

WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 8 OCTOBER 2020

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:	Petra Palfreyman
	Borough Councillors:	Robert Davidson Patricia Moore

THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE CALL (CORONAVIRUS ACT Part 2020 1 Section 78 Regulations 2 – 17)

20/217 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence received from Borough Councillor John Jowers.

20/218 TO RECORD DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Akker declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 20/221 as a member of Stop 350 and Mersea Island Society.

Councillors Baker and Wood declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 20/221 as members of Stop 350.

20/219 PUBLIC SESSION

5 members of the public in attendance.

A request was made for some semi- mature and commemorative trees to be planted as part of the planting programme. Also that Colchester Borough Council are asked to replace street trees that are removed or damaged.

A request was made to consider charging the public for use of Coast Road toilets once refurbished.

20/220 REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

Borough Councillor Patricia Moore

Colchester Borough Council have launched an incentive for locals to collect trees seeds such as acorns, to grow them for two years and then plant in public places.

A consultation was requested about the red routes as it is felt residents have not been fully informed and consulted.

Borough Councillor Robert Davidson

The MP's are being lobbied behind the scenes about the new Planning White papers.

Part One of the Local Plan has still not been signed off so Part 2 cannot go ahead yet.

Due to the £2M budget deficit at Colchester Borough Council, there will be redundancies and other cuts.

A height barrier in Victoria Esplanade to stop motor homes staying overnight would be supported.

A consultation for the red routes would be welcomed

The revised Bradwell B response is ongoing – it will go back to the scrutiny committee for agreement and then on to the cabinet.

20/221 PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

(a) 20 1915

Conversion of existing internal garage and two storey rear extension.

23 East Mersea Road, West Mersea – Mills

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

(b) 20 1965

Replace existing window with new patio doors and replace existing French doors with bay window. Revised description.

8 The Lane, West Mersea – Mr J Vince

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

(c) 20 2020

Construction of 2 storey side and 2 storey rear extension.

26 St Peters Road, West Mersea – Mrs J Holmes

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

(d) 20 2034

Proposed single storey rear extension.

78a Coast Road, West Mersea – Mr G Granger

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

(e) 20 2067

Extension to entertainments complex arcade area to provide additional 210m² of space, including new takeaway kitchen.

Waldegraves Holiday Park, Waldegraves Lane, West Mersea – Mr D Lord

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

(f) 20 2092

First floor extension.

34 Strood Close, West Mersea – Mr N Purdie

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

20/222 NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS RECEIVED

Applications passed

(a) 20 1498

Demolition of the existing garage. Construction of flat roofed extension to rear and side of the existing single storey dwelling.

71 East Road, West Mersea – Mr R Ryall

- (b) 20 1566
Demolish existing detached garage and replace to right side with a two storey side extension. Enlarge existing porch. Remove gates to left side and build a new brick store with a lean to tiled roof.
1 Gainsborough Close, West Mersea – Mr C & Mrs Storrar
- (c) 20 1177
Proposed alterations and extensions to an existing dwelling.
57 Seaview Avenue, West Mersea – Mrs M Saunders
- (d) 20 1588
Proposed two storey rear extension and new front boundary wall with relocation of vehicular crossover. Resubmission of 19 2972.
24 St Peters Road, West Mersea – Mr B Lord
- (e) 20 1565
Two storey rear extension.
19 Mersea Avenue, West Mersea – Miss J Gozzett
- (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.
Carriers Close, West Mersea – Mr D Chapman

Applications refused

- (a) 20 1502
Listed building. Erection of a single storey rear orangery.
Yew Tree House, 16 Coast Road, West Mersea – Mrs N French

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

- (b) 20 1501
Erection of a single storey rear orangery.
Yew Tree House, 16 Coast Road, West Mersea – Mrs N French

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

20/223 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF 16 JULY 2020 - MATTERS ARISING

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Wood, SECONDED by Councillor Weaver that the MINUTES of the meeting held on 16 July 2020, be CONFIRMED. ALL IN FAVOUR.

Matters arising:

Councillor Akker requested that the Brierley Paddocks liaison group is given approval to be set up between residents and the developer. All agreed that Councillors Akker, Baker and Wood would take part in a personal capacity and not as Councillors.

20/224 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF 3 AUGUST 2020 - MATTERS ARISING

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Wood, SECONDED by Councillor Banks that the MINUTES of the meeting held on 3 August 2020, be CONFIRMED. ALL IN FAVOUR.

Matters arising:

The Clerk confirmed the computer back up system was up and running.

20/225 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF 13 AUGUST 2020 - MATTERS ARISING

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Akker, SECONDED by Councillor Wood that the MINUTES of the meeting held on 13 August 2020, be CONFIRMED. ALL IN FAVOUR.

Matters arising:

Councillor Akker raised concerns that the Bradwell B response has not been put forward. All agreed that Borough Councillor Davidson had confirmed it was progressing earlier in the meeting.

20/226 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF 25 AUGUST 2020 - MATTERS ARISING

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Wood, SECONDED by Councillor Bragg that the MINUTES of the meeting held on 25 August 2020, be CONFIRMED. ALL IN FAVOUR.

Matters arising:

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

20/227 TO PROVIDE AN UPDATE ABOUT ELECTRIC VEHICLE (EV) CHARGING POINTS FOR THE CAR PARKS AND AGREE NEXT ACTIONS

The Clerk advised that NEPP had confirmed that they would only be putting Electric Vehicle charging points in town centre car parks for the foreseeable future. The Transport Committee agreed to add this to their next agenda for consideration in West Mersea car parks.

20/228 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE ANY WORKS TO THE CEDARS IN BARFIELD ROAD CEMETERY. OPTIONS INCLUDE BRACING AT A COST OF £2320 OR CROWN LIFTING AT A COST OF £1900

The Clerk advised that options for these trees were bracing them, a crown lift, felling or leaving as they are. Following discussion the Council agreed that the trees were important to the cemetery and street scene and no further action would be taken but they would be monitored on a regular basis.

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

20/229 TO CONSIDER SUBMITTING A COMMENT ON THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE 2018-BASED HOUSEHOLD PROJECTIONS FOR THE HOUSING REQUIREMENT IN THE SECTION 1 PLAN

Following discussion, the Council advised they did not wish to submit any comments.

20/230 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE A PROGRAMME TO PLANT UP TO 4000 WHIPS IN THE NEXT FOUR YEARS IN THE CEMETERY, GLEBE, REYMEAD AND WILLOUGHBY

Councillor Jenkins advised that over the next 3 years 4000 whips would be planted as part of a Colchester Borough Council climate change initiative. These will be in Glebe 2, Willoughby and Reymead. All agreed that information about the need for more trees, the health benefits, the need to do this for future generations and the climate emergency should be well promoted. The Colchester Borough Council Woodland and Open Space Project Officer is involved with the planning and advice. The trees will be provided free of charge with rabbit guards and canes. Colchester Borough Council will also be providing a flowering cherry tree to replace the dead memorial tree on Churchfields Green.

20/231 MAYOR'S NOTES

Councillor Powling said we should keep well informed about the COVID 19 situation and how our residents are affected so that we can react if necessary. The Council will monitor any action they will need to take over the coming weeks.

There has been much misunderstanding and speculation about the red lines but we have responded to queries and issues by adding extra loading bays and disabled bays.

Thanks were given to Councillor Jenkins and the Clerk for their work with the Coast Road toilet refurbishment, Councillor Banks for his work with Bradwell and the Neighbourhood Plan, and to Councillor Wood and the Sports & Recreation Committee for their work with the Sports Club leases and to all Councillors and staff for their continued hard work.

Special mention was also made to local resident Mr Peter Rudlin. Peter has recently won the Gold Award for Service to the Community in recognition of his continued and hard work with Neighbourhood Watch in Mersea, spanning 20 years.

There being no other business, the public meeting closed at 8.30pm.