

WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2020

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

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

20/201 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Councillor Robert Jenkins, Borough Councillors Davidson, Jowers and Moore.

20/202 TO RECORD DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Akker declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 20/207, 20/208 and 20/214 as a member of Stop 350 and Mersea Island Society.

Councillor Baker declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 20/204 as a member of Stop 350.

Councillor Peter Banks declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 20/207 as the Neighbourhood Plan Coordinator.

Councillors David Bragg and Sylvia Wargent declared a non-pecuniary interest in planning application 201814.

Councillor Wood declared a pecuniary interest in the East Road development and a non-pecuniary interest in all planning applications as a member of Stop 350.

20/203 PUBLIC SESSION

9 members of the public in attendance.

Comments were made against the proposed floodlights at the Glebe.

An increase in car parking charges was requested.

Comments were made in favour and against an extension to the skate park in West Mersea Park. Councillor Powling advised this had been misreported and was being considered as part of a wish list at this stage.

Queries were made about the lack of consultation for the new red route in Coast Road.

20/204 PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

(a) 20 1531

Installation of 4 x 15 metre masts complete with 8 x 2kw floodlights to achieve 100 lux on the pitch as required by the RFU.

Glebe Recreation Ground, Colchester Road, West Mersea – Mersea Island Rugby Football Club

We do not have agreement from all of the Mersea Island Sports Association clubs and there are concerns about the specification and the potential for light pollution.

(b) 20 1737

Proposed rear extension.
14 Melrose Road, West Mersea – J Tasker

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

(c) 20 1844

Construction of outbuilding/annexe, incidental to main dwelling.
26 St Peters Road, West Mersea – Mrs J Holmes

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

(d) 20 1795

Advertisement consent. Erection of free-standing, single-side aluminium advance sign for Waldegraves Holiday Park.
Land north of Pond Cottage, adjacent to Waldegraves Lane, West Mersea – Mr D Lord

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

(e) 20 1814

Refurbishment of the property with changes to external doors and fenestration, porch to the front door and a new gabled roof to the garage.
1 Victoria Esplanade, West Mersea – Mr J Borges

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend consent be granted in respect of this application, on the understanding that Colchester Borough Council planners take a look as the build seems to be more than the plans suggest.

(f) 20 1846

Single storey rear extension.
43 Mersea Avenue, West Mersea – Mr & Mrs Banks

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

(g) 20 1847

Proposed demolition and replacement of existing buildings with detached single storey private dwelling and a two-storey detached holiday let.
15 Rainbow Road, West Mersea – Mr M Thiel

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend refusal on the grounds of overdevelopment of the site and not addressing the light industrial use of the site.

(h) 20 1860

Single storey front extension and two storey side and rear extension. Demolish existing garage.
54 Garden Farm, West Mersea – Mr C Conway

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

(i) 20 1816

Removal/variation of a condition. Application to vary conditions 2 & 7 of planning permission 19 2769.
1 Meadow Lane, West Mersea – Mr L Tyler

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend refusal in respect of this application, and request that Colchester Borough Council planners look at what has already been built.

- (j) 20 1886
Proposed two storey front extension.
29 Firs Chase, West Mersea – Mr Birch

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

- (k) 20 1920
Erection of two wooden sheds adjacent to the existing seafood bar for extension and improvements to food preparation and storage areas, formation of new disabled customer toilet, erection of fencing/gates to front of site, improvements to site surfacing.
Dukes Seafood, Coast Road, West Mersea – Mr D Whiting

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

20/205 NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS RECEIVED

Applications passed

- (a) 20 1087
Proposal to install new modular extension, new canopy and 2.4m fence (revised).
Tesco Express, 1 Barfield Road, West Mersea – Mr A Horwood
- (b) 20 1005
Construction of an extension to the existing clubhouse, a children's play area and associated facilities. Proposed landscaping works including removal and replacement of TPO trees (09/93 grouping). Revised description.
West Mersea Holiday Park, Seaview Avenue, West Mersea – Park Holidays UK Ltd
- (c) 20 1264
Construction of a new dormer to give additional headroom to bedroom.
8 Beach Road, West Mersea – Mr C Brown
- (d) 20 1462
Advertisement consent – free standing entrance sign.
West Mersea Holiday Park, Seaview Avenue, West Mersea – Park Holidays UK Ltd

20/206 TO NOTE THE CURRENT FINANCIAL POSITION

Item deferred.

20/207 TO APPROVE THE DRAFT PLAN FOR FORMAL PUBLIC CONSULTATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REGULATIONS FOR A MINIMUM OF SIX WEEKS. ANY FURTHER FACTUAL, TYPOGRAPHIC OR GRAMMATICAL AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT PLAN CAN BE MADE WITHOUT REFERENCE BACK TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

Following discussion it was agreed to approve the draft plan for formal consultation

20/208 TO DISCUSS PROJECT IDEAS TO SUBMIT TO COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCIL IN RESPECT OF THE S106 MONIES DERIVED FROM LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

Following discussion it was agreed that the following project ideas could be submitted to Colchester Borough Council in respect of S106 monies.

Skate park extension - Toilets in West Mersea Park – Adult Gym – Boardwalk - Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) - Multi use building.

Councillors Wood, Powling, Akker, Baker & Weaver agreed to form a working party to cost the projects for submission to Colchester Borough Council.

20/209 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE NEW COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCIL BIN COLLECTION CONTRACT

Following discussion it was agreed to continue with the contract for 2020/21 at a cost of £3298.25 (delayed due to COVID 19) and that next years contract will be £5751.59 with a possible increase of £5 per hour to the hourly rate.

20/210 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE ACTIONS REGARDING SAFETY ISSUES FOR THE CEDARS IN BARFIELD ROAD CEMETERY

The Clerk advised that several boughs had fallen from one of the Cedar Trees. The trees are Cedar of Lebanon variety and are prone to dropping boughs due to the weight of the limbs and the needles. After advice from three tree professionals, the options suggested were a) fell the trees, b) opt for bracing the boughs, c) leave as they are but inspect and manage as appropriate.

It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting for Councillors to have time to have a look.

20/211 TO CONSIDER A GRANT REQUEST FROM THE MICA

Following discussion it was agreed to grant the MICA £500 to assist with costs that still need to be met while closed due to COVID 19

Proposed: Councillor Banks, Seconded: Councillor Wood. Councillor Wargent against.

20/212 TO CONSIDER A REQUEST TO SET UP A CATERING POD ON WILLOUGHBY CAR PARK

Following discussion it was agreed that a catering pod would not be approved on Willoughby car park. It was further agreed that no mobile catering outlets would be approved on West Mersea Town Council land. This excludes one day local charity events.

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

20/213 TO APPROVE THE MEETING DATES FOR 2020/21

The meeting dates were approved. See attached.

20/214 TO CONSIDER ANGLIAN WATER SERVICE ISSUE THAT AROSE IN AUGUST AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Following discussion Councillor Akker agreed to write a letter to Anglian Water regarding the low supply issues some residents had in August.

20/215 TO DISCUSS APPROACHES TO LIMIT FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS AND RESPECTIVE INFRASTRUCTURE BEYOND THE ALREADY AGREED 200 DWELLINGS AT BRIERLEY AND DAWES LANE DEVELOPMENTS

Following discussion it was agreed that Councillor Akker would compose a resolution for approval by the Council to publish and submit to Sir Bernard Jenkin and Ward Borough Councillors.

20/216 MAYOR'S NOTES

The Mayor thanked the Council and staff for their continued hard work.

The Council were approached by the doctors surgery to request permission to use Willoughby car park as a mobile flu jab site. This will be in the week commencing 21 September 2020.

There being no other business, the public meeting closed at 9.30pm.