

WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2017

PRESENT: Councillors: Paula Moore (Deputy Mayor)
Peter Banks
David Bragg
Peter Clements
Bernard Hart
Robert Jenkins
Sylvia Wargent
Sophie Weaver

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk: Petra Palfreyman

Deputy Mayor Paula Moore welcome Dr Bernard Hart to the Council and presented him with the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

6584 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Councillor Powling.

6585 TO RECORD DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Banks declared a non-pecuniary interest in planning application 17 2885.

6586 PUBLIC SESSION

Three members of the public in attendance

The following comments were received:

All the details about the Village Green are on file in the office from 1985.

The Colchester Borough Council Strategic Flood Risk Assessment update from August 2016, indicates that if the sea walls were breached the area of land flooded is significant on and off the island but it doesn't show the area that would flood including the Strood, the marshes and the road up to the bottom of Strood Hill. Requested that it is pointed out to Colchester Borough Council there would be no access to the island as the surrounding roads would be covered.

The Council were reminded of the potential new obligation regarding GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations).

The Council were asked to note to a government paper regarding housing numbers. Colchester Borough Council are concerned that the government will increase the housing numbers for Colchester which is currently 900 per year and the government want to add another 200. The Inspector has asked Colchester Borough Council what steps they have taken to consider this uplift. Colchester Borough Council say they cannot cope with another 200 houses per year.

Some residents in East Mersea believe that the Neighbourhood Plan should be for one area (East & West) and are unhappy about it being two wards. Karen Syrett from Colchester Borough Council is happy to be approached.

Concern was raised the affordable housing allocation would be as well as the allocations for Brierley Paddocks and Dawes Lane. The feeling is that the affordable housing allocation should be included in the overall allocation.

There still is not a sign at the top of The Lane and there are still large vans using residents drives to turn around in.

The Village Green at the Dabchicks is still congested with old and abandoned boats. This matter will be discussed further at the Waterside meeting next week.

6587 PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

(a) 17 2404 (amended plan)

Proposed single storey, flat roof rear extension to accommodate a new garden room. Internal reconfiguration to ground and first floor layout and extension of existing rear balcony.
Backwater Lodge, 20b Firs Chase, West Mersea – Mr D Cope

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

(b) 17 2608 (Listed building)

Internal improvements
56 Coast Road, West Mersea – Mr & Mrs Sharpe

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

(c) 17 2552

Removal of single garage for two storey side extension and single storey rear extension with balcony to front. (Revised drawings)
19 Shears Crescent, West Mersea – D Cook

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

(d) 17 2601

Change of use from offices to residential dwelling and new first floor extension.
First floor, 2 Barfield Road, West Mersea – Ms M Mudd

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

(e) 17 2635

Front porch extension.
77 Seaview Avenue, West Mersea – Mr & Mrs Segal

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

(f) 17 1803

Removal of roof to single storey dwelling. Construction of first floor and roof and internal alterations.
Resubmission of planning permission 16 1703.
8 Beach Road, West Mersea – Mr M Matthews

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

(g) 17 2885

Extension to residential property.
18 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea – Mr N Pritchard

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

(h) 17/01128/FUL (Maldon District Council planning application)

Application to carry out preliminary ground investigations and associated works in connection with a potential new Nuclear Power Station at Bradwell-on-Sea, use existing building as core storage area and form site compound with associated parking area.

Land East of Bradwell Power Station, Downhall Beach, Bradwell on Sea, Essex.

Following discussion it was agreed that a letter is issued.

Proposed: Councillor Banks, Seconded: Councillor Hart. ALL IN FAVOUR

6588 NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS RECEIVED

Applications Passed

(a) 17 2203

Single storey side and rear extension.

6 Buxey Close, West Mersea – Mrs R Carnell

(b) 17 2433

Application to vary condition 2 of planning permission 15 1500.

21 Prince Albert Road, West Mersea – Mr S Downes

WMTC declined to comment.

(c) 17 2404

Proposed single storey, flat roof rear extension to accommodate a new garden room. Internal reconfiguration to ground and first floor layout and extension of existing rear balcony.

Backwater Lodge, 20b Firs Chase, West Mersea – Mr D Cope

6589 TO NOTE THE CURRENT FINANCIAL POSITION

The Clerk presented a spreadsheet with the current financial position and income and expenditure between 1 April 2017 and 9 November 2017. The Clerk agreed to issue an electronic copy of the spreadsheet to all the Councillors for further inspection and any questions. The Santander account has now been closed and the balance of £1115.64 has been paid in to the current account.

6590 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE CHANGING THE SIGNATORIES ON THE NS&I ACCOUNT

The Clerk advised that due to historic changes the current signatories on the account were unknown. In order to rectify this, NS & I request that any changes to signatories are minuted. Two Councillors and the Clerk will need to sign the documentation to be able to update and access the account.

6591 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE TO APPOINT A PLANNING OFFICER VISIT TO THE GLEBE

Following discussion it was agreed to ask the cricket and rugby club to provide West Mersea Town Council with the planning applications (including drawings) for their two new proposed 20ft containers (one beside the tennis club and one by the bridge on Glebe 2) and for the Tennis club to provide an application for change of use for the tennis club, such that West Mersea Town Council can submit the application to Colchester Borough Council. All clubs will have to reimburse West Mersea Town Council for the costs of submitting the planning permission. No applications will be made for any retrospective permissions.

6592 THE CLERK TO REPORT THE COST OF INSURING THE NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT IN WEST MERSEA PARK

The increased cost to insure the new and existing play equipment is £375.86 for the remainder of this year and will be £603.60 for a full year next year. The public liability has increased slightly due to the cable way.

6593 MAYOR'S NOTES

It is hopeful that the new play area will be inspected next Wednesday ready for use in the afternoon by the school children.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.31pm.