i. Cllr's White and Ward enquired as to the presence at the meeting of the former Chairman of the Parish Council, Mrs Sonia Grantham.
 - a) The Clerk informed the Council that on Tuesday 14th March, Cllr. French had suggested that, given her knowledge of the safety improvements to the crossroads, Mrs Grantham be invited to attend the meeting on Wednesday 15th March.
 - i) The Clerk reported that at the beginning of the meeting, prior to the arrival of Mrs Grantham, those members of the Working Party who had been present were asked as to whether they were happy for Mrs Grantham to be present, which they were. The Clerk continued that he would amend the notes of the meeting to reflect the decision of the Working Party that Mrs Grantham be present during the discussion in respect of the crossroads.
 - b) The Clerk informed the Council that Working Parties were not subject to the strict rules applicable to formal Council meetings and that meetings need not be held in public. There were rules as to who was permitted to join Committees, Subcommittees or Working Parties, which could include non-Councillors, albeit in a non-voting capacity.
 - i) Cllr. Ward stated that she did not have any objections to Mrs Grantham being present, especially given her knowledge on the crossroads, but that in future the Parish Council should be requested to approve the attendance of a member of the public at such a meeting, prior to the meeting taking place. All agreed.
 - ii. Cllr. Sinclair informed the Council that during the Annual Parish Meeting on 13th April 2023, a number of residents had expressed concerns and dissatisfaction over the number of and standard of repair of potholes throughout the Parish. Cllr. Sinclair stated that she had intended to raise the matter with Cllr. Goggin, but due to his absence, this would be actioned at the May meeting, after which an article would be drafted for the Parish magazine.
- c. **Martin's Farm Country Park:** The Clerk informed the Council that he had yet to complete the notes on the meeting of 11th April 2023 and that they would therefore be received at the May meeting.
 - i. The Clerk informed the Council that one matter which had been discussed was the implementation of a Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) project on land owned by the County Council, such as Country Parks and former landfill sites, which would possibly include Martin's Farm Country Park.

- a) The Clerk stated that were the scheme to be implemented at Martin's Farm Country Park, an area of approximately 7 acres would be set aside for the purpose of BNG. This would essentially see developers, who were unable to deliver at least 10% BNG on developments, as required by the Environment Act 2021, purchasing biodiversity units to be delivered offsite, as compensation. All habitats created or enhanced to generate BNG units would be secured for at least 30 years.
 - b) Cllr. Atkins remarked that whilst making an attempt to help with biodiversity, the proposed scheme was not ideal.
 - c) Cllr. Lockwood enquired as to how the scheme would impact on the methane on site at Martin's Farm Country Park. The Clerk stated that was a matter for the County Council to address, but as the County Council's Land Operation Manager, Andrew Brown, was supportive of the proposed scheme.
- d. **Playground, Youth & Open Spaces Working Party:** Although there had not been a meeting of the Working Party, Cllr. Ward reported on the following:
- i. That the hedge along the western boundary of Dumont Avenue play area had been removed, which significantly improved the view of the play area from the road. At the request of Cllr. Ward, the Clerk, by way of a PowerPoint presentation, produced photographs showing the play area following the removal of the hedge.
 - ii. Cllr. Ward informed the Council that the Variation of Condition (VoC) relating to the return of Public Open Spaces Contributions (POSC) in respect of the development at Melinda Lane was now subject to a formal planning application. Cllr. Ward continued that the Clerk had spoken with the Planning Officer dealing with the application, who had advised the Clerk that the matter was currently under review by the District Council's Legal Department, and that although there could be no guarantee, there should be no reason why the application should not be approved.

OM-23-011 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES:

- a. **Essex County Council:** Having been previously circulated, the report from Cllr. Goggin, received in his absence, was noted.
- b. **Essex Police:** Having been previously circulated, the Council reviewed the crime statistics for February 2023.
 - i. Cllr. Kelly informed the Council of offences in Point Clear by location and where practicable the status of the investigation.
 - ii. In the absence of Cllr. Cooper, the Clerk reported on offences in St Osyth.

- iii. The Clerk informed the Council that prior to the meeting, the Police Community Support Officers (PCSO) responsible for St Osyth had visited the office and had reported that during a recent speed check along Point Clear Road, a total of 22 vehicles had been observed driving in excess of the 30-mph speed limit.
 - a) Of the 22 vehicles, only 1 was a visitor to the Orchards Holiday Park, the remaining 21 all being residents of Point Clear.
 - b) A total of 6 Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) had been issued, one of which was for a speed of just under 80-mph.
- c. **Footpaths:**
 - i. Cllr. Atkins reminded the Council of the damaged and out of date map which he had removed from Footpath 18. He continued that the scheme for the permissive section of the footpath, via the Environment Agency, had finished in 2016, and that it would be the responsibility of either the land owner or the Parish Council to replace any missing way markers. Cllr. Atkins stated that he would forward a link for the purchase of 'permissive footpath way markers to the Clerk, and that he [Cllr. Atkins] would also liaise with the owner of land to the rear of Dumont Avenue, over which another permissive footpath crossed.
- d. **Benches:** No report received.
- e. **Litter Bins:** Nothing to report.
- f. **Planters:** Cllr. Ward reported that the summer blooms had yet to be planted, and that she would do this with the assistance of the former Chairman.
- g. **Tree Warden:**
 - i. Having received the report following the survey of the Willow Plantation, carried out on 17th March 2023 by Tree Planning Solutions, Cllr. French reported that a number of trees had been identified as requiring some form of work to make them safe.
 - ii. At the request of Cllr. French, the Clerk reported that a total of 6 trees had been identified, which required work ranging from the removal of a single branch, pollarding or the felling of a complete tree. The Clerk informed the Council that there was additional information of which the Council should be aware, following an inspection, earlier that day, of the Willow Plantation by Mr Nick Wright of J.S. Wright & Sons Ltd, a firm which specialised in the production of cricket bats, at which Cllr. Atkins had been present.
 - iii. Cllr. Atkins reported that during the inspection 27 trees had been identified as being suitable for use in the manufacture of cricket bats. He continued that Mr Wright was willing to fell the selected trees and replace them with new saplings, for which the Parish Council would receive an income. Cllr. Atkins stated that Mr Wright would be contacting the Clerk to discuss the matter further.

- iv. Cllr. Sinclair requested that the matter be an agenda item at the next meeting of the Council.

- h. **Tendring District Association of Local Councils (TDALC):**

Cllr. Talbot gave the following report:

 - i. I regret to say that I missed the last meeting, which was held on Wednesday 22nd March. The first time I knew that I had missed the meeting, was when I received a call, at 9.21 pm, from Linda Belgrove, the Chairman, saying that members were concerned that I might be ill.

 - ii. I had been on my computer all of that day, writing reports and answering letters, with the last bit of business finishing at 6.56 pm. I had time to attend, but just forgot. I have represented the Parish on TDALC since 1998, during which time I have only missed three meetings in 25 years, but I greatly regret my absence on this occasion.

- i. **District Councillor's Report:**
 - i. Cllr. White gave the following report:
 - a) That he had only attended one planning meeting in recent weeks, which had taken place on the day of the Annual Parish Meeting. He continued that it had been a quick meeting, with only four applications, three of which were from the District Council itself.

 - b) That there had been a strong challenge to the Government's implementation of electors having to produce photo ID in order to vote at the forthcoming elections. Cllr. White continued that there had to date been in the region of 200 applications from within the District for the Government issued Voter Authority Certificates (VAC), which would enable those without any form of photo ID to vote. Nationally, it had been anticipated that approximately 3 million people would require a VAC, however, to date less than 1 million had applied for the document.

 - ii. Cllr. Talbot gave the following report:
 - a) Whilst the Council continues with its normal business, it cannot be over emphasised just how much Local Elections on the 4th of May overshadow everything elected members do in the course of a day's business.

 - b) For example, in my role as Portfolio Holder, many items come before me that require money to be spent or grants to be given, but conscious that a new administration will take over on 5th May, it would be wrong of me to commit them to expenditure which they would be forced to honour, without having made the relevant decision themselves.

- c) Even this morning, photographic evidence was received of empty chemical tubs found alongside the stream in Weeley, which will necessitate the need to check for pollution of the watercourse, both internally by TDC and externally by the Environment Agency, and another incident of serious fly-tipping on the Colchester Road at Wix needs attention.
- d) At individual elected member level, we all are dealing with domestic business within our own Wards, such as the delivery of our own election addresses and sites for posters, but business for residents must still be the priority. Even as late as this afternoon, at the Town Hall, I raised Alma Blockley's letter of 15th April to Environmental Services, together with my earlier letter of 18th March, on the subject raised at our last Council meeting in Dumont Hall of recycling payments due to the Point Clear Community Association (PCCA), arising from the sale of recyclate collected at Dumont Hall, where the bottle banks have been in place since July 2011. I wanted to know the current position, however, I suspect they may not have received any payment since installation, 13 years ago.
- j. **Website:** Cllr. Lockwood reported that although he was not standing at the local elections in May, he would be prepared to administer the existing website until such time as the new site was up and running.

OM-23-012 REPORTS FROM NOMINATED REPRESENTATIVES & TRUSTEES:

- a. **St Osyth Almshouse Charity:** Nothing to report.
- b. **St Osyth Playing Field Charity:**
 - i. Cllr. Thomas reported that there was an issue with the recently installed CCTV system at Cowley Park, in that the system was picking up the movement of vehicles travelling along Mill Street, which was in turn causing the alarm's red and blue lights to activate.
 - ii. The Clerk informed the Council that it was his understanding that the lights only came on when movement was detected within a certain range. The Clerk stated that he would liaise with GCS Alarms.
- c. **Point Clear Community Association:** Nothing to report.
- d. **Village Hall Management Committee:** Cllr. Thomas reported that the next meeting of the Management Committee was scheduled for 27th April 2023.
- e. **St Osyth Priory & Parish Trust:** Nothing to report.

OM-23-013 COMMUNITY REACH GRANT:

The Minutes of the Community Reach Partnership Annual General Meeting of 27th March 2023 having been previously circulated, Cllr. Talbot gave an overview of the history of the organisation, which had benefitted the Parish by way of the garages/sheds and youth shelter at Cowley Park and the bike racks at the Church.

- a. Cllr. Talbot reported that as funding for the scheme had now ceased, there was an amount of money to be split between the four Parishes which were part of the scheme, which would see each Parish receive in the region of £1,500.00.
- b. Cllr. Talbot stated that his initial thought as to how the money could be utilised was to allocate it towards the area set aside for parking at Cowley Park. Following a discussion, it was agreed that the Council should endorse Cllr. Talbot's suggestion.
- c. **RESOLVED:** That the Parish Council endorse the recommendation of Cllr. Talbot, that remaining funds of approximately £1,500.00 allocated to the Parish of St Osyth by way of the Community Reach Partnership, be utilised to improve the area set aside for parking at Cowley Park. The motion was proposed by Cllr. White and seconded by Cllr. Kelly. All agreed.

OM-23-014 USE OF PERSONAL WATER CRAFT (PWC) IN POINT CLEAR BAY:

Cllr. Lockwood informed the Council that he had convened a meeting of residents from both Point Clear Bay and Point Clear to discuss the many issues surrounding the use of Personal Water Craft (PWC) in Point Clear Bay.

- a. Cllr. Lockwood informed the Council that whilst some of the residents did not have any particular objections to the presence of Personal Water Craft (PWC) in Point Clear Bay, they had serious concerns as to the anti-social and dangerous use of the craft by some users, especially those in the vicinity of Ray Creek.
- b. He continued that a fair and safe system was needed, especially as residents of Point Clear were paying approximately £70.00 to the Brightlingsea Harbour Master in harbour dues, for which they received no discernible benefit.

OM-23-015 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

- a. A member of the public thanked Cllr. Lockwood for arranging the meeting at which the subject of Personal Water Craft (PWC) had been discussed.
 - i. The member of the public subsequently reiterated Cllr. Lockwood's statement with regards to them having no particular objections to the presence of PWC in Point Clear Bay, but that they did have serious concerns as to the anti-social and dangerous use of the craft, especially those used in the vicinity of Ray Creek.
 - ii. The member of the public then narrated an email from a member of the Essex Police Marine Unit, in which it stated that the Parish Council had a plan to deal with the problem of the anti-social use of PWC. The member of the public enquired as to the nature of the plan, whether it had been ratified and when it would be implemented.
 - a) The Clerk stated that he had not been in contact with the Marine Police Unit since November 2022, at which time he had stated that a meeting would be necessary in the new year (2023) once all interested parties including the Parish Council, Brightlingsea Harbour Master, Essex Police Marine Unit and the Management Team of the Orchards Holiday Park could all be present.

- iii. The member of the public continued that a meeting was being scheduled with representatives of Bird Aware Essex, the Essex Wildlife Trust and the Essex Wildlife Crime Officer to discuss the impact on the anti-social use of PWC on nesting birds in the vicinity of Ray Creek.
- b. A second member of the public reported that they had received an email from Mike Carran, TDC Assistant Director Economic Growth & Leisure, in which he stated that the District Council had no responsibility for the safety of those using the beach or waters in Point Clear Bay.
 - i. The member of the public continued that they had been advised to contact Colchester Borough Council to ascertain whether the area of Ray Creek was classed as being part of the River Colne, in which case it might possibly be covered by the respective Byelaws.
- c. A third member of the public addressed the Council, stating that as a resident of Point Clear, who had owned and used boats, including in recent years PWC, since 1965, they accepted that there was anti-social behaviour, which was impacting on responsible users such as themselves.
 - i. The member of the public continued that they had concerns as to the actions of the Brightlingsea Harbour Master, who since 2021 had used several methods, including the use of security staff to prevent access to Stone Point, from where marine craft, including PWC were launched.
 - ii. The member of the public continued that they found the crew of the Harbour Master's launch to be ignorant and at times aggressive towards legitimate and responsible PWC users, unlike the Essex Police Marine Unit, who were always polite and engaging.
 - iii. The member of the public stated that it was their belief that Brightlingsea Harbour Commissioners had, since 2003, been looking to obtain control of Stone Point. They continued that it was unfair that as a resident of Point Clear, they had to pay harbour dues of £70.00 to the Brightlingsea Harbour Master in order to be able to launch their craft from Stone Point.
 - iv. The member of the public concluded by stating that it was again unfair that they were being forced to pay harbour dues whilst the operator of the boat yard on the Orchards Holiday Park was openly taking unregistered craft past the security staff hired by the Harbour Master, for a nominal fee, without any knowledge as to who was using the craft.
- d. For the benefit of all present, the Clerk, by way of a PowerPoint presentation, gave an overview of the geographical area of Point Clear Bay, including Stone Point and Ray Creek, the registered launch sites and jurisdiction along the coast from Dovercourt to Brightlingsea.
- e. Cllr. Sinclair suggested that Stone Point be included on the Annual Parish Appraisal. All agreed.

OM-23-016 STREET LIGHTING ALONG POINT CLEAR ROAD:

The subject of street lighting along Point Clear Road having been raised during public participation at the meeting of 16th March 2023, the Clerk, by way of a PowerPoint presentation gave an overview of the surveys conducted in 2012 and 2015 respectively, during which the following was noted:

- a. That the deemed maximum acceptable distance between street lights (where present) was 183 metres. This did not have to be between lighting units on the same side of the carriageway, therefore, it would be acceptable to have a gap of 200 metres plus, on one side, providing that there was a lighting unit on the opposite side within 183 metres of the street light.
- b. The Clerk reported that there were 30 street lights along Point Clear Road, none of which, when taking into account lights on both sides of the carriageway, exceeded the distance of 183 metres.
- c. That the length of Point Clear Road, between Lee Wick Lane and the roundabout at the entrance to Point Clear Bay, was 1,975 metres. When divided by the acceptable distance of 183 metres, this gave the number of street lights which would be deemed necessary as being 11.
- d. That the only area along Point Clear Road where street lighting could be deemed necessary was between Meadow Cottage and Lee Wick Lane, where the distance between lights on either side of the road was 260 metres.
- e. The Clerk stated that having sought advice from the Parish Council's lighting contractor as to the cost of installing a new street light, it had been established that a unit and pole could be purchased for the approximate cost of £1,800.00, however, the connection to the power supply by UK Power Networks would bring the total cost to circa £4,000.00 - £4,500.00 per light.

OM-23-017 CLIMATE CHANGE:

- a. The continued commitment of the Parish Council towards Climate Change was noted.

OM-23-018 FURTHER MATTERS:

- a. Cllr. Sinclair thanked Cllr's Lockwood and Coe for their contribution to the Parish Council during their tenure as Councillors, especially Cllr. Lockwood for his assistance with the website.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.35 pm.

The date of the next meeting was set for 7.00 pm on Thursday 18th May 2023, at St Osyth Village Hall.

**Summary of 'Action Required' from the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting
held on Thursday 20th April 2023**

OM-23-006 c	Provision of Stakes	Clk/ CW to action
OM-23-007 a iii	Quality of Water in Mill Dam Lake	Clk to action
OM-23-007 d i	Code of Conduct / Pecuniary Interests	PC to discuss in May
OM-23-007 f i	Independent Remuneration Panel Review	FinCom to review
OM-23-010 b i a) i)	Highways Working Party Notes	Clk to action
OM-23-010 b ii	Article on Potholes for Parish Magazine	Cllr. Sinclair to action
OM-23-011 c i	Permissive Footpath Markers	Clk to action
OM-23-011 g iv	Willow Plantation	PC to discuss in May
OM-23-011 j	Website	Cllr. Lockwood to action
OM-23-012 b ii	CCTV System	Clk to action
OM-23-013 c	Community Reach Partnership Grant	Cllr. Talbot to action
OM-23-015 e	Annual Parish Appraisal	Clk to action

Signature: *[Signed on Original]*
KJE Sinclair
Acting-Chairman