

LATCHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
Thursday 29th March 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Room.
The Village Hall, Burnham Road, Latchingdon, Essex**

PRESENT: Cllr Dale Symons (Chairman), Cllr Lynn Robinson, Cllr Graham Rogers, Cllr Jacqueline Ruocco & Cllr Gill Winsor. District Cllr Bob Boyce

In attendance: Sarah Sayer/Nikki Harman

The meeting commenced at 7.30 p.m. and the Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES

District Cllr Beverley Acevado.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING(s)

- a) The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 22nd February 2018 were reviewed and approved and signed by the Chairman.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- a) None declared at this point in the meeting.

4. CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLORS

- a) Clerk informed members that it would be advertised in the local parish magazine, requesting that anyone interested send a letter detailing why they would like to serve on the Parish Council.

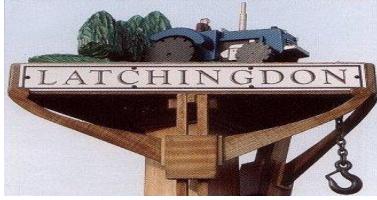
5. PUBLIC SESSION

One member of the public attended and voiced her concerns in relation to the dog mess on the field, in the woods and in and around the open play area. It was discussed and clerk to invite Adrian Rayner to come along to the next meeting who is the Head of the Rangers to find out how much the ranger services would cost to keep an eye on the Field and play area in regard to the dog owners who are not picking up after their dogs. It was also discussed about banning dogs from the field. To look into obtaining funding for a fence around the senior play area, however this would only solve part of the problem. To put up signs about keeping dogs on a lead so irresponsible owners can not say well how can I pick it up in the dark when I can not see where the dog has done it? Hence keep dogs on lead.

Signed.....
Cllr Dale Symons
Chairman

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6. APPOINTMENT OF NEW CLERK/RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER

- a) It was noted for the minutes that Mrs Nicola Harman has been appointed as the new Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer effective 1st April 2018.
- b) It was resolved that a mobile phone be purchased purely for Parish communication.
- c) It was resolved that a quad core lap top commuter, together with software and back up package be purchased at the price of no more than £1200. Proposed Cllr Robinson. Seconded Cllr Gill Winsor. AGREED.

7. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

District Councillor Bob Boyce apologised for not having been to the last couple of meetings but the PC meeting does clash with the monthly MDC meeting and his duties as Chair of other committees. A push has been made on the metal recycling, foil dishes, aerosol cans etc to make people more aware that this type of metal can be recycled in the pink sacks. MDC got 58% recycle rate, one of the top in Essex. Need to keep pushing up the numbers in order to ensure that the recyclables revenue is worth more and therefore keeps the waste contract costs down.

MDC have set the Budget/Precept and most people have received their bills by now.

Reiterated that the Rangers are available to visit at a cost with the TRUCAM to help with speeding traffic.

It was mentioned that the VH black bin was not being emptied. Cllr Boyce advised Clerk to contact MDC to find out what the problem was.

8. HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT REPORT

- a) The Clerk again informed members that there was no change on the reported defects on the ECC Highways website, but she will keep chasing. Clerk to chase contractor again concerning the installation of a back plate at the street light on the telegraph pole next to the garage and outside a resident's bedroom window.

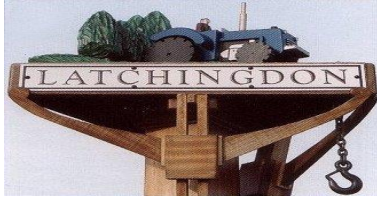
The further degraded state of Rectory was reported again. Clerk to write to Highways again reiterating the danger of the run off from the fields and/or blocked drain which runs all the way down to what was John Plumbs and onto the B1018 Burnham Road.

- b) No update at this time for transport. However, it was stated that ECC were no longer issuing hard copy timetables and it was decided that a copy should be printed by the PC and put in the parish mag, made available on the notice boards, website and on FB.

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Chairman

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- c) No update at this time for flooding as even though there has been lots of rainfall, it has still not been significant enough to test the new project.
- d) Speed indicator device application with Local Highways Panel – there is not update, and it was suggested as this could take a long time to ascertain if there is any other funding available to install SID – they cost about £1700.

9. PLANNING

The Planning meeting followed the Parish Council meeting.

10. LATCHINGDON SOUTH DEVELOPMENT

- a) Prior to this meeting the developer had a conference call with the members and the following was discussed:-
 - i) S106 agreement needed to be finalised in order for planning to be finalised in April, however Simon Quelch, solicitor at MDC wanted more details in relation to the costings for the Village Hall.
 - b) Meetings have been arranged to meet more architects to draw up plans for the new village hall incorporating the suggestions made from the public consultation. Simon Finbow Butler asked for confirmation that Cocksedge would still be able to be in the forum to quote for the VH as well as the local builders. Meeting arranged with MDC for 26th April.
 - c) Cllr Symons to complete the form for Field in Trust in relation to the permission needed for the drainage to go across the field and regarding the Village Hall to have a meeting with David Sharman.
Called ended at 19.19 pm

11. PARISH PATHS

- a) Cllr Robinson now has map that can be used to trace and will be producing a user friendly A4 sheet to go on the web and notice boards for people to follow.

12. ALLOTMENTS

- a) Clerk needs to action handing over new allotment.

13. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence noted.

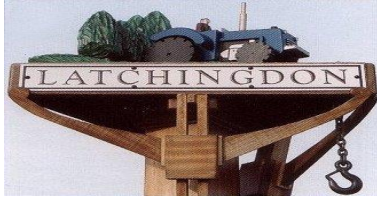
14. FINANCE/PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

- a) The payments and receipts were reviewed, accepted, agreed and signed for the month of March 2018 - approved.

Signed.....
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15. TRAINING

The new Clerk informed members that a training bursary was available, however all courses had to be attended and paid for in advance and then 75% of the cost would be reimbursed. It was agreed that the new clerk should book onto all the courses needed to help with her new role.

16. VILLAGE HALL AND KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELD AND POND

- a) No news from the claims assessor in regard to the water leak in the gents toilets. Clerk to chase.
- b) Cllr Robinson stated that she believed the damp problem in the Ladies toilets was due to a broken drain pipe and requested a contractor to come and have a look and quote. To date the contractor has not carried out this request. Clerk to chase.
- c) Further discussion took place regarding the parking problem on the Village Hall front car park, and it was decided to take no action at the present time but to monitor the situation.
- d) Please refer to the public forum – item 16D was dealt at that point and decisions made as the agenda item stated to discuss and decide.

17. PLAY AREAS

- a) Clerk informed members that the annual risk assessment was about to be carried out by MDC.

18. RISK ASSESSMENT(S)

- a) Members were informed that the new clerk would do these rather than take on someone else's risk assessments.

19. TO UPDATE MEMBERS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED NOT SHOWN AS A SEPARATE AGENDA ITEM OR MEETING TO BE ATTENDED.

Not applicable this month.

20. WEBSITE/FACEBOOK

All running smoothly. Further promotion on notice boards and in shops to make people aware of its existence.

21. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA & DATE OF NEXT MEETING

26th April 2018. at 7.30 p.m

Meeting ended at 8.20 p.m.

Signed.....
Cllr Dale Symons
Chairman

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