

WEST MERSEA TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 13 JANUARY 2022

PRESENT: Councillors: Carl Powling (Mayor)
Julie Baker
David Bragg
Robert Jenkins (Deputy Mayor)
Sophie Weaver
Chris Wood

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk: Vanessa Allen
Borough Councillor: Robert Davidson
7 members of the public

21/323 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Sylvia Wargent, Sam Jarvis and Borough Councillors John Jowers and Pat Moore. No vote was taken.

21/324 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. To receive declarations of personal, prejudicial and pecuniary interests from members relevant to items under discussion at the meeting

None received.

21/325 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. A period of up to 15 minutes for members of the public to ask questions or submit comments

A member of the public from Mersea Lights Up team spoke of the Saturday all day event last year and requested.

- That the library car park be shut for the 2022 event
- To turn the lime tree on Church Green into a wishing tree, giving baubles to local school children
- Investment from the Council for more lights, especially for the lime tree and for a large Christmas tree

A member of the public spoke on Village Green 241 and the lockable gates.

A member of the public spoke on disability access to the Glebe for spectating and queried emergency access to Glebe 2. They urged the Council to ensure that the Dawes Lane development includes access to Glebe 2.

A member of the public reported that a meeting of the Patients Participation Group (PPG) it was confirmed that the Doctors will not be involved with a new surgery for the foreseeable future. They have sought a copy of the NHS Properties feasibility study, which has not been released due to its confidential nature.

21/326 **COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORTS.** To receive reports from our County and Borough Councillors

Councillor Robert Davidson

Happy New Year to everybody. Pam Donnelly has been appointed as the new Chief Executive of CBC following Adrian Pritchard's retirement after 18 years.

There is to be a referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan and CBC Local Plan is to be put before the Council on 10th March. Councillor Robert Davidson thanked Peter Clements and David Cooper for their work on the Neighbourhood Plan.

Councillor John Jowers has been elected Deputy Mayor from May, Tim Young is the current Deputy Mayor and will be the next Mayor.

Councillor Robert Davidson enquired whether there were any projects on Mersea that could benefit from his Locality Budget.

7.35pm Councillor Robert Davidson and a member of the public left the meeting.

21/327 **CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

- I. To confirm Minutes of the Council Meeting of 25th November 2021
- II. To confirm Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting of 24th December 2021

It was RESOLVED that the MINUTES of the Council meeting held on 25th November 2021, be confirmed as a true record of the meeting.

It was RESOLVED that the MINUTES of the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 24th December 2021, be confirmed as a true record of the meeting.

21/328 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS.** To consider Planning Applications received

(a) 21 3492 - Alterations to front elevation. 64 High Street, West Mersea.

Following discussion it was RESOLVED that CONSENT be granted in respect of this application.

(b) 21 2685 - Application for Variation of Condition 1 (reserved matters, as approved under 20 2492), Condition 3 (submission of RM), Condition 4 (detailed access) and removal of Condition 2 (submission of RM) and Condition 6 (schedule) of planning permission 19 2136.
Land at, Brierley Paddocks, West Mersea.

Following discussion it was RESOLVED that the Council support proposed amendments in terms of properties adjacent to Seaview Avenue, request that affordable homes be spread out as per development guidelines/design policy and request signage for construction traffic to divert away from Dawes Lane. Councillor Wood will forward written comments for submission.

(c) 21 3450 - Rear extension. 30 Mersea Avenue, West Mersea.

Following discussion it was RESOLVED that CONSENT be granted in respect of this application.

(d) 21 3476 - Proposed rear extension, external fenestration changes to the property.
9 Estuary Park Road, West Mersea.

Following discussion it was RESOLVED that CONSENT be granted in respect of this application.

21/329 **PLANNING DECISIONS.** To receive notification of Planning Decisions

Applications passed

- (a) 21 2486 - Application for removal or variation of condition 2 following grant of planning permission 15 1833 (to vary the provisions of condition 3 of planning permission 14 5924).
35 Victory Road, West Mersea.
- (b) 21 1416 - Erection of a chalet style dwelling and associated parking facilities.
Part side garden of, 19 Empress Avenue, West Mersea.
- (c) 21 2739 - Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed Change of Use from Commercial, Business and Services (Use Class E) to dwelling houses (Use Class C3) – conversion of an existing office to a 2 bedroom dwelling house.
John Gosling Ltd, 64 High Street, West Mersea.
- (d) 21 3072 - Proposed new first floor side facing window. 100 Coast Road, West Mersea.

Applications refused

- (a) 21 1471 - Retrospective change of use of domestic outbuilding to Airbnb. 6 Firs Chase, West Mersea.
- (b) 21 3096 - Demolition and replacement of no. 34 through the erection of a new two storey dwelling.
34 Yorick Road, West Mersea.

Application withdrawn

- (a) 21 2625 - The alterations and single and two storey extension to the existing building.
6 High Street, West Mersea.

Appeal lodged

- (a) 20 1467 - Outline application: Residential development of 56 dwellings including landscaping and access from East Road following demolition of existing dwelling. Land at, 102 East Road, West Mersea.

21/330 **APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS.** To approve payments made between 18th November and 4th January 2022 and to approve payments to be made

It was RESOLVED to approve payments made between 18th November 2021 and 4th January 2022 and to approve payments to be made save for RISE Adaptions Ltd.

21/331 **BUDGET.** To agree and finalise budget and precept for 2022

It was RESOLVED to agree 2022/23 Budget, a 3.79% increase representing a 33pence per month increase for a Band D property.

21/332 **GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE.** To RESOLVE that West Mersea Town Council qualifies for the General Power of Competence meeting the criteria defined in Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order

The Council RESOLVED to adopt the General Power of Competence as it meets the qualifying criteria as defined in Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order.

21/333 **BOARDWALK.** To receive an update on the Boardwalk

An update was given and a meeting will be arranged once quotes are received.

21/334 **NEXT AGENDA.** Items to be added to next agenda

Donation to WI Hall refurbishment.

21/335 **MAYOR'S NOTES**

Thank you to Councillor Jenkins for his work on the budget and to everyone for their work done over the year. The Changing Places toilet facility is progressing with the wardens hut demolition to start next week.

21/336 **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC.** To RESOLVE that due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the public and press be excluded pursuant to Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

It was RESOLVED to exclude the press and public due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

The public left the meeting at 8pm.

21/337 **ACCOUNTING AND ADMIN SOLUTIONS.** To consider new accounts package and cemetery database, details and quotations circulated

It was RESOLVED to accept the AdvantEDGE quotation.

21/338 **CHAMBERS SOUND.** To consider options for improvement of sound in Chambers

Item deferred.

21/339 **COLLABORATION AGREEMENT.** To consider solicitors to review Collaboration Agreement with ECC and Old City Floodgate Group.

Item deferred. Councillor Powling to meet with ECC Surface Water Planning Engineer and Old City Floodgate Group and will report back.

21/340. **FORMAL COMPLAINTS**

- I. To receive an update of the formal complaint received 12/11/21
- II. To receive an update of the formal complaint received 20/12/21

- I. Councillor Powling will feedback to the complainant.
- II. Clerk to update complainant.

21/341 **CHANGING PLACES.** To review proposed Victoria Esplanade Lease and consider appointing Solicitors to review

Item deferred. Councillor Powling has a meeting with Colchester Borough Councillor Sue Lissimore and CBC Asset Manager.

21/342 **BATHING RAFTS.** To review quotations for removal of concrete sinker bathing raft anchors with quotations to replace concrete sinkers with helix anchors

It was RESOLVED to accept the Landbreach Ltd quotation to remove concrete sinkers from foreshore.

21/343 **TREE WORKS.** To consider and accept quotation for tree works highlighted by Tree Health and condition report

It was RESOLVED to accept Skippers Ground Maintenance quotation requesting that they follow the Tree Report.

There being no other business, the Chair closed the meeting at 9pm.