



## SILVER END PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023 in the Parish Council Office, Silver End Village Hall.

**Present:** Cllr Bugg (Chair,) Cllr McDonald, Cllr Bailey, Cllr Ashford, Cllr Hughes, Cllr Taylor, Cllr Kelly, Cllr Sullivan, Mrs Temple (Clerk,) Cllr Playle (ECC, left before 1223/FC2039) and Ed Moorhouse (left before the meeting started in full.)

Before the meeting opened the Chairman welcomed Ed Moorhouse from Oasthouse Ventures to give a presentation on proposals to develop a series of low-carbon greenhouses on the former Rivenhall Airfield/Bradwell Quarry. Their intention is to make a planning application to ECC to use energy produced by the IWMF to operate greenhouses to produce tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers and lettuce, making imports from Spain, Morocco and Holland unnecessary. This would reduce emissions caused by travelling such a long distance. The site would use energy generated from the IWMF and travel gases would be significantly lower as the site is within 40 miles of all major supermarket depots.

Aim to recruit as locally as possible and to use public transport to travel to work, also provide a free creche for working parents. Intention is to link to local colleges, particularly Writtle.

Discussion of solar panels being floated on the reservoir where water will also be sourced but with the plan to use the Blackwater if needed.

It was suggested that another site visit be arranged for February.

The Chair thanked Ed Moorhouse for his attendance and he left the meeting at this point.

The Chair asked for Member's agreement to move an item up the agenda to allow Cllr Playle to report and then move on to Black Notley PC. All agreed.

#### 1223/FC2044 **Report from District/County Councillors**

Cllr Playle reported:

- Pot holes - most have been done apart from Temple Lane. £121m has been allocated for pot holes over the next 10 years, in addition to annual budget.
- Site visit held on Boars Tye Road. New speed signs ordered and will be fitted asap.
- Review to be held of LHP and the way it runs. Welcome anything that speeds the process.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> round re boundary commission has been published. Until 19/2 if wish to comment. Final proposals early summer.
- Asked for update on benches – FOI requested by Cllr McDonald as to how the benches should be fixed. Olive Cowell responded with confirmation of other parishes that had done so successfully. Cllr Bailey stated that they had however not specified how they had actually been fitted into a tarmac base. **Agenda item** for next meeting. Cllr Playle will see what he can find out before then.

Cllr Ashford added, regarding the Boars Tye Road meeting. He has since spoken to Highways and they will put up new signs asap so that they are legal and enforceable. Also village names to be ordered for the gateways and duck signs to be added. He offered his thanks to Cllr Playle and asked if he can now work on moving the speed limit out.

The Chair thanked Cllr Playle for his attendance and for his report and he left the meeting at this point.

In his absence Cllr Abbott asked the Clerk to make the following report on his behalf:

- 'BDC Budget process - As usual this included a briefing for the main Scrutiny committee (held 22<sup>nd</sup> November). Challenge is to close significant budget gap, which is due to a combination of factors including inflation and higher wages bill. Some good news in that (to be formally confirmed) parish street cleaning grant is proposed to be kept for another year.
- Green bins - Subscriptions are running ahead of expectations but still less than half the number of households that currently use green bins. BDC says there is a possibility that take up may actually fall in following years when full subscription prices come in (ie no discount as per this autumn). We have been asked by some residents as to what will happen with green bins for those not subscribing - BDC says they will not collect them and they anticipate residents will keep hold of them. We continue to request a concession for the approx. 2,500 residents with mobility issues who are on assisted collections.
- School parking - We have again been contacted about problems with parking at the school, this time by the school itself. They say it's worse in the morning. We have again contacted NEPP to ask for their intervention.
- Conservation Area - Pleased to see at last BDC has now suggested a date for first meeting with SEPC and the Heritage Society on the Appraisal and we are looking forward to it.
- Fruit trees - As far as we know yes, Eastlight were at the time happy for the area behind Bristol Court to be used for fruit tree planting. A few years back we asked them to carry out some work on it to prepare for new trees to go in there.
- Cycling - The route we suggested through the BDC Cycling Group, from Witham To Braintree linking to villages (including Silver End via Temple Lane) and branch line railway stations, is part of an ECC consultation that is now open and which now runs until 17th January.'

The meeting return back to its original order at this point.

1223/FC2039 **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Wright and Cllr Abbott (BDC.)  
**Absent without apologies:** None.

1223/FC2040 **Declarations of Interest** by Members in respect of any items on the agenda.  
Cllr Sullivan – re planning application: 23/02939/HH.

1223/FC2041 **Members of the public** are given an opportunity to speak at this point, however none were present.

1223/FC2042 **Minutes of the previous Full Parish Council Meeting** were agreed and signed as a true record of the meeting. It should be noted that the Chair is currently signing with his opposite hand, following a recent accident. His signature is recognisable but there is a marked difference to previously.

**Clerk's Report and any matters arising from the last minutes:**

Awaiting a call back from Talk Talk to change to a cheaper contract.

1223/FC2043 **Members to give consideration to the resignation of Cllr John Kelly, from the date of his moving out of the village**

Cllr Kelly sent his letter of resignation to the Clerk and all Members of the Parish Council.

Everyone agreed that it was a real shame and that he would be greatly missed. He was wished all the very best with his move out of the area, stating that Silver End's loss was his new parish's gain.

Cllr Ashford, with regret, proposed that the resignation was agreed with Cllr Bailey acting as second. All were in favour at a vote.

Cllr Kelly will continue as a Member until the end of the meeting and the **Clerk** will notify BDC thereafter.

Cllr Kelly thanked Members and the Clerk for their support, expressing that he has thoroughly enjoyed his time as a parish councillor and that he is grateful for the welcome and assistance shown to him.

1223/FC2044 **Report from District/County Councillors**

This item was moved up the agenda, before item 1223/2039.

1223/FC2045 **Planning Applications – agreed via email communication since the last meeting. Only comments objections or formal comments noted.**

**Application No:** ESS/34/BTE/NMA8 Rivenhall Airfield

Non-Material Amendment to amend the wording of Condition 35 of planning permission ESS/34/15/BTE to allow out of hours working between January 2024 and June 2024. ESS/34/15/BTE is the planning permission for the Integrated Waste Management Facility

Objection:

The noise of the construction is already audible in Silver End, and this is a long term construction product, they should be able to plan their construction to fit within agreed times and meet deadlines. To allow an extension without extenuating circumstances will allow a precedent to be set.

**Application No:** 23/02541/TPO 68 Silver Street

Notice of intent to fell Blue Atlas Cedar due to size and location.

Support:

Application supported but suggest that a more suitable replacement is planted.

**Any large Planning Applications or Applications received after agenda was set**

None.

**Applications received after the agenda was set.**

**Application No:** 23/02939/HH 66 Silver Street

Replacement of 6 windows

No comment.

Cllr Sullivan was asked to leave the room before discussions started about this application. Once a decision was made he was asked to return.

1223/FC2046 **Correspondence – not already included in the Clerk's report**

BDC – Notification that all Members are to check their Registers of Interest and update them where and if needed. The Clerk sent the original email to all.

Chris Paggi, Planning, BDC – Meeting suggested on the afternoon of Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December to discuss the Silver End Conservation Area Appraisal. This will be held in SEPC's office. A time of 3pm was suggested with attendance by Cllrs Bugg, Sullivan, McDonald, Bailey and Ashford. The **Clerk** will confirm this.

BDC – confirmation that the Street Scene Agreement provision has been included within BDC's budget. This will be for a further year.

ECC – online briefing session in relation to the Essex Mineral Local Plan Review on Tuesday 30/1 from 2-3.30pm. The **Clerk** has sent details to all who will notify her if they would like to attend, latest date 12<sup>th</sup> January.

1223/FC2047 **Reports from Silver End Councillors – Meetings/activities**

Cllr Ashford and Cllr McDonald attended the site meeting, already reported by Cllr Playle, at Boars Tye Road with ECC. This followed a recent incident where a car struck a child. It was agreed that the current speed signage is not legally compliant but they could arrange replacements quickly as long as it is generic signage. Signs are being sorted urgently and old signs taken down as

agreed via email. Next stage is to get the speed limit moved out. It was suggested that BDC are pressured to include this in the planning application affecting this part of the road.

Cllr McDonald reported that he and Cllr Bugg attended the site visit to see the Greenhouses with Ed Moorhouse. Very interesting but not well organised, including no food being provided as had been promised.

Cllr McDonald reported on a WoSE meeting whereby the magazine has since been distributed. The next edition has a cutoff date of 1<sup>st</sup> February. Notify him at the next meeting if anything is to be included.

Cllr McDonald asked the **Clerk** to remind all village organisations of the next 100<sup>th</sup> celebrations to be held on 24/1. Barbara Adams from Knit and Knatter to be phoned and Mick Galley to be included for D4G.

Cllr Bugg asked for it to be minuted how grateful he was for everyone's help in putting the Christmas lights up this year.

#### **ECC/BDC Reports**

The **Clerk** reported that she and Cllr Bugg will be meeting with Rick Sargeant, BDC, in the Memorial Gardens on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December.

Cllr Bugg reported that the left hand light at the entrance to the Memorial Gardens is no longer working. **Clerk** to notify Kev Lay.

#### 1223/FC2048 **Finance**

##### **Bank reconciliations and balances as at 30.11.23**

The Clerk presented the statements and balances which were agreed and signed by the Chair of the meeting, and the Clerk as the RFO, as per appendix 1223i, as sent to Members with the agenda. All payments to be made, detailed on this appendix, were agreed.

#### 1223/FC2049 **S106 monies to be spent in Silver End, following a meeting with BDC**

Following an earlier meeting the **Clerk** was asked to contact Sarah Burder, BDC, to see if there is any action that SEPC need to take at this point, c.c. Cllr Ashford. The Clerk was further asked to confirm if the NHS monies have been claimed?

Cllr McDonald asked the **Clerk** to check if the Tori Arch is on the Open Spaces Plan.

#### 1223/FC2050 **Consideration to be given to the location to plant fruit trees in the village**

Cllr Bailey confirmed that the application for the trees has been made. Just waiting for Eastlight to confirm to the **Clerk** that the land behind Bristol Court is still ok to plant on.

#### 1223/FC2051 **List of funding options available to Silver End**

Cllr McDonald has looked into various funding options, stating that it is not clear whether funding can be continued past the initial amount. Also queried if we have a list of funding projects Cllr Ashford replied that we have a list on the Open Spaces Plan but that we need to know what funding is available.

Cllr Ashford commented that the Rural Crimes Commissioner appears to be a source of funding for SIDs. Clerk reminded all Members that £8k remains in budget for future projects incl. SID. He will look into costs. **Clerk** to check if he would like this added to the agenda for January.

#### 1223/FC2052 **20mph speed limit within Silver End**

Cllr Hughes presented his suggested wording for WoSE, as sent by email to the Clerk and all Members.

Cllr Bailey proposed keeping it simple and to just leave the points made, rather than writing leading questions. All agreed.

#### 1223/FC2053 **Members to give consideration to a children's Halloween event for 2024**

Cllrs Hughes and Bugg discussed running an event in the Memorial Gardens, in line with Witham Town Council.

Cllr Bailey proposed doing so during the day, for younger children with Cllr Sullivan acting as second. All agreed.

It was thought that holding anything for older children could prove problematic.

Cllr Hughes will take the lead and the **Clerk** will make this an agenda item for September.

#### 1223/FC2054 **Agenda items for the next meeting**

Next Full Council Meeting – 10<sup>th</sup> January.

Budget/precept 24/25

Bleed Control Kit – Cllr McDonald – location etc as Round Table will purchase

Parish Plan - KM

There being no further matters to discuss the Chair called the meeting to a close at 21.30pm.