

# LITTLE DUNMOW PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF LITTLE DUNMOW PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON MONDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2019 AT 7.30 PM AT  
THE RECREATION GROUND MEETING ROOM, BROOK STREET,  
LITTLE DUNMOW

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*Present:* Cllrs: Elliott, Guild, Merritt, Pratt, Thomas, Watkinson & Westbrook.  
*In the Chair:* Cllr Thomas.  
*Clerk:* Angela Balcombe.  
*Also present:* District Cllr Criscione.

## **19/53. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

There were no apologies.

## **19/54. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.**

The minutes of 9 September 2019 were approved as a correct record of events.

**Proposed: Cllr Watkinson. Seconded: Cllr Westbrook. All agreed.**

## **19/55. PROGRESS CHECK.**

- Path over A120 to be sprayed.
- Fence around play area has been fixed.
- Electricity Box at the Meeting Room has been secured.

## **19/56. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.**

To receive any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Pecuniary Interests, or Non-Pecuniary Interests relating to items on the agenda. No interests were declared.

## **19/57. PUBLIC FORUM.**

There were no members of the public present.

## **19/58. REPORTS.**

**County Council** – an emailed report from Cllr Walsh has been circulated.

**District Council** – Cllr Criscione updated the Council on the Local Plan which has been delayed until after the election. The planning application for the Pound Hill development has been called in therefore it will go to UDC Planning Committee. Cllr Criscione explained about the 'Yellow Fish Project' to educate people about the danger of polluting drains. A yellow fish can be painted on prominent drains in the village.

## **19/59. PLANNING.**

- It was agreed that it wasn't necessary for the Council to appoint a solicitor with regard to a Section 106 Agreement for the Pound Hill Development, but to liaise with UDC once any planning application is approved.
- The Moors – asbestos has been found in the bungalows so demolition is now likely to go ahead in January.

## **19/60. WEBSITE.**

Essexinfo.net who host the Parish Council website (free of charge) is closing down in March 2020. From a long list of available websites, VCS Websites offer the best value going forward; Standard Package; £210 set-up, includes creation of site with a header, organise and move all data over. Hosting £200 annual fee for running the site, paid quarterly in advance. Free 7-day email support. It was unanimously agreed to use VCS Websites.

**Proposed: Cllr Thomas. Seconded: Cllr Guild. All agreed.**

#### **19/61. FINANCE.**

**The following cheques to be approved for payment and signed:**

100941 £108.00 James Todd & Co. (Payroll)  
100942 £50.70 TBS Hygiene Ltd (Dog Waste Emptying)  
100943 £355.20 A Balcombe (Salary & Expenses)  
100944 £5.00 Uttlesford Association of Local Councils (Annual Subs.)  
100945 £367.63 A Balcombe (Salary & Expenses/PAYE)  
100946 £43.41 J Thomas (Seeds £7.41, Keys £16.00, Path Clearance £20)  
100947 £27.44 V Westbrook (Compost & Plants)  
D/D £126.54 A & J Lighting Solutions (Maintenance)  
D/D £45.84 A & J Lighting Solutions (Maintenance)  
D/D £158.66 E-on (Street-lighting)  
D/D £61.03 E-on (Electricity Supply, Meeting Room)

#### **19/62. BUDGET/PRECEPT 2020/21.**

The budget/expenditure for 2020/21 is a total of £16,543.00 which is an increase of £2,000.00 from last year. This is due to an increase in cost for the electricity supply for the streetlights of £500.00, an increase of £500.00 for streetlight maintenance as the Council is considering upgrading the streetlights to LED lights, an increase of £1,000.00 for village maintenance, the Council is doing more work looking after the verges and paths which is above what the County Council provide. Band D amount will be £70.39 a decrease of – 1.6% on last year.

It was agreed to set the Precept for 2020/21 at £15,000.00 which is an increase of £1,000.00 on last year. £1,543.00 will be taken from reserves to keep the Precept at an acceptable level.

**Proposed: Cllr Westbrook. Seconded: Cllr Watkinson. All agreed.**

#### **19/63. RECREATION GROUND WILDLIFE AREA.**

The wildlife area has been scarified and re-sown ready for the next season. Information from ECC Climate Change Action had been received which mentioned planting 375,000 trees across the County over the next five years. It was agreed to find out if we could have 30/40 of them.

#### **19/64. CORRESPONDENCE.**

- Complaint about overgrown hedge in Station Road opposite Cromwell Place which is forcing vehicles into the middle of the road which is already dangerous. It needs cutting back around 2 feet urgently.
- The pathway from Corders Corner is uneven and in a bad state. To be reported to ECC Highways.

#### **19/65. INFORMATION EXCHANGE / NEXT AGENDA ITEMS ONLY.**

- Any Highway problem such as potholes, hedge/verge cutting, paths and roads can be reported on a detailed map on the ECC website at [www.essex.gov.uk](http://www.essex.gov.uk) – Roads, streets and transport.

#### **19/66. MEETING DATES 2020.**

13 January, 9 March, 11 May (Annual Meeting), 13 July, 14 September, 9 November (Budget Meeting).

***THE MEETING CLOSED AT 21.05 PM.***

**SIGNED (CHAIRMAN):**

**DATE:**