

WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 6 JULY 2017

PRESENT: Councillors: Carl Powling (Mayor)
Peter Banks
Dave Bragg
Peter Clements
Robert Jenkins
Paula Moore
Sylvia Wargent
Sophie Weaver

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk: Petra Palfreyman
Borough Councillor: Robert Davidson

Reports from Borough Councillors

Councillor Davidson reported on the following points:

- West Mersea Town Council are encouraged to apply for Village of the Year and Cemetery of the Year with the RCCE.
- The Colchester Borough Council Draft Local Plan was approved on 12 June 2017. Borough Councillor Jowers arranged for the consultation to be extended to 11 August 2017. West Mersea Town Council and residents are encouraged to submit their representations.
- Councillor Davidson agreed to contact Essex Highways about the proposed road closures in Firs Road for an 8 week period over the school holidays and Mersea Week.

6497 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Shilton and Borough Councillors John Jowers and Patricia Moore.

6498 TO RECORD DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Councillor Weaver declared a non-pecuniary interest in planning application 17 1575.

6499 PUBLIC SESSION

The following points and questions were raised:

- A request to consider an adult play area.

- The Mayor was asked if some recent comments made were his personal views or the views of the Council.
- A request was made for further signage at the top of The Lane in order to stop oversized traffic using the road.
- The Council were invited to an open morning at the Tennis Club on Saturday 15th July 2017 between 10am and 2pm for refreshments.

6500 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF 8 JUNE 2017 - MATTERS ARISING

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Jenkins, SECONDED by Councillor Bragg that the MINUTES of the Meeting held on 8 June 2017, be CONFIRMED. ALL IN FAVOUR.

Matters arising:

There were no matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

6501 TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

(a) 17 1077 & 17 1078

Proposed foul and surface water drainage to replace the existing system.
Bocking Hall, 35 East Mersea Road, West Mersea – Mr & Mrs Marr
Consultation expiry date: 16.6.17 - See decision (d) on page 3.

(b) 17 1304

Single storey rear extension, front dormer and alterations to fenestration and addition of part weatherboarding.
6 Firs Hamlet, West Mersea – Mr N Holford

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend CONSENT be granted in respect of this application.

(c) 17 1475

Erection of a single storey flat roof rear extension.
84 Empress Avenue, West Mersea – Mr R Shaw

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend CONSENT be granted in respect of this application.

(d) 17 1100

Two storey rear extension.
21 Empress Avenue, West Mersea – Mr & Mrs Lightfoot

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend Consent be granted in respect of this application, with a condition that the recommendations in the tree survey are enforced.

(e) 17 1575

Erection of single storey porch to front.
154 Coast Road, West Mersea – Mr C Westgate

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend Refusal on the grounds that the proposal is overbearing for the properties in that area.

(f) 17 1564

Sub-division of a vacant warden's maisonette to form two new self-contained one bedroomed flats.
Flat 3 Hall Barn, West Mersea – Mr N Selmes

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend Refusal on the grounds that development was originally agreed on the proviso that there would be a live in warden.

(g) 17 1588

Retrospective application. Conversion of window on the front of the property into a set of French doors.
3 Carriers Close, West Mersea – Mrs E Talbot

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend CONSENT be granted in respect of this application.

(h) 17 1508

Combining two dwellings into one.
9 City Road, West Mersea – Miss A Preece

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend Consent in respect of this application, with a condition that it could readily be turned back in to two properties in the future.

(i) 17 1647

Ground and first floor extensions.
6 Shears Crescent, West Mersea – Mr J Whiting

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend CONSENT be granted in respect of this application.

(j) 17 1643

Two storey side extension and single storey rear extension.
100 Coast Road, West Mersea – Mr P Plumtree

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend CONSENT be granted in respect of this application.

(k) 17 1686

Single storey front and side extension and conversion of existing garage to bedroom.
28 Elmwood Drive, West Mersea – Mr B Lovegrove

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend CONSENT be granted in respect of this application.

6502 TO RECEIVE NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS RECEIVED

Applications passed

- (a) 17 1133
Single storey front extension and render front elevation of existing dwelling.
69 East Road, West Mersea – Mr J Blois

- (b) 17 1119
Change the use of a recently constructed sail loft within the curtilage of Fleet Cottage to a ‘granny annexe’ solely for the benefit of the relative of the applicant.
Fleet Cottage, 88 Coast Road, West Mersea – Mr E Taylor

- (c) 17 1147
Small balcony to front of property.
White Croft, 4a Alexandra Avenue, West Mersea – Ms J Granger and Mr B Wells

- (d) 17 1077
Proposed foul and surface water drainage to replace the existing system.
Bocking Hall, 35 East Mersea Road, West Mersea – Mr & Mrs Marr

- (e) 17 1157
2 no. new dwellings.
63 Churchfields, West Mersea – Mr J Grogan

- (f) 17 0893
Retrospective application for an annexe (amended description).
Backwater Lodge, 20b Firs Chase, West Mersea – Mr D Cope

Application Withdrawn

- (a) 17 1257
Proposed temporary office building.
White Hart Carvery Hotel, 1 High Street, West Mersea – Mr B Lord

6503 TO DISCUSS TAKING PART IN THE BEACON LIGHTING CEREMONY ON 11 NOVEMBER 2018 FOR THE 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF THE 1ST WORLD WAR, TO COMMEMORATE AND REMEMBER THOSE KILLED AND INJURED

Following discussion, Councillor Powling agreed to contact the Royal British Legion to discuss their plans and Councillor Weaver agreed to act as liaison and coordinator with the Royal British Legion, the local school and the museum.

6504 TO DISCUSS THE EMAIL REGARDING THE UPLAND ROAD RECYCLING CENTRE AND AGREE THE NEXT ACTIONS

Following discussion, it was agreed that the original 10 year agreement needs further review before a decision can be made.

6505 TO AGREE THE PURCHASE OF A NEW LAPTOP, DOCKING STATION AND KEYBOARD FOR THE CLERK AT A COST OF £1320

Following discussion, it was agreed that the new IT equipment be purchased.

6506 TO AGREE THE COST OF THE NEW INSURANCE PREMIUM 3 YEAR DEAL AT AN ANNUAL COST OF £4698.60

Following discussion, the payment for the insurance premium was agreed.

6507 TO AGREE TO INCREASE THE FELDY VIEW WOODLAND CEMETERY CHARGES BY 5% FROM 1 AUGUST 2017

Following discussion, the increase of 5% for Feldy View Woodland cemetery was agreed.

6508 TO AGREE TO REVISE THE CONDITIONS FOR PLOT ALLOCATIONS WHERE PLOTS ARE PRE-PURCHASED IN FELDY VIEW WOODLAND CEMETERY

Following discussion, it was agreed that plots in Feldy View Woodland Cemetery could be pre-purchased but the location of the plot cannot be agreed until it is required.

6509 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS:

Bradwell – report attached

Cemetery – the committee are working hard to improve the visual appearance of Feldy View Woodland Cemetery.

Communications – nothing to report

Assets, Facilities and Environment – refer to the minutes of meeting 16 June 2017

Local Community Meeting – report attached

West Mersea Neighbourhood Plan – the group have started public engagement and will be visible in some local venues in the near future. The housing needs questionnaire is almost ready for publication on line.

Personnel – nothing to report

Sports and Recreation – refer to minutes of 22 May 2016

Transport – costings to upgrade the car park pay machines have been sought. New No Entry signs at the bottom of The Lane near The Old Victory have been erected.

Waterside – discussions taking place for a local business to house the temporary flood barrier for use at the bottom of The Lane

6510 MAYOR'S NOTES

The Mayor visited the local primary school to attend their WW1 commemoration celebration. Colchester Borough Council planners have advised the advertising scaffolding at The Strood must be removed. Colchester Borough Council Planning Enforcement officers are aware of the infilling work being carried out in Coast Road to the right of the Oyster Bar facing seaward and the building of two new floating accommodation units, also in the same area.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.40pm.