

BOXTED PARISH COUNCIL (BPC)
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 15 MAY 2024
BOXTED CAFÉ 730PM

PRESENT: Members – Councillors Jamie Seakens (Chair), Arabella Brentnall, James Collitt, Amin Dedhar, Jonathan Hunt, Angela Mclauchlan, Gene Pugh and Lee Smith.

Karen Thompson - Clerk

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE Members of the Public, David Taplin and Councillor Lewis Barber (Essex County Council (ECC)).

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24/73 Election of New Chair of the Parish Council for May 24 until May 25 Jamie Seakens was elected.

24/74 Chair to sign Declaration of Acceptance of Office of the Chair. This was signed.

24/75 Welcome and noting apologies.

Jamie Seakens welcomed everyone and noted that there were no apologies.

24/76 Declaration of Interests – Cllr Pugh declared an interest in planning application 240807.

24/77 Public Participation Session – There were questions and representations made on the topic of the Norwich to Tilbury pylon consultation and also planning applications in the village.

24/78 To consider co-opting David Taplin to fill the one council vacancy and to sign the acceptance of office if co-opted.

David Taplin was co-opted to the parish council to fill the vacant position and after signing the Acceptance of Office he joined the council.

24/79 Minutes of the last meetings of the Council held on 10th April 2024.

Councillors resolved to agree the minutes of the last meeting.

24/80 City and County Council - To receive the verbal reports of the City Councillor and the County Councillor. Cllr Barber discussed aspects of the Boxted Bridge frustrations that we could push for again, also seeking a change of approach from Trinity School regarding the lack of feeder school nomination, bus stops and bus routes.

24/81 To approve the use of General Power of Competence. This was approved.

24/82 Planning Applications

.1 To consider commenting on the following applications and noting the decisions made:

240782	24/04/2024	3 Horkesley Road	Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 3,6,12&13 -(3 Materials), (6 Planting), (12 CMP), (13 Bike Storage), of approved application 230381
The Council resolved NOT to make a comment.			
240807	18/04/2024	62a Straight Road	Proposed holiday lodges and glamping site to rear of 62a Straight Road, Boxted.
The council resolved to repeat the comments made when a similar application was submitted in 2023.			
240729	08/04/2024	13 Windmill Close	Installation of Air Source Heat Pump on side of property, located towards rear corner of property
The council resolved to comment, but not object, regarding the desire to minimise noise disturbance.			
240844	25/04/2024	East Pole, Langham Lane, Langham	This may be sent to us as it is close to Boxted border. Proposed side extension and front porch.

The Council resolved NOT to make a comment

The Council resolved NOT to make a comment

The council resolved not to object to the application but ask the planning authority to ensure that lighting was minimal and in keeping with the Dedham Vale Dark Skies advice, sufficient screening is established for neighbours and the road, that the style is in keeping with the local landscape character and that a condition is established requiring that it be used for the intended purpose and not used for business or let. The plans suggest wooden construction and it will be for CCC to comment on construction materials.

- .2 **Decisions** - Decisions made by Colchester City Council were noted.
- .3 **To note that the originally planned for pedestrian path and gate from the garage site (Silver Band Way) to the field behind was amended part way through the build process as the landowner requested that no access be provided.** This was noted.
- .4 **To note the first meeting of the Boxted Neighbourhood Plan Review Meeting on 24th April and receive the agenda and meeting notes (attached).** This was noted and the council asked the group to consider developing a policy on noise disturbance.

24/83 **Parish Council Finance and Audit**

- .1 **To receive the Parish Council Financial Report as at the 30 April 2024 (see attachments including bank and card statements).** There was no financial statement available. It will be circulated before the next meeting.

- .2 **To approve for payment the invoices presented.**

The following invoices for the month were seen and approved for payment.

Parish Council

Pay Gross (inc NI, PAYE, Pensions)	£2845.06
Clerks' expenses (working from home allowance, mileage)	£95.25
Green recycling bins	73.36
Cloudy IT - licenses	£ 101.16
Hall hire	£ 22.00
Tents for fete - reimburse committee member	£ 200.00
Essex Playing Fields Association membership	£ 30.00
Barrier tape and cylinder lock	£ 23.36
Fete Cost Mr Bean Entertainment	£ 425.00
Moser Groundcare	£ 1,956.00
Online playgrounds spring	£ 47.00

Knoll Gardens - grasses for V Hall Plants	£ 45.19
Card fee	£1.50

Village Hall

Michelle Gourlay (cleaning)	£540.00
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24/84 **Norwich to Tilbury Pylon Project Formal Consultation**

To note the open consultation deadline ends 18th June 2024 and to bring our comments to the June 24 council meeting for approval for submission. This was noted.

24/85 **Bus Stops**

To note this communication re Hobbs Drive Bus Stop

The Road Safety Audit for the Hobbs Drive bus stop has been completed and they are satisfied that the forward visibility data has been provided and achieved, however they have recommended that the setup is monitored.

Additionally, I have had discussions with the bus operator, and they have advised that they have no concerns over the bus stop location and have requested that the stop is re-activated as operational as soon as possible.

With this in mind, it is our intention to remove the bag from the flag so that the bus stop can be used. We will work closely with the bus operator and yourselves to monitor the bus stop usage and carry out spot checks to monitor the situation.

The council resolved to make the point that it is concerned that the site of the Boxted Cross Straight Rd northbound bus stop with **the narrowness of the road** will cause danger when a bus is stopped.

24/86 Recreation Ground

- .1 **The opportunity to choose a nest swing provider will be scheduled for the June Council meeting.** Noted.
- .2 **To consider planning a table tennis facility on the Recreation Ground.** This was approved in principle with the location and costs to come back to e council meeting for final approval.
- .3 **To consider continuing the council membership of the Essex Playing Field Association (cost £30pa).** This was approved.

24/87 Colchester Stadium Lighting

To consider joint lobbying of Colchester City Council regarding the Colchester Stadium lighting with the Dedham Vale Dark Skies Project. The council resolved to work with the Dedham Dark Skies project to pressure Colchester Council to improve the lighting at the Northern Gateway and associated businesses.

24/88 Clerk's Report

- .1 **To receive the clerks report including a list of resolutions agreed at earlier Parish Council meetings and note progress to date on the following.** This was not available.
- .2 **To note the following:**
 - **Parish Council were not aware of the road naming ceremony for Silver Band Close and therefore not involved in the event.**
 - **that we have asked Cllr Barber to confirm or deny the withdrawal of First Bus from the Boxted service.**
 - **the request to the officer responsible for Colchester PROW on behalf of Essex Highways to look at the damage to 100 Lane bridge where footpath 19 crosses Blackbrook.**

These were noted.

24/89 Items for the next meeting agenda

The following items are planned for the next meeting agenda:

- Risk Management Policy and Risk Register
- Nest Swing
- CCTV progress
- Straight Road Tress and Hedging
- Financial Regulations
- Standing Orders

24/90 Date of Next Meeting - The proposed date of the next meeting is 12th June 2024 at 730pm in the Village Hall. Delegated authority being granted to the Clerk with authorisation from the Chair for emergency and time critical issues. This was agreed.

Signature _____ Signed by _____