

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASHELDHAM & DENGIE
PARISHES HELD ON 14th May 2018 @ 8 p.m.**

Present: Messrs Fluker, Moull, Snowdon, Whiting & Hall
In attendance: 10 members of the public
Clerk in attendance: Emma Smith

Cllr Snowdon welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending and announced that during the course of the Annual Parish Council meeting he had been elected as Chair. Cllr Fluker was elected as Vice Chair.

APOLOGIES

No apologies given.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the previous year's Annual Parish Meeting held on 8th May 2017 were presented and agreed by those present and these were signed by the Chair as a true record.

Chairman's Annual Report 2017

Cllr Fluker informed all present that the Parish Council had considered 16 planning applications over the last year. Several of these sites had not yet started building works, including Pitt Cottages, Endway Farm, St Annes Farm and The Haven.

At the beginning of the Municipal Year the PC appointed Emma Smith as Clerk and RFO. Cllr Fluker reported that they were pleased to say that Emma had settled in well and they were delighted with everything she had done so far for the PC. Cllr Fluker also thanked the previous Clerk, Sarah Sayer, for an excellent hand over and for all her hard work also. Emma is currently still undergoing a training programme.

The Finance budget for 2017/18 was met.

Cllr Snowdon attended the Chairman's training course at EALC.

Cllr Fluker reported that the PC continue to liaise with Skegg's, GB Finch and Dengie Crops. The PC have enjoyed a good working relationship with all three and look forward to that continuing in 2018/19.

The Asheldham bends are still an issue, Cllr Fluker said that he would continue to lobby ECC regarding this matter.

For the past two years swans have hit the electricity cables at the same point causing the village to lose electricity for many hours. Steps are being taken with Network Power to see if an anti-bird device can be installed at the location to prevent this from happening again.

Cllr Fluker thanked the Village Sign Committee for taking steps to install a village sign for the Dengie.

Cllr Fluker thanked the Asheldham Residents Group for all their hard work and the time given to participate in regular litter picks. Special thanks were given to Colin Cooper.

Cllr Fluker thanked Lyn Moull and all members of the Village Hall Committee. The Village Hall is an excellent facility and all members should be commended.

Cllr Fluker thanked Andrew Burnett for keeping the grass cut outside the cemetery.

Cllr Fluker finally thanked all members of the Parish Council for their hard work and support, Cllr Hall for her help with environmental issues, Cllr Moull for his commitment, Cllr Whiting for all his research on Superfast Broadband and Cllr Snowdon for his commitment to the Village Sign project and the recent P3/ PROW works.

Cllr Snowdon thanked Cllr Fluker for his sterling work.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk presented the financial report for the year and informed those present that copies of the accounts were available to view. The year end reconciliation was stated as follows for year ending 31st March 2018 and the carry forward figure for 1st April 2018 is £3081.35:-

BANK			
	Community account no. 80925519		£511.17
	Business Premium account no. 80950459		£2,570.18
	Step Saver account no. 30578665	Account Closed	£0.00
		Bank Account Total	£3,081.35
Income 17/18			
	Balance c/f 1st April 2017		£2,453.01
	Precept		£4,095.00
	MDC LCTS Grant		£0.00
	Bank Interest		£2.36
	William Ayletts	William Ayletts money (Asheldham & Dengie)	£66.50
	VAT refund		£0.00
	Transparency fund 30/01/2018		£372.67
	Half of Arnold Baker Book from Bradwell PC		£31.50
	Half of Clerks training from Bradwell PC		£40.63
		Total Income 2017-18	£7,061.67
Expenditure 17/18			
		Cheques cleared to date 2017-18	£3,980.32
		includes cheque 100396 for £20.06 cleared 11/04/17 from previous year	
Bank Balance		income less expenditure as at 30/01/2018	£3,081.35
		cash book balance as at 30/01/2018	£3,081.35
		Actual cash book balance as at 30/01/2018	£3,081.35
LESS	RESERVES	Election expenses	-£1,000.00
		Grant from Transparency Fund	-£826.32
		Asheldham William Ayletts Fund held	-£182.50
		Remaining usable funds.	£1,072.53
Signed:		Print Name:	Date: 05

VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE REPORT

Mrs Moull told us that it has again been a busy and successful year. The hall continues to have a large number of bookings including 5 caravan clubs twice a year, the annual pantomime, quizzes, lunches, suppers, harvest supper.

Going forward the plans are to get together a team to paint the walls, remove broken fence panels and replace the shed. It is also all systems go for the new extension.

The Hall is a real asset to the community, The Chair again thanked all members of the committee.

DENGIE VILLAGE SIGN COMMITTEE REPORT

Cllr Snowdon reported that a bank account had now been successfully opened, members are to now arrange a meeting to discuss the next plan of action. Funds will soon be sought for the project and design ideas and prices obtained.

ELECTION OF DISTRIBUTION PANEL FOR WILLIAM AYLETT'S CHARITY (Asheldham)

It was agreed that as in the past the Parish Council would continue to form the panel for the distribution of the Asheldham money.

ELECTION OF TRUSTEES – SYMPSON'S & AYLETT'S CHARITY (Dengie)

Mr. Alfie Burton & Mrs Charmain Burnett wish to continue as Trustees – AGREED. Mr Burton and Mrs Burnett were appointed trustees.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The Local Development Plan (which protects the district) was approved less than a year ago in July 2017, shortly after the announcement Gladman Developments application at New Moor Farm was withdrawn. Five and a half thousand homes are to be built over the Maldon District.

The MDC Design Guide has been adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document, making sure that applicants fit strict criteria.

The alternate weekly waste collection service has now been running for two years and has been very successful, with Maldon District having the 2nd highest increase in recycling in England. Recycling has increased from 223 tonnes to over 6,000 tonnes. Maldon's recycling rate successes have been recognised nationally.

MDC, with funding from Magnox and ECC are looking into funding and locations for an Enterprise Centre in the town.

An EU fund to develop rural projects continues to have lots of successful applicants within our district, including the recent success for Crouch Ridge Vineyards on the Dengie Peninsula.

In the period between 2015/16 and 2019/20 the Council's core funding from Central Government will have been reduced by 52% (£1.27m). The budget setting process has become more and more difficult each year and Members and Officers have had to make difficult decisions in order to protect front line services.

Cllr Fluker reported that the Maldon District is voted the 25th best rural place to live.

The caravan park is to return to Millfields, Burnham on Crouch including facilities for all.

The Bradwell B geological work is complete at Weymarks beach. Work is progressing ahead of schedule. There is hopefully due to be a recruitment and information hub set up, possibly in Southminster. Once building work starts there could possibly be up to 5000 people on site, this will affect the roads. Once built the staff level is estimated to be around 1200 on site.

TREE WARDENS' REPORT

Joanne Griffiths has kindly consented to continue as tree warden and a report is awaited.

HIGHWAYS

No further report other than what had already been said.

ASHELDHAM RESIDENTS GROUP (ARG)

It was reported that there are currently 54 residents in Asheldham and ARG has 42 members at present. The ARG continue to initiate activities to enhance the village such as, spring and autumn litter picks (recently applied for funding to obtain their own equipment), also involved in grass and hedge cutting within the village.

Last November ARG purchased large poppies that were displayed on lamp posts in the village, it is hoped that the rest of the Dengie area will be encouraged to do the same this November.

The Chair thanked the ARG team for their sterling work.

PUBLIC SESSION

All points have been raised in the previous meeting – no further matters to be discussed.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50 pm. and everyone present was invited to join the members for refreshments.

Signed.....
Chairman Asheldham & Dengie Parish Council

date MAY 2019