



# ALDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of Aldham Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> . October 2024 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall at Aldham	Action
<p>Present: Cllrs Mike Lambert (Chair), Brenda Brown, Andrew D'Angibau, Tony Gearey, Jean Jennings, Roger Walker and Kevin B. Money (Parish Clerk). There were also present 7 members of the public.</p> <p><b>142/2024 Apologies for absence</b> were received from Cllr A. Scott</p> <p><b>143/2024 Declaration of Members interests</b> To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary interest relating to items on the agenda. Cllr M. Lambert declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 150/2024</p> <p><b>144/2024 To approve the minutes of the last meetings held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>. September 2024. All Agreed</b></p> <p><b>145/2024 Public Open Forum (Maximum 15 minutes)</b> Danger coming out of the driveway on A1124 the volume and speed of traffic due to the growth of Colchester and outlying villages. Can the speed be reduced to 30mph as it is an accident waiting to happen? A letter from the resident has been sent to ECC Cllr L. Barber. This item to be added to the Working Group list of items to be undertaken. A white roundabout marking in the road may be helpful. Attention was drawn to consultation on the Draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Essex and the possible implications for the Parish (see Item 152 below)</p> <p><b>146/2024 Visitors Report</b> (CCC Dennis Willetts / CCC Sara Naylor / ECC Lewis Barber) No reports were given</p> <p><b>147/2024 Bus shelter in the village</b> Cllr R. Walker spoke about an offer from ECC Cllr L. Barber as money can be used to have a new bus shelter erected. This to be put onto the Highways Working Group</p> <p><b>148/2024 Response to National Grid Statutory Consultation</b> – update from Cllr A. Scott No further update has been supplied</p> <p><b>149/2024 Response from National Highways on A12 over-running</b> – Cllr M. Lambert reported on the response/apology from National Highways following overrun of works last month and extension of completion date to mid-October. The south route is now fully opened but the north bound still has overnight closures.</p> <p><b>150/2024 Planning Applications</b> <b>241769 - Moon Acre Rectory Road Aldham</b> Creation of a smallholding and limited amenity use on agricultural land together with a vehicle hardstanding area, the erection of a timber fence and an agricultural hay barn, hedgerow replanted, installation of private sewage treatment plant, and the use of a small touring caravan on site under the '60 day permitted rights' rule <b>RESOLVED:</b> Aldham Parish Council recommends that CCC Refuses this planning application on the following grounds</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The site was never used for agriculture.</li><li>2. Initially used for storage by a local blacksmith in the 1980's, it reverted to scrub in the 1990's.</li><li>3. The site is in the countryside and governed by Policy ENV1, which protects the countryside.</li><li>4. The application does not comply with this policy due to its negative impact on the local landscape.</li></ol>	<p></p> <p><b>Working Group</b></p> <p><b>Working group</b></p>

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. The site boundary is inaccurately depicted, including hedges and trees not belonging to the applicant.</li> <li>6. This misrepresentation could affect access to contractors and services.</li> <li>7. The proposed use lacks clarity and fails to meet smallholding criteria</li> <li>8. The land is 0.135 hectares, not meeting the minimum size for classification as a smallholding or agricultural unit.</li> <li>9. The term "limited amenity use" is ambiguous and needs strict conditions to control any sui generis use.</li> <li>10. No details on animals to be kept on site.</li> <li>11. The necessity of a second entrance for UK Power Networks is questioned.</li> <li>12. No permission exists to relocate an electricity pole</li> <li>13. A sewage treatment plant is included without a toilet</li> <li>14. No permission to discharge water onto neighbouring properties</li> <li>15. Suggestion of possible future residential use, which is inappropriate</li> <li>16. Incorrectly cites rules for bringing a touring caravan on site</li> <li>17. Aldham Parish Council concurs with all the 5 Objection comments made on CCC website</li> </ol>	
<p><b>151/2024      Planning Decisions affecting Aldham. None made</b></p>	
<p><b>152/2024      Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS)</b>  <b>Consultation</b><a href="https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/c-e/lnrs-public-consultation/#:~:text=The%20public%20consultation%20for%20the,connected%20approach%20to%20nature%20recovery.">https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/c-e/lnrs-public-consultation/#:~:text=The%20public%20consultation%20for%20the,connected%20approach%20to%20nature%20recovery.</a>  The Strategy contains a comprehensive review of the state of the County's natural habitats, flora and fauna. It identifies a number of features and potential for recovery in Aldham, including the Roman River Valley, which has been put forward to the City Council for inclusion as a Landscape feature in the Local Plan Review. However, it is not clear from the scale of the plans included exactly what is included and what is not and how the strategy can be implemented at the local level. Cllr Lambert to review document and prepare draft response to circulate before deadline of 25<sup>th</sup> October.</p>	<p><b>Cllr M Lambert</b></p>
<p><b>153/2024      Update on Key Priorities for 2024/25: Housing, Millennium Playing Field and FP/cycleway link to Marks Tey</b>  A quick update. Housing issue in abeyance awaiting CCC Local Plans Review, now expected Feb/March 2025. Also includes Millenium Playing Field. FP/Cycleway on Working Group list</p>	<p><b>Working Group</b></p>
<p><b>154/2024      To report back on the meeting with EWT about Gallows Green</b>  Attended a good meeting from EWT. Community Ranger for small areas attended and was very impressed with the wildlife. m EWT on drawing up a Management Plan. Suggested limited works, ie. pond cleared and dead tree removed. A positive meeting. A survey to be undertaken by volunteer experts and possible assistance from consultancy element of the EWT to assist in the management of Gallows Green.</p>	<p><b>Cllrs Lambert/Brown/Scott</b></p>
<p><b>155/2024      Hedge on playing field – update from the Clerk - Already been cut. Thanks to Cllr A d'Angibau</b></p>	
<p><b>156/2024      Highway Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clerk to update for moving Speed Indicator Device (SID) in Aldham  The SID device comes to Aldham in December '24 for 1 month</li> <li>• Update on pole extension from Cllr A. D'Angibau  An extension pole was discussed and preferred to a new pole. A meeting with Bradley Smith from Suffolk CC to see if this is possible.  A quotation of £63.11p + carriage + Vat. Cllr A. D'Angibau proposed this project. Cllr R. Walker seconded. <b>All Agreed</b></li> <li>• Update on having a SID in Brook Road  ECC Cllr L. Barber may have up to £2500 available from his locality funding for a permanent SID.</li> <li>• Update on Working Group. Meeting on 14<sup>th</sup>. October 2024</li> <li>• Update on Footpaths/Verges. No further update available. All footpath defects have been reported to ECC. All footpaths are now fully opened</li> </ul>	<p><b>Cllr d'Angibau</b></p>

<p><b>157/2024 Finance</b>  a) To receive the Bank reconciliations as at 30<sup>th</sup>. September 2024  Councillors noted the Bank reconciliations as at 30<sup>th</sup>. September 2024  b) To receive the comparison of Actual to Budgeted for 2024/25  Councillors noted the comparison of Actual to Budgeted for 2024/25  c) To approve the payment of Accounts for August &amp; September 2024 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the Parish Council financial requirements. <b>All Agreed</b></p> <p><b>158/2024 Budget 2025/2026 - Councillors to discuss draft budget</b>  Councillors discussed the 1<sup>st</sup>. draft of the 2025-2026 budget</p> <p><b>159/2024 To consider training opportunities available from EALC</b>  All EALC training calendar for 2025-2026 have been sent to Councillors</p> <p><b>160/2024 Information Exchange</b>  The Clerk mentioned about the EALC AGM  The ditch on New Road has been cleared and the culvert rodded.  The level crossing on Rectory Road is being updated with red and green lights. Hopefully this time the funding will come through.  The land at the rear of the village hall has been suggested as a possible dog park. Access to this will be via the Tey Road which will need a culvert and the site fenced. The cost will be about £3000 for the fencing which is the main cost. Cllr R. Walker to make further investigations  Remembrance Sunday Poppy Appeal Representative to be approached for a Wreath</p> <p><b>161/2024 Items for next agenda</b>  2025-2026 Budget: Dog park at the rear of the village hall:</p> <p><b>162/2024 To confirm date and time of next meetings.</b> Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup>. November 2024 at 7.30pm &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup>. December 2024</p> <p><b>163/2024 Closure of the Meeting -</b> To close the meeting having considered and determined all items of business</p> <p>The Chair then closed the meeting at 8.52pm and thanked everyone for attending</p> <p>Signed <i>MLambert</i> 5<sup>th</sup>. November 2024  <b>Mike Lambert – Chair</b></p>	<p><b>Cllr R. Walker</b>  <b>Clerk</b></p>
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