

# LITTLE WALTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of Little Waltham Parish Council held on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall

Present: Councillors Antony Kingham (Chairman)  
John Burrow  
Lallie Godfrey  
Richard Tinson  
Rupert Watson  
Clerk Suzanne Walker

5 members of the public were present

### **23/112: Apologies**

Received from Councillor Allen and from City Councillors Steel and Wilson.

### **23/113: Declarations of Interests**

None.

### **23/114: To consider and approve the Minutes 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

The minutes of the meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023 were formally **approved** by Councillors as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

### **23/115: Public Forum- to receive any representations from the public.**

A resident spoke in opposition to the proposals for the new pylons and urged the Council to again object to the proposals. His preference would be for an under sea route to be pursued but also suggested that the pylons are moved closer to Great Waltham onto lower ground so that they are less obtrusive. There was detailed discussion involving Councillors including how best to advise residents of the need to respond to the consultation.

A gentleman from Gigaclear provided a presentation on the plans by the company to provide a full fibre network to the Parish. Councillor Godfrey stated that there is already fibre in the village and that they would be the third company to dig up the roads. He advised that he would check the position with the build team and left various information about the plans and confirmed that the Parish Council will be kept informed.

### **23/116: To receive reports from Councillor's attendance at external meetings.**

None.

### **23/117: Clerk's report**

The Clerk reported as follows –

1. The Parish Council Facebook group has now been closed.
2. The subscription for Zoom has been cancelled as from 21<sup>st</sup> June 2023.
3. The Parish magazine has been entered into the Best Parish magazine competition.

4. Once I receive the information requested about the proposed fencing around the recreation grounds I will be able to approach Chelmsford City Council regarding the consent required for any such works including works to trees.
5. Each month I will keep you updated with matters that do not require action at this point in time by the Parish Council but need to be noted as ongoing. This month I can advise

Item	Actions awaited	Date raised
Local Highway Panel – application for a crossing at Ash Tree Corner	Project for a refuge to cross the road in design phase which may include a filter land for Chelmer Avenue – awaiting funding	November 2019
Essex County Council Bus shelter project	The Parish Council has confirmed ownership status of the shelters and awaiting licence documentation	December 2020
Local Highway Panel applications	Applications for restrictions in the village centre – awaiting response regarding the Origin and Destination survey carried out in January 2023.	April 2021.
Byway 51	Essex County Council extended the partial closure order until 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	August 2021
Glebe Field Right of Way	Application for right of way to be added to the definitive map – matter with planning inspectorate to consider issuing an order to require Essex County Council to deal with application.	September 2021
Registration of the Memorial Hall with HM Land Registry	Await confirmation regarding the site plan from the Memorial Hall	November 2021

The report was noted and **accepted**.

### **23/118: New Planning applications**

23/118.1 23/01002/FUL – The Belsteads School, Back Lane, Little Waltham – proposed office building and associated parking – **No Comments**

23/118.2 23/01032/CUPAQ – Alstead Farm, Leighs Road, Little Waltham - Determination as to whether the prior approval of the local planning authority is required for the proposed change of use from agricultural building to 1 dwellinghouse (class c3) – **No Comments**

### **23/119: To note planning results**

The following planning results were **noted** -

23/119.1 23/00617/FUL - 8A Roman Road, Little Waltham - Proposed single storey side addition porch and relocation of front door. Alterations to front elevation – **Granted**

23/119.2 23/05552/CAT - 9 Winckford Close, Little Waltham - Hawthorn X6-Fell Located on North boundary of garden. Reason: Trees are not in good condition – **No objection**

23/119.3 23/00709/ADV - Waltham Service Station, Main Road, Little Waltham - Retrospective application for non-Illuminated freestanding sign – **Granted**

23/119.4 23/00705/FUL - The Weir, Brook Hill, Little Waltham – Garage conversion to habitable accommodation - **Granted**

23/119.5 EN010118 – Longfield Solar Farm application in Terling – **Granted** by planning inspectorate

23/119.6 TPO/2023/01 – Whitbreads Farm, Chatham Green – Tree Preservation Order made

**23/120: To consider response to Norwich to Tilbury Pylon consultation**

There was further discussion on the issue and it was **agreed** to object to the application. Also to express that whereas the under sea option would be preferable, if the pylons are to be built the Parish Council would want the middle pylon which is closest to the village to be moved preferably behind or into the copse or as close to it as possible as it will be on lower land and further away from the village so less visible. It will not take up valuable agricultural land. If the lower pylon could be moved that would assist as well. It was further **agreed** that Councillors should verbally advise neighbours of the proposals and encourage them to respond to the consultation.

**23/121: Amenities report**

**23/120.1: To consider if to purchase signage for gate at recreations grounds**

It was agreed to accept the quotation for a sign on the gate near the pavilion from Solar Graphics.

It was also noted that a complaint had been received from a resident of bird poo on one of the slides and Councillor Kingham agreed to clean it off.

**23/122: Financial Matters**

**23/122.1 Payments for approval**

The following payments were **approved** –

<b>Direct Debit payments</b>			<b>£</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Total</b>
26/6/23	Anglian Water	Water for Pavilion	39.70	0.00	39.70
30/6/23	Unity Trust	bank charges	18.00	0.00	18.00

**Online banking payments to be made**

Clerk	Salary (June.)	548.75	0.00	548.75
HMRC	PAYE (June)	133.00	0.00	133.00
Essex Pension Fund	Pension (June)	216.13	0.00	216.13
Clerk	expenses	115.36	5.68	121.04
Paul Clark Printing	magazine	450.83	2.17	453.00
EALC	Council award scheme fee	80.00	16.00	96.00
Online playgrounds	Swing chains	122.00	24.40	146.40
Memorial Hall	Hall hire	60.00	0.00	60.00
Memorial Hall	Toilet Hire (play event)	15.00	0.00	15.00
Mortimer Contracts Ltd	play area repairs	400.00	80.00	480.00
Perspective Landscapes	gardening and litter picking	400.00	80.00	480.00
JCM Services Ltd.	Grass cutting	575.00	115.00	690.00

**23/122.2 Bank reconciliation statement**

The bank reconciliation statement calculated to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023 was noted and **accepted**.

**23/122.3 To receive quarterly financial report**

The quarterly report calculated to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023 was **noted and accepted**.

**23/123: Affordable Housing project**

No further updates.

**23/124: To consider the issue of traffic in the Parish**

**23/124.1 To consider progress regarding Origin and Destination survey**

It was noted that the Local Highway Panel officer has advised that the report is due shortly.

**23/124.2 To consider issues surrounding the 20s Plenty campaign and consider whether to purchase further signage.**

Upon discussion it was **agreed** to purchase one sign from Reprohouse and then decide how to proceed further.

**23/125: To consider allotment issues**

It was noted that there have been thefts from the recreation ground allotments. It was agreed not to install any locks on the gates as they are so low that they can be climbed over but to advise the Police of the issue.

Regarding the Blasford Hill allotment site a quotation of £500 to clear two plots and remove various items of rubbish from Perspective Landscapes was **agreed**. It was also noted that plot 8 is in poor condition and that a warning letter should be sent to the tenant.

**23/126: To receive update regarding Pavilion project**

A cost estimate for funding purposes had been received from the project manager which was substantially higher than previous estimates and was considered to be unworkable. Councillors discussed the issue and considered that the project manager had not listened to Councillor's requirements and had obtained a quote so far over the stated budget that Councillors had lost faith in the firm and it was agreed to terminate the contract with KSA. Councillors have approached 2 local firms to obtain an idea on costs for the purposes of grant funding and will review the quotes in due course to decide if solar panels are cost effective which will determine if a planning application is required.

**23/127: To consider organisation of Christmas event**

It was noted that Chelmsford City Council do not object to a concrete pad so long as it is covered in grass or grasscrete and has a cap to prevent any trip hazard. Quotes to be obtained for the installation of such a pad. It was suggested that the Rose and Crown and the White Hart are approached for a cost for refreshments.

**23/128: To consider participation in Essex County Council's Salt bag scheme**

In view of the fact that there is no longer a venue to store the salt it was **agreed** that the Parish Council will not participate this year but defer participation to next year.

**23/129: Matters to be raised by members for the next agenda.**

To add the issue of the Wheeler's Farm events and licence to the agenda for discussion.

Meeting concluded at 9pm