

Chelmer Village Council Minutes of the Council Meeting

The Council met at 7pm on Tuesday 2nd July 2024 in the Council Chamber, Springfield Parish Centre, St Augustine's Way, Springfield, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 6GX.

Councillor S Sullivan chaired the meeting.

Present: Councillors S Bryne-Lagrué, S King, R Stringer, Y Spence, G Walker, P Coleing, A Chong, E Schultz and E Nnadi.

In attendance: Clerk to the Council, Clare Milligan and Deputy Clerk, Nandita Nandi

039/24. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and agreed for Cllr D Lumley.

040/24. Declaration of Acceptance of Office

There were no declarations.

Cllr E Nnadi arrived at 7.09pm.

041/24. Minutes of Full Council

The minutes of the Council meeting on 18th June 2024, were agreed and signed as a true copy. Proposed by Cllr S Sullivan, seconded by Cllr Y Spence and agreed unanimously.

042/24. Public Question Time

No members of the public were present.

043/24. Minutes of Committee meetings

The minutes of the Environment, Village Green, and Planning Committee meetings held on 25th June 2024, were received and noted.

044/24. Clerk's Report

1. Tree Preservation Order – this was discussed at the Environment, Village Green, and Planning Committee meeting on 25th June 2024.
2. Potholes - Various potholes have been reported to County Councillor J Spence.
3. End of Year Accounts - The Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) has been sent to the external auditor.
4. Unity Trust Mandate – The relevant paperwork has been signed and returned to the bank to add Cllr S King and Cllr R Stringer as signatories.

045/24. Financial Transactions

The income and expenditure for June 2024 were received and agreed. Proposed by Cllr S Bryne-Lagrué, seconded by Cllr S King and agreed unanimously.

046/24. Financial Review

The bank reconciliation for May 2024 and June 2024 were received and agreed. The budget summary up to the end of June 2024 was received and agreed. The bank reconciliation was signed by the Chair of the Council, Cllr S Sullivan.

047/24. Governance Split Financial Working Group

An update was received on the financial asset split between Chelmer Village Council and Springfield Parish Council. The Council were advised that Springfield Parish Council had discussed the matter at their Full Council meeting on Monday 1st July 2024 and a proposal was agreed to put to Chelmer Village Council. Once the

working group has received the offer, they will report back to Full Council for discussion.

048/24. Bank Accounts

A comparison report on a new deposit account for the Council's finances was received. An in-depth discussion took place, and it was agreed to open the following accounts:

1. Unity Trust Bank Instant Access Savings Account
2. Lloyds Bank Savings Account 95-day notice savings account

It was agreed to place £50,000 of the Council's funds in the Lloyds account and the remainder would be put into the new Unity Trust account with a small amount left in the main account at Unity Trust.

The Clerk will now investigate the opening of the accounts and arrange for paperwork to be signed. Proposed by Cllr S Bryne-Lagrué, seconded by Cllr S Sullivan and agreed unanimously.

049/24. IT Support

A comparison report for IT Support was received and a discussion took place. It was agreed to change provider for IT Support to Lodge Information Services (ICE Connect). Proposed by Cllr S King, seconded by Cllr Y Spence agreed unanimously.

050/24. Mid and South Essex NHS Trust's 10-year Strategy

The email regarding the strategy was circulated to all Councillors. An in-depth discussion took place, and it was agreed that Councillors would undertake the survey individually. Cllr Y Spence recommended publishing the article on the Council's website and Facebook page.

051/24. Matters for Information

1. Cllr P Coleing advised that the children's play area at the back entrance to Barns Farm School was severely overgrown. Cllr S Sullivan advised that the area in question was owned and maintained by Chelmsford City Council. The Clerk will contact the City Council about the area and Essex Fire re the general non-mowing policy the City Council has and the potential fire hazard this may cause.
2. Cllr P. Coleing raised concerns over the increase in dog waste around Pillbox Green. The Clerk will contact the City Council's Dog Warden team about this matter to see if there is anything that can be done.
3. The Clerk asked the Council if they had any items for the Parish magazine.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.06pm.