

Lawford Parish Council



Minutes of the **Public Realm Committee** meeting held in the **Small Hall, Ogilvie Hall, Wignall Street, Lawford, CO11 2JG** on **Monday 4 October 2021** at **6.30 p.m.**

Ogilvie Hall Covid rules were followed.

MINUTES

1. Present:

Councillors: Pretty, Thurlow, Barrett, Newman Wright, C and V Guglielmi

Acting Clerk: Mr Andrew Lee

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Woods

Members of the public:

None

Cllr. Pretty deputised as Chairman in the absence of Cllr. Woods.

2. Minutes:

Minutes of the **Public Realm** meeting held **Monday 2 August 2021** were approved after Cllr. Thurlow pointed out that in paragraph 8 (c) (i) the Tendring District Council Officer was 'Jonathan Hamlet' and not 'John Cameron'.

Proposed: Cllr. C. Guglielmi **Seconded:** Cllr. Thurlow **Agreed**

3. Action Points from the meetings held on 6 April 2021:

Clerk has been asked to enquire of ECC as to the possibility of an increase to the Grant they provide Annually to cut grass.	Completed – awaiting response
Advertise VAS for free	Completed
Manningtree and Mistley should be approached to see if they intended to organise an event for the Queens Jubilee	Completed
It was agreed the Football Club rent would be reviewed Annually at the Budget Setting meeting. Clerk to advise FJG.	Completed
Approval of expenditure to re-site bricks at School Lane Football Club	Completed
To Full Council for budgeting - DA Cant to install 'y' shaped path and Shaun Garrod the hardstanding behind the school. Cllr Thurlow will liaise	Completed
Clerk to speak to Rose to re-site bins currently within the play area, to outside to enable TDC to empty them as part of LPC's contract.	Completed – awaiting costing

4. Declarations of interest:

There were none.

5. General items:

- a) Resident's complaint regarding Dog Fouling and the lack of bins (*email circulated*)

Cllr. C Guglielmi considered that bigger public bins could be installed. Cllr. Thurlow suggested that instead of the public bins being emptied twice a week, they could be emptied three times, i.e. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Cllr. Pretty proposed that all of the Parish Council's public bins be emptied three times a week, plus a public bin to be attached to the bus stop opposite Manningtree High School. **Action:** Clerk to write to Tendring District Council about having three collections every week of the Parish Council's public bins and to install a small public bin to the bus stop pole opposite Manningtree High School.

Proposed: Cllr. Thurlow **Seconded:** Cllr. V Guglielmi **Agreed**

b) Highways Devolution Scheme (*email circulated*)

Cllr. C Guglielmi considered that the list of items proposed by the Highways Devolution Scheme was cumbersome and the amount offered per resident was insufficient. Cllr. C Guglielmi added that the scope of the proposed Scheme was too vast and would impact on insurance, and suggested that they wait to see how Ardleigh Parish Council's pilot went, which also had the advantage of the help of many volunteers. Cllr. C Guglielmi suggested that Tendring District Council's Highway Rangers could undertake some of these tasks and could be used more. Cllr. Pretty proposed that the Parish Council wait to see how Ardleigh Parish Council's pilot went.

Proposed: Cllr. Thurlow **Seconded:** Cllr. V Guglielmi **Agreed**

c) Queen's Jubilee – LPC copied into request of Essex County Council to plant an avenue of trees along Long Road. Email received from Tom Moat ECC's Forestry & Woodland Officer in relation to request (*letter and email circulated*)

Cllr. Pretty raised questions about what type of tree(s) to be planted and the future cost of maintenance. Cllr. Thurlow considered the safety implications of siting the trees along a busy road connecting Clacton Road and Cox's Hill. Cllr. Pretty suggested that in the light of the construction of large housing developments, it might be prudent to review the request to plant the trees once these developments had become established. Cllr. C Guglielmi explained that the grass frontages were maintained already by householders. The Acting Clerk reported that Mistley Parish Council had discussed the same request at its last meeting and had agreed to defer the matter to its Tree-planting Sub-Committee. Cllr. Pretty proposed that the Clerk contact Mistley Parish Council to find out what it had finally decided on Essex County Council's request. **Action:** Clerk to liaise with Mistley Parish Council's Chairman of the Tree-planting Sub-Committee.

6. School Lane:

a) Request from a resident to place a memorial bench at School Lane (*letter circulated*)

Cllr. Thurlow suggested that he could contact the resident to meet at the proposed site for the memorial bench and to discuss the specifications. **Action:** - Cllr. Thurlow to contact the resident.

Proposed: Cllr. C Guglielmi **Seconded:** Cllr. Pretty **Agreed**

b) Tennis Courts removal - update on progress (*Cllr. Thurlow*)

Cllr. Thurlow reported that netting had been set up around the base to prevent access and walking over.

c) Update on cost to re-site the 'bricks' at School Lane (*Cllr. Thurlow*)

Cllr. Thurlow explained that this matter was still on hold, but he had thanked Mr Duchars for the help given.

d) Update Cllrs. C Guglielmi and Thurlow about meeting with Mr Duchars (Football Club)

Cllr. C Guglielmi reported that this matter was still on hold.

- e) Items Committee may wish to raise, discuss, or take forward

There were none.

7. Summers Park:

- a) Update reference footpath works (Cllr. Thurlow)

Cllr. Thurlow reported that the footpath works would take about one month to complete depending on the weather. He had met the contractor at the site and provided the key to the bollards to enable the contractor to get vehicles off the road.

- b) Update on accessing Grant Funding for works (Cllr. Thurlow)

Cllr. Thurlow explained that he was still awaiting responses.

- c) Items Committee may wish to raise, discuss, or take forward

Cllr. C Guglielmi referred to a parking problem for the three houses before Summers Park, where double-yellow lines had been put down which resulted in parking tickets issued. Cllr. C Guglielmi suggested that the small area of grass opposite could help with the parking, and that householders could be allowed to park there in return for taking responsibility for maintaining that piece of land (suitable for up to three vehicles). Cllr. Thurlow proposed that this could be offered for a three-month trial. **Action:** - Cllr. C Guglielmi to contact the three householders with this offer on a three-monthly basis.

8. Riverview:

- a) Items Committee may wish to raise, discuss, or take forward

There were none.

9. Lawford Green:

- a) Items Committee may wish to raise, discuss, or take forward

There were none.

10. Any Other Business: draft letter to householders about overhanging / obstructive trees and hedges
Cllr. Pretty outlined the problems with overhanging / obstructive trees and hedges. Previously these problems had been reported to Essex County Council which had sent householders a letter but not followed up with any action if no change had been made. It was agreed that the Parish Council try a two-stage letter approach. The Parish Council’s first letter would set out the complaints and the difficulties the overhanging / obstructive trees or hedges to people using prams, wheelchairs, and walkers, as well as reminding the householder that it was their responsibility to keep their trees / hedges cut back to the boundary of their property. The second stage letter, a follow up in case of inaction, to set out the Parish Council then undertaking to have the trees / hedges cut back and to recoup the cost from the householder. **Action:** - Cllr. Barrett to draft the first and second stage letters and to circulate them before the next meeting of the Parish Council.

The next **Public Realm Meeting** is scheduled for **Monday 6 December 2021**

The meeting ended at 7.40 p.m.

Signature: (Chairman)Date: