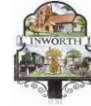




Messing Cum Inworth Parish Council



COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting of Messing Cum Inworth Parish Council

Tuesday 17 June 2025, 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
	Councillor A Harding	Yes
	Councillor Mrs M Lindsay	Yes
	IN ATTENDANCE	Clerk
	3 members of the public	
	City Councillor A Ellis	

1 64/25 **APOLOGIES:** None

2 65/25 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- a) **RECEIVE** declarations of interest regarding the agenda: Councillor Mrs Baxter declared an interest in item 7b (70/25) as Chair of Messing Allotment Association and item 7f (70/25) as a neighbouring resident to the proposed dog bin.

3 66/25 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- a) **RECEIVE** reports from City and County Councillors: County Councillor K Bentley sent his apologies. Parish councillors reported back to City Councillor Ellis on the recent disappointing meeting with Rachel Forkin and Ben Plummer from CCC. He confirmed there are other parishes in a similar situation where allocations are across parish boundaries and it is hoped by CCC planning officers that parish councils will work together to agree shared precept and other arrangements. He felt that the proposed Country Park would not fall to Messing or Tiptree Parish Councils to manage and s106 money might be used for its establishment. He reported that the planning officers are pushing forward with the plan to try to prevent speculative applications and planning by appeal as 5yr land supply is not established. Parish councillors want to work with planning officers to address concerns about the 25 proposed houses for Kelvedon Road. Councillor Ellis will try to get a meeting set up with Sandra Scott and report back. *Councillor Ellis left the meeting at 8.25pm*
- b) **RECEIVE** public comments relating to the agenda or matters for future consideration: CCC warden has confirmed they will not empty a new dog waste bin away from the road and want to trial an open bin on the roadside. Two residents from the properties neighbouring the proposed site expressed their concerns about a bin attracting vermin, flies and the potential for noxious odours. The dog waste issue has improved recently with the new signage and it was felt that regular reminders on social media would be preferred to the trial bin. Councillors reassured the residents that it was never the intention to site a dog waste bin near the properties and CCC would be told not to proceed with the trial. *Two residents left the meeting at 8.32pm.*

4 67/25 **MINUTES - APPROVE** minutes (previously circulated) as a true record

- a) minutes of the annual meeting of the council held on 20 May 2025 were **APPROVED** on proposal of Cllr Mrs Hughes, seconded Cllr Mrs Baxter, all agreed and duly signed by the Chair.
- b) minutes of the meeting of the council held on 20 May 2025 were **APPROVED** on proposal of Cllr Mrs Hughes, seconded Cllr Strudwick, all agreed and duly signed by the Chair.

5 68/25 **GOVERNANCE**

- a) Updated parish actions list **RECEIVED**.
- b) Parish Council calendar **RECEIVED**.
- c) Report from the Internal Audit was **RECEIVED** and discussed. Clerk to present options for petty cash and spending going forward. Financial Regulations to be looked at in detail in a working group meeting to be held in September.
- d) Cllr Suckling signed the AGAR submission documents. Clerk to submit the documentation and prepare notice of public rights for publication.

6 69/25 **PLANNING - CONSIDER** the following applications or decisions presented to Council for comment:

a) Elms Farm enforcement

242334 <https://www.colchester.gov.uk/planning-app-details/?id=f18abe1b-8ba6-ef11-b8e8-000d3ab2bf55#ValidationSummaryEntityFormView> the appeal period will expire in July 2025.

7 70/25 PARISH MATTERS

- a) Orchard – the clerk removed the last salt bin, the Sausage and Cider event has been cancelled due to lack of ticket sales, the request for saplings from The Woodland Trust has been approved, approx. half of the wildflower strip has been planted, Cllr Strudwick has changed the combination lock code as some youths had obtained the original code and there had been some vandalism to the water tanks resulting in complete water loss. There are 10 places for the pruning course to be held on 30 August with 3 already booked. ‘Save the Date’ publicity will be produced for the Santa in the Orchard event.
- b) Allotments – Councillor Baxter’s poster for the open afternoon to be held on 16 August had been circulated and some minor changes were suggested. Clerk to email Plot 6 holder and to ask James for a quote to dispose of the old pallets at the allotments and at the orchard.
- c) Play area – designs for the gate sign for the play area and other areas had been circulated. Clerk will feedback comments to Signsbase. Cllr Strudwick to check the 5-bar gate for extent of rotting to the wood.
- d) Defibrillators – nothing to report.
- e) New residents welcome cards – have been ordered.
- f) Additional dog waste bin – discussed under item 3b.
- g) Devolution – no update.
- h) Colchester Local Plan and meeting with planning officers – meeting notes have been circulated to planning officers.
- i) Litter pick – to be held on 22 June and CCC equipment to be picked up by John Lindsay before.
- j) 20s Plenty speed scheme – Cllr Mrs Irons attended a meeting in May with other Essex parishes considering the scheme. The next meeting is 24 June and Cllr Mrs Irons will attend again.
- k) Potholes – those reported to Councillor Bentley have not yet been repaired. Cllr Mrs Lindsay has again reported the B1023 pothole opposite Stonefield Farm shop. There are additional potholes along New Road which need reporting.
- l) Sensory garden – this potential project is on hold because of the additional open space proposed in the new development in the draft Local Plan.

8 71/25 CLERK’S REPORT was RECEIVED and NOTED

EALC are re-locating from Gt Dunmow to Feering and in person training will be delivered in outreach hubs across the county.

Clerk to look into the Rural Prosperity Fund which has just re-opened to applications in Colchester as a possibility for funding for the orchard.

9 72/25 FINANCE

- a) Orchard finances update was **RECEIVED**.
- b) Finance report was **RECEIVED** and **NOTED**.
- c) Bank reconciliation for the month of May 2025 was **APPROVED**, signed Cllr Mrs Baxter and Cllr Mrs Irons
- d) Accounts for payment were **APPROVED**, signed Cllr Mrs Baxter and Cllr Mrs Irons

10 73/25 BRIEF REPORTS OF MEMBERS - matters for forthcoming agenda: None

11 74/25 NEXT MEETING - confirmed Tuesday 15 July 2025 at 7.00pm

Apologies from Cllr Mrs Hughes

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.52pm

PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL - JUNE 2025

LGA 1972 s111	Staff 3	Salary & office allowance (June)	£939.49
LGA 1972 s111	HMRC	PAYE	£113.97
LGA 1972 s111	Pension Fund	Pension contributions (June)	£306.00
LGA 1972 s111	Staff 3	Expenses	£20.02
PHA 1875 s165	James Cornwell	Play area roadside hedge and orchard cuts	£200.00
LGA 1972 s111	Jan Stobart	Internal audit for 2024/25	£245.00
LGA 1972 s111	SLCC	CiLCA enrollment fee	£450.00