



Springfield Parish Council

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Locum Clerk to the Council: John Watson

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Springfield Parish Council held on 9th December 2024 at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Springfield Parish Centre, St Augustine's Way, Springfield, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 6GX.

Present: Councillors R Carson (Chair), E Aluko, R Lee, K Hine, I Fuller, N Dudley, D Havell, A Chong, B Chadwick, S Byrne-Laguer, G Brazendale
In attendance J Watson (Locum Clerk), M. Kingston (Administration and Committee Clerk)

088/24. The Chair to declare the meeting open

The Chair declared the meeting open at 7.00pm.

089/24. To receive notification from any persons present of intent to record the meeting

There were no notifications.

090/24. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and agreed from Cllrs J Pioli, S Sullivan and City Councillor M Mackrory.

091/24. Declarations of interest

Cllrs A Chong and S Byrne-Laguer declared interest as they are also councillors for Chelmer Village.

092/24. Chairman's Announcements

The Chair mentioned the Church's pantry and encouraged councillors to provide items for the pantry ready for the Christmas period.

093/24. Clerks Report

The Clerk informed the council that the court hearing for the previous café debt has been postponed due to staff shortage at the court, another hearing will be arranged for some time in 2025. The Committee Clerk also gave an update on the centre's Christmas party and encouraged councillors to attend if they are available.

094/24. Minutes

Minutes of the Full Council meeting on the 16th September 2024 and the Extra Ordinary Full Council meeting on the 21st October 2024 were received and agreed. The Chair R Carson signed and dated the minutes. A discussion took place in regards to organising an environment and planning meeting so that a plan for the Chelmer Village sign and where it will be placed could be made. Cllr G Brazendale will forward details to the Clerk so that he can look into and arrange the meeting. The Clerk also updated the council in regards to the Pension Credit event, Citizens Advice are happy to help, and research will now be done on local care homes to contact in regards to the event.

095/24. Public Question Time

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

096/24. Reports from City and District Councillors

Cllr M Mackrory was not available to attend the meeting. Cllr I Fuller discussed the closure of White Hart Lane starting on January 6th 2025 to 28th March 2025. The closure will be from 7pm-7am. The committee clerk will put this on the website and on the centre's social media pages. Cllr N Dudley explained to the council that she had received an NHS alert in regards to the increase in Norovirus cases and directed the council to the NHS website if they required more information or advice.

097/24. Minutes of Committee meetings

Minutes of the Premises meeting on the 18th November 2024 were received and noted. The Finance and Policy minutes for the 2nd December 2024 were not available as they were still being finalised.

098/24. 2025/2026 Budget and Precept

The budgets for the Premises and Finance and Policy committees were agreed at their previous individual meetings. The environment and planning budgets were added and agreed during the meeting and the committee clerk said that she will update the budget headings to include the play scheme and dog bins in the budget as they were originally. The Clerk will finalise all budgets and circulate to the council so that they have a clear picture on all going forward. Proposed by Cllr A Chong, seconded by E Aluko and agreed unanimously.

The Precept was discussed in length in regards to whether the Council wanted to increase the amount. Cllr E Aluko proposed an increase of 5.30% on the 2024/2025 precept. This was seconded by Cllr S Byrne-Laguer. A counter proposal was given by Cllr R Lee of a 5% increase which was seconded by D Havill and this proposal was then agreed unanimously resulting in a precept requirement for 2025/2026 of £238,602.

099/24. New Website

The Council received a written report from the bookings and marketing clerk in regards to the creation of a new website. The cost had already been included in the 2025/2026 budget. It was agreed that four councillors would oversee the planning of the website with the chosen company Reach. The four councillors involved in the planning going forward are Cllrs R Lee, K Hine, R Carson and S Byrne-Laguer. Proposed by S Byrne-Laguer, seconded by K Hine and agreed unanimously.

100/24. Trucam Services

A discussion was had in regards to whether the Council wish to employ speed enforcement in the Parish, and it was decided that the Clerk would speak with the company about the cost and a decision would be agreed at the next meeting.

101/24. Exclusion of the Press and Public

The Press and Public were excused from the remainder of the meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as the matters discussed were confidential.

102/24. Agreement with Chelmer Village Council

A discussion took place and a decision was made.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 9.20pm.

Signed.....

Date.....