



## **NOTES OF THE VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING**

**HELD ON THURSDAY 9 APRIL 2020 AT 11AM**

PRESENT:	Councillors:	Carl Powling (Mayor) John Akker Julie Baker Peter Banks David Bragg Robert Jenkins Sylvia Wargent Sophie Weaver Chris Wood
IN ATTENDANCE:	Town Clerk: Cemetery Clerk:	Petra Palfreyman Carol Fountain

### **Planning applications received**

(a) 20 0389

Remove part of garage to form part covered car port, infill covered porch to make internal lobby, altered balcony with new support post, new fenestration, new board cladding to front and part side, new render over brickwork to rear and other internal alterations including redesignation of room functions, new layout at ground floor to include utility and ensuite shower/WC, and at first floor to include altered room heights, relocation of kitchen and sundry minor elements.

26 Coast Road, West Mersea – Ms C Jenkins

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

(b) 20 0653

Proposed car park.

1 High Street, West Mersea – Mr B Lord

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

(c) 20 0553

Construction of a new 1½ storey, 4 bedroom residential dwelling (class C3) within the curtilage of a grade II\* listed building, with carport and associated external works.

Land adjacent to Yew Tree House, 16 Coast Road, West Mersea – Dr B Fox

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

(d) 19 3144

Extensions and alterations to existing bungalow to provide 2 storey 4 bed roomed house. Demolition of existing detached garage, with new garage incorporated into the scheme. External landscaping works to remove existing hedging and replace with low level gabion wall and timber gates.

13a Grove Avenue, West Mersea – Mr J Day

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend refusal on the following grounds:

- Out of keeping with the street scene.
- The hedge must be kept and maintained.

(e) 20 0719

Single storey rear extension and loft conversion.

10 Fairhaven Avenue, West Mersea – Mr P Reed

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

(f) 19 3061

The installation of a demountable flood defence barrier (temporary feature) to reduce the risk of flooding to properties from surface water and tidal surges, construction of new PLP flood wall to tie into temporary defences etc.

Carriers Close, West Mersea – Mr D Chapman

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

(g) 20 0717

Siting of 15no. timber camping pods, gravel foundation pads, footpaths and associated facilities.

West Mersea Holiday Park (formerly Seaview Holiday Park), Seaview Avenue, West Mersea – Park Holidays UK Ltd

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

(h) 19 2244

Demolition of existing residential dwelling and erection of new residential dwelling. Revised drawings.

The Cottage, 12 Beach Road, West Mersea – Mr D West

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend refusal on the following grounds:

- Out of keeping with the street scene.
- Overpowering and denies neighbours privacy.

(i) 20 0723

Outline planning application for up to 99 residential dwellings (including up to 30% affordable housing), provision of land for a doctor's surgery, recreation ground park, introduction of structural planting and landscaping, informal public open space and children's play area, surface water flood mitigation, vehicular access point from Colchester Road and associated ancillary works. All matters to be reserved with the exception of the main site access.

Land off Colchester Road, West Mersea – Gladman, Grays Farms Ltd

Deferred until the Council meeting to be held on 23 April 2020.

## Planning decisions received

### Application passed

(a) 20 0390

Rear extension and new roof. Resubmission of 19 1268.  
Old City Hall, 13 The Lane, West Mersea – Mr French

### Application withdrawn

(a) 20 0371

To build a front wall with gates. This would replace the conifer hedge that is very unsightly.  
7 Empress Avenue, West Mersea – Mr D Murrell

### WMTC recommendation:

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend refusal on the following grounds:

Out of keeping with the street scene.

### The following points were discussed:

- The Council agreed to cancel the meeting on 4 June 2020. The Clerk confirmed that meetings can be held legally via video conference calls, per the Coronavirus Act 2020. A Zoom meeting will be held on 23 April at 11.00am to discuss the Colchester Road site planning application. The public will be able to log in and take part in this meeting.
- The Council agreed to subscribe to the upgraded Zoom service which does not restrict meeting duration times. The cost is £7.99 per month (discounted by NALC). Prop Councillor Powling, Seconded: Councillor Akker. All in favour.
- Councillor Powling advised that the volunteer helpline service is working well with up to 50 calls per day. A hot meals service has also been set up in conjunction with Essex County Council and Essex Outdoors Mersea to provide a hot meal, sandwich and cold dessert for £5 per day/£30 per week, for the elderly/vulnerable/hardship cases. The Clerk advised that a grant of £15000 to help with this has been applied for. A short application has been completed and a telephone interview will take place next week to confirm details of the project.
- The Clerk advised that a template should be set up for the volunteers expense claims.
- Councillor Baker said that she had heard that the doctors were asking about end of life care to some of their patients and it seemed to be an ill timed message. Carol Fountain has contacted the surgery for confirmation of what is actually being asked and will forward the response to all Councillors.
- MISA will be offered a rent holiday based on their current payments for April, May & June as a rebate at the end of June. MISA have not replied to their queries about the new lease offer. Councillor Powling has spoken to Sport England and will check the email and confirm to the Councillors his findings. A Zoom Sports & Recreation meeting will be set up for early May 2020.
- The Clerk advised that we need to make a decision about the grass cutting quotes soon and will resend the original email.
- Councillor Banks requested that a process was set up for answering emails from the public.
- A general conversation was held about the bank holiday weekend and what could be done to deter visitors. The Council agreed to issue another Facebook message. Councillor Wood would compose the message for agreement by all Councillors before publishing.

Notes prepared by Petra Palfreyman, Town Clerk.