



Messing Cum Inworth Parish Council
COUNCIL MEETING



Minutes of the meeting of Messing Cum Inworth Parish Council
Tuesday 19 November 2024, Messing Village Hall, 7.30pm

		PRESENT
Chairman	Councillor R Suckling	Yes
Councillors	Councillor Mrs J Hughes	Yes
	Councillor R Strudwick	Yes
	Councillor Mrs M Irons	Yes
	Councillor Mrs C Baxter	Yes
	2 VACANT SEATS	
IN ATTENDANCE	Clerk	

1 152/24 APOLOGIES: NIL

2 153/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- a) **RECEIVE** declarations of interest regarding the agenda: Councillor Mrs C Baxter declared an interest in item 7g (158/24) as Chair of Messing Allotment Association.
- b) **NOTE** decisions of requests for dispensation relating to the agenda: NIL

3 154/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- a) **RECEIVE** reports from City and County Councillors: County Councillor K Bentley has been liaising with Cllr Mrs C Baxter about the orchard issues and he will contact the community police team at CCC and ask for patrols in the area. There is no news about whether the A12 scheme will go ahead. The ECC budget setting process is underway. Further information is being sourced about the plans for the site close to Threshelfields Business Park in Braintree District as an Environmental Impact Assessment scoping report has been submitted.
- b) **RECEIVE** public comments relating to the agenda or matters for future consideration: NIL

4 155/24 MINUTES - APPROVE minutes (previously circulated) as a true record

- a) minutes of the meeting of the council held on 15 October 2024 were **APPROVED** on proposal of Cllr Mrs J Hughes, seconded Cllr Mrs C Baxter, all agreed and duly signed by the Chair;
- b) minutes of the meeting of the personnel committee held on 15 October 2024 were **RECEIVED** and **NOTED**

5 156/24 GOVERNANCE

- a) UTB application to remove the previous clerk from council banking was viewed online and the submission form was **RECEIVED** and **APPROVED**. Councillors on the mandate signed the form and the clerk will submit to UTB.
- b) Insurance confirmation notification **RECEIVED**. Review for insurance renewal next year to be scheduled for July.
- c) New format draft parish actions list **RECEIVED** and **CONSIDERED**. Clerk to continue updating with input from Cllr Suckling.
- d) Policy review plan **RECEIVED** and **CONSIDERED**. Allotment waiting list procedure document agreed. Orchard terms of reference spend amount wording to be changed by Cllr Mrs C Baxter. Section 25 of standing orders to be retained and resolution orders to be refreshed at December meeting. Clerk to make suggested changes to dog walking policy, format each document consistently, publish on website and update policy review plan.
- e) It was agreed to hold a separate meeting in early January to discuss ideas for the new website. Clerk confirmed all full council minutes are now published on existing website but not personnel committee minutes. It was **RESOLVED** not to publish minutes of the personnel committee meetings due to their confidential nature, proposed by Cllr Suckling, seconded by Cllr Mrs J Hughes and all agreed.

6 157/24 PLANNING - CONSIDER the following applications or decisions presented to Council for comment:

- a) 241881 Messing Primary School, CO5 9TH - replace existing fencing line with new safe-guarding perimeter fencing: <https://www.colchester.gov.uk/wampd/?id=241881> – approved. Cllr Suckling has spoken with Ursula Gooday at the school about the rabbits and height of fence.
- b) 241882 Messing Primary School, CO5 9TH - Safe-guarding front extension/reception area: <https://www.colchester.gov.uk/wampd/?id=241882> – approved.
- c) Cllr Suckling has found environmental impact scoping report for Crown estates land near to Threshelfords Business Park but no other information has been received from Braintree District Council. It was agreed to monitor the situation and respond to application at appropriate time to request upgrade work to Hinds Bridge.

7 158/24 PARISH MATTERS

- a) Inworth: Solar Park payments update– 3 still to be paid; speed survey – clerk sent request to Rural Engagement Team.
- b) RCCE housing needs survey – 42 responses received so far, it was agreed to promote the survey again on social media to encourage more returns.
- c) Parish Tree survey actions – 3 quotes were **RECEIVED** and **CONSIDERED**. It was **RESOLVED** to appoint M.J Green to undertake the work, proposed by Cllr Suckling, seconded by Cllr Mrs J Hughes and all agreed. Clerk to check public liability required in financial regulations and refer quote back to tree report to ensure all included.
- d) Peacocks in village – Messing Park estate staff confirmed their status as trustees but the peacocks are not part of the trust, so referred issue to the owner’s daughters.
- e) Play area – Wicksteed do not carry out operational inspections so clerk to seek quotes from other providers. Cllr Strudwick to follow up actions in report including the need for signage on the gate.
- f) Orchard – bank reduction quote was **RECEIVED** and **CONSIDERED**. It was **RESOLVED** to ask Bob Fritz to carry out the reduction, proposed by Cllr Mrs J Hughes, seconded Cllr Mrs C Baxter and all agreed. It was also agreed to purchase combination lock and chain to lock the gate. Sponsors and residents that use orchard to be given combination number with a sign on the gate to contact clerk for anyone else. Signbase to be approached to quote for playground gate sign and orchard gate sign. Clerk has removed 2 salt bins but will follow up with CCC about the others. Cllr Strudwick has priced sleeper foundation for water storage as £282.49 and this spend was agreed. The tree signs were fitted during the working party on 9 November. Pruning course is being promoted and up to 10 places are available. Cost to participate is £20 for sponsors or £25 for anyone else and trainer’s fee is £170.
- g) Allotments – clerk has been in contact with Plotholder 6 and the water butt is now connected. Situation to be reviewed in early spring. Clerk to publicise that the allotment waiting list is open.
- h) Defibrillators – clerk now on the webnos system and has ordered spare pads for Messing defib. Community Heartbeat confirmed electrical connection for heat unit in Inworth defib can only be checked with an electrical tester device.
- i) Noticeboards renovation – Cllr Suckling reported that the maintenance has been completed and the noticeboards are back in place.
- j) Birch airfield waste management proposal – consultation closed in August and there were 7 responses, Cllr Suckling to discuss with County Councillor K Bentley.
- k) Christmas tree event – it was agreed to donate £125 to FOMC for the event. Cllr Mrs J Hughes will let FOMC know and will submit entry form for the parish council tree. Cllr Suckling and Cllr Mrs J Hughes will organise photographs and printing to display on the parish council tree.
- l) Assets of community value – need to be renewed every 5 years with CCC. Mr Campbell to be notified of the intention to re-register the Old Crown pub as an asset and the clerk to complete the application.

8 159/24 CLERK’S REPORT was **RECEIVED** and **NOTED**

Clerk to register Cllr Suckling for the Local Plan review briefing on 18 December and to publicise Community Energy Colchester service to residents.

9 160/24 **FINANCE**

- a) Finance report was **RECEIVED** and **NOTED**. Salary and staff costs are overbudget in forecast.
- b) Orchard finances document was discussed. Clerk to keep updating.
- c) First draft 2025/26 budget was discussed. Clerk to confirm dates and timetable for precept submission.
- d) Bank reconciliations for the months of September and October were **APPROVED**, signed Cllr Mrs Baxter and Cllr Mrs Irons.
- e) Accounts presented for payment were **APPROVED**, signed Cllr Mrs Baxter and Cllr Mrs Irons. Cllr Strudwick was reimbursed for orchard tree stakes and ties from petty cash.

10 161/24 **BRIEF REPORTS OF MEMBERS** - matters for forthcoming agenda: engagement with residents on Local Plan review (January meeting), village newsletter, new residents pack, old paperwork, budget and precept

11 162/24 **NEXT MEETING** - confirmed Tuesday 17 December 2024 commencing 19.30

Apologies for the December meeting from Cllr Mrs Baxter and Cllr Mrs Hughes

There being no further business the meeting closed at 22.10

PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL - NOV 2024

LGA 1972 s111	UTB	Internal transfer from reserves to current acc	£5,000.00
LGA 1972 s111	Staff 2	Salary & office allowance (Nov)	£262.74
LGA 1972 s111	Staff 3	Salary & office allowance (Nov)	£964.07
LGA 1972 s111	HMRC	PAYE	£115.52
LGA 1972 s111	Pension Fund	Pension contributions (Nov)	£421.48
LGA 1972 s111	Staff 2	Expenses (Oct)	£1.50
LGA 1972 s111	Staff 3	Expenses (Oct)	£59.88
LGA 1972 s111	CALC	Subscription 2024-25	£35.00
PHA 1875 s164	J Cornwell	Orchard full cut	£250.00
PHA 1875 s164	J Cornwell	Cut back orchard trees and keys cut	£556.60