

Draft Minutes
Langham Parish Council
Annual Parish Council Meeting
held at Langham Community Centre 18th May 2022 6pm

- Present** Cllr Bottwood, Cllr Brockman, Cllr Armstrong, Cllr Palmer, Cllr Thorpe.
Attendance Clerk Carol Harbach
Colchester Borough Council (CBC) Cllr Chapman
3 Members of the public.
- 22/417** **Explanation of how the meeting will run.**
Cllr Bottwood welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 22/418** **Election of Chairman (sign declaration of Office)**
Cllr Bottwood asked if there was anyone willing to stand as Chairman for the Council. No one wished to stand and Cllr Bottwood offered to stand as Chairman. This was proposed by Cllr Thorpe and Seconded by Cllr Palmer. Agreed by all.
Cllr Bottwood signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office form and was elected the new Chairman.
- 22/419** **Welcome and apologies for absence**
No apologies were received.
- 22/420** **Declaration of Members interests**
Any declarations of interest will be brought up and declared as they arise on the agenda.
- 22/421** **Election of Vice Chairman (and sign Declaration of Office)**
Cllr Bottwood asked if there was anyone willing to stand as Vice Chairman for the Council.
Cllr Thorpe offered to stand as Vice Chairman. This was proposed by Cllr Bottwood and Seconded by Cllr Armstrong. Agreed by all.
- 22/422** **Signing of Councillors' Declaration of Office**
Cllr Thorpe then signed the Declaration of Office and elected as Vice Chairman.
- 22/423** **Co-option of new Parish Councillor(s)**
The Council would like to co-opt Mr. Peter Freeman and Mrs. Lisa Ogawa who have both applied to become a Parish Councillors. These vacancies have previously been advertised and interviews took place The Election Officer at CBC has been informed and the Borough Council have no problem with the Parish Council filling these vacancies as the criteria needed have been met.
Vote taken to elect Mr Peter Freeman and Mrs Lisa Ogawa.
Proposed Cllr Thorpe Seconded Cllr Armstrong.
All agreed.

Cllr Freeman was not present tonight but will sign the required paperwork as soon as possible.

Cllr Ogawa signed the required paperwork and joined the council.

22/424

Committee Structures

These have been circulated prior to the meeting by Cllr Bottwood and the suggested committee were:

Recreation Committee - Chair Cllr Thorpe, Cllr Palmer, Cllr Ogawa and Bob Schofield as a member of the public with voting rights, proposed by Cllr Bottwood seconded Cllr Palmer All agreed,

Planning Committee - Chair Cllr Bottwood Cllr Thorpe, Cllr Freeman Chris Graves and Tony Ellis as members of Public Proposed Cllr Bottwood seconded Cllr Armstrong All agreed.

Finance Committee to stay as it now Chair - Cllr Bottwood, Cllr Brockman and Cllr Armstrong.

Staffing committee – Chair Cllr Bottwood, Cllr Thorpe, Cllr Brockman Proposed Cllr Bottwood seconded Cllr Thorpe All agreed.

Cllr Armstrong to remain as the Publicity Officer and to oversee footpaths.

Cllr Bottwood to remain as the Cllr for Roads and Transport.

The Working groups will be decided at later date for upcoming projects.

22/425

Agree Parish Council Representative for Community Centre Trustees and Community Centre Finance Committee

Cllr Bottwood has been both representatives for these and will continue as the Finance and Parish Council representative. Bob Schofield will continue as the representative for Recreation Ground. Proposed Cllr Thorpe seconded Cllr Armstrong all agreed.

22/426

Agreement of Minutes

426.1 Last Annual Parish Council Meeting (19th May 2021)

These were taken as a true and accurate account.

Proposed Cllr Brockman seconded Cllr Armstrong All agreed.

22/427

Matters arising from the last Annual Parish Council Meeting

No matters arising completed and discharged.

22/428

Public Open Forum (Maximum 15 minutes)

Members of the public would raise questions at next meeting as they had concerns regarding the National Grid Green Project.

22/429

Visitors Reports (CBC and County Councillors)

Cllr Chapman informed the council that there was a change at CBC after the election and Cllr Chapman had met up with Pat Donnelly for a meeting earlier today and he felt that rural areas need more attention. Control of the CBC is now held with Liberal/Labour & Green Councillors. CBC have £18 million pounds to spend. This money will likely be spent in the town centre. William Sunnett who is the new Conservative councillor for this area is going to be looking at the Green project which is controversial in the area. A Letter had been received from Cllr Barber asking to make the public aware of this project. Cllr Barber will be working on this with Cllr Sunnet and myself and we will see how Cllr Barber takes this forward. Regarding the ANOB - there are also lots of objections across the country, particularly where it comes out of the ground, there are big areas affected by this due to the substations from there which then take this to the pylons. There is a big impact on Ardleigh regarding these types of substations.

22/430

Finance

430.1 Matters arising from the Finance Committee on 12th May 2022 (and AGAR figures)

430.2 To approve payments in accordance with the 2021/22 Budget Clerks pay increasing to and extra 34p an hour. Cllr Bottwood explained there is back pay for this as the unions have only just agreed the increase with the government. Proposed Cllr Bottwood seconded Cllr Thorpe all agreed. AGAR figures for the internal auditor - these had been discussed at the finance meetings and were approved and agreed to be forwarded to this meeting for approval. These figures were proposed by Cllr Armstrong and seconded by Cllr Palmer. All agreed.

The required payments had been circulated and were agreed to be forwarded to the council for payment by the Finance Committee.

This was proposed by Cllr Bottwood seconded Cllr Brockman all agreed. The Allied landscaping invoice is still under discussion.

22/431

To confirm date and time of next meeting

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 1st June 2022 7:30pm

Meeting closed by the chairman at 6:45pm

Signed

Cllr Bottwood

Dated