

GREAT YELDHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
Thursday 2nd February 2023 at 7.30pm, Reading Room, Gt Yeldham

Present: Cllr Philip Rawlinson (Chairman)
 Cllr John Marks (Vice-Chairman)
 Cllr Georgina Burr
 Cllr Anne Burrows
 Cllr Phil King
 Cllr Mark Lovell
 Cllr Bikaramjit Singh
 Cllr Gary Theobald

In attendance: Tracy Wigmore (Parish Clerk)
 No members of the public present.

- 23/021 Welcome and apologies for absence.**
 Apologies received from Cllr Sargeant.
- 23/022 Declarations of Interest.**
 Cllrs Marks, King and Lovell declared a non-pecuniary interest at item 23/028.
- 23/023 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council**
RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 12th January 2023 were a correct record. All in favour. Chairman signed the minutes.
- 23/024 Public Participation Session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters of mutual interest.**
 No members of the public present.
- 23/025 Invitation to Cllr Peter Schwier, Essex County Council (ECC) and Cllr Richard van Dulken, Braintree District Council (BDC) to address the meeting on matters of mutual interest.**

Cllr Van Dulken

- Budget Proposals 2023/24: budget has been made public and will be discussed at the Council meeting on 20th February. 10% inflation rate has impacted on salaries and diesel fuel, which has resulted in the proposal to increase the BDC share of the Council tax by 2.5% for next year, context, for a Band D house this will mean an increase of £4.68 for the year, only 9p a week.
- Lighthouse Charity: From 8th February charity will collect unwanted large electrical appliances from the Braintree recycling centre in Springwood Drive, to refurbish them and sell at low prices to those in need.
- Love Essex/ Love Food - taking part in a February campaign to reduce food waste - the average family wastes £60 a month on wasted food, this makes up 25% of residual (grey bin) waste. A waste of money, resources and a major producer of methane gases at landfill sites. Sign up to the Pledge at www.loveessex/food waste and get many hints as well as a chance to win £60.
- Enforcement Update: No news at The Slipe and the fishing lakes.
- Essex County Council-run recycling centres: from 13th March there will be a 9 month trial booking system for cars/vans. The system has been trialled in Rayleigh and is intended to reduce congestion (pollution from idling vehicles) as well the misuse of the facility by commercial traders. ECC will be publicising the system in due course.

- Green bins: collection of garden waste is a discretionary service (not statutory) offered by BDC, due to council financial pressures it is being proposed to offer an opt-in subscription service from 2024. 70% of Councils in England/Wales are currently charging for this service, by 2024 this will include all other Essex Councils.
- Furniture and waste textiles including POPs (Persistent Organic Pollutants), typically foam in sofas, can no longer be collected as part of the amenity (Refuse) collections arranged by the Parish Council. It must be collected individually by BDC bulky waste collection service.
- Councillors' Community Grants: a grant agreed for the Gt Yeldham Men's Shed but will only be activated when Planning Permission granted. If this permission is not forthcoming soon, it is anticipated that a grant could be made in 2023/4.

Cllr Peter Schwier
Apologies received.

23/026 **Planning Applications – Received as at 26/01/23**

22/03455/FUL | Erection of No.2 two storey two bedroom semi-detached houses
Land South Of, 4 Little Hyde Close, Great Yeldham.

RESOLVED: No comments

23/027 **Planning Decisions as at 26/01/23**

22/00552/HH Retention of 1.8m boundary fence adjacent to highway. Canie Hall,
Toppesfield Road. **PENDING**

22/01781/HH Retention of single storey rear extension to outbuilding | Canie Hall
Toppesfield Road. **PENDING**

22/02451/HH Part single part two storey rear extension and first floor side extension | 10
Butlers Way. **GRANTED**

22/02520/HH Erection of two storey side extension. 25 Market Grove. **PENDING**

22/02812/TPOCON Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a conservation Area:
Yew (T1) Crown reduction of 1.5 metres. Oak House, Church Rd. **PENDING**

23/028 **Great Yeldham Men's Shed (GYMS)**

Update by Cllr Lovell. Planning applications have now been submitted. Works for electrical wiring and benches have been put on hold until planning approved, decision expected mid-March. 3rd container and generator can be purchased once permission obtained. Target date for GYMS to become independent is 31st March 2023. Opening times will initially be 3 times a week Thursday, Friday and Saturday mornings only. 30 people have registered interest in attending the shed. Grant awards are currently accessed through the PC as the Bank account still needs to be set up.

For note.

23/029 **Bowtells' Meadow**

Update by Cllr Theobald. The next meeting is scheduled for 16th February 2023 to discuss options, designs and equipment. Instructions (Holmes and Hills Solicitors) for the transfer of Bowtells Meadow should be received soon. The Parish Council will need to appoint a solicitor to act on its behalf.

For note.

23/030 **Village Maintenance/Improvement Areas**

Consideration of areas within the village which need improvement.

- Parking area opposite old post office
- Overgrown vegetation at the old railway station (Recreation Ground) Cllr Lovell to contact Community Pay Back team. General discussion on whether the area could

be improved with the addition of picnic tables/benches and other station/platform furniture. Cllr Lovell to contact Colne Valley Railway for ideas.

- Walk through which runs through Highfields garages to Little Hyde Road – area needs to be cleared and perhaps a gravel pathway installed. Parish Council has looked at this site before, no simple solution; area is split between 3 different landowners BDC, ECC and Eastlight. Landowners not keen to install pathway due to maintenance costs and insurance implications once a pathway is adopted. Perhaps the Community Pay Back Team can clear the site from overgrown vegetation. Cllr Rawlinson to contact BDC, ECC and Eastlight to see if there is anything the PC can take on. Clerk to find previous contacts.
- Article to be placed in the 4VM for residents to identify areas for consideration. Cllr Theobald to action.
- Area opposite the bus shelter. PC does not own the land, private landowner.

For note.

23/031 Winter Salt/Salt Spreader/Salt Bins

To review current practices, requirements, storage and equipment. Item deferred to next meeting.

23/032 His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen Consort Coronation Event: Saturday 6th May – Monday 8th May

General discussion on whether the Parish Council wished to hold a village event, venue and ideas. Events group to meet on Wednesday 8th February to discuss ideas. Advance notice to be promoted in the 4 Villages Magazine.

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council hosts a 'Coronation Big Lunch' on Sunday 7th May 2023 from 1.00-4.00pm on Whitlock Green (venue subject to change if likely to be a high turnout).

23/033 Braintree Association of Local Council's (BALC)

The Association brings together Parish and Town Councils within the borough of Braintree as a sector voice to help influence decisions taken by Braintree District Council that affect member Councils either individually or as a whole. Cllr Rawlinson enquired whether any Councillors would be willing to represent the PC at the Executive meetings (zoom/teams every 2 months) and general meeting (every 3 months) at Witham Town Hall. Cllr King offered to attend the meetings on behalf of the Parish Council and Chairman. The Chairman thanked Cllr King for his offer which was duly accepted.

For note.

23/034 Clerks Report

Councillors to review actions list, update and report progress to date (Rpt circa).

- Fingerpost (village green) has been down for 6 months, Handyman refurbishing.
- Add Handyman jobs to be included in the 'Clerks Report' to aid prioritisation of jobs at each meeting. To note that the Handyman Services are budgeted for 7hrs per week, split between the village and the cemetery.

For note and comment.

23/035 To approve the monthly invoices and accounts due for payment (Rpt circa).

The Clerk presented the list of payments. **RESOLVED: that payments be approved of £4153.38 All in favour.** Cllrs Rawlinson and Burrows signed the Accounts for Payment.

23/036 Receipts and Payments for the period ending 31st January 2023 (Rpt circa).

The Clerk presented the Receipts and Payments report. There were no queries or comments **RESOLVED: That the report be approved. All in favour**

23/037 Information Exchange/Communication Received/Next Agenda Items Only

- Warm Places (Village Hub) Update - 22 people attended the hub. Post Office and Prescription Collection Services also available.
- Gt Yeldham Table Tennis Club – 1st meeting to be arranged to set up the club including electing a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.
- Cllr Marks reported that he will be receiving medical treatment over the next few months and may not be available for meetings, etc. The Chairman and Councillors passed on their well wishes.

Agenda Items:

- Community Clean-up Day – Clerk to investigate costs for Refuse Truck and availability.
- Annual Parish Meeting

23/038 The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 2nd March 2023 at 7.30 pm, Reading Room.

Meeting closed at 8.50pm

Future Meeting Dates:

- Thursday 6th April 2023
- Thursday 11th May 2023