

# Ongar

Town Council

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## Minutes of a meeting of the full council held on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 8pm Held at the Council Offices, Bansons Way CM5 9AS

The Chairman invited the committee to join him for a minute silence to reflect upon the passing of the council's Locum Clerk Michael Letch.

### 18/24 Those present and apologies for absence.

Chair Cllr Gunn

Present Cllrs Walton, Barrell, Vaz, Feetham, Eydmann, Cole, Roberts, O'Neill, Mendoza

Also present Acting Clerk, Press officer, ECC Cllr Mclvor, Catherine Honeywell (Community agent), 2 representatives from Ride London.

**Resolved.** The council accepts apologies for absence from Cllr Acornley.

Proposed Cllr Gunn seconded Cllr Roberts carried unanimously.

### 19/24 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

Cllr Roberts declared an interest in 29/24 due to being involved with the twinning.

### 20/24 Public participation.

Two representatives from Ride London regarding item 27/24

Community agent regarding item 28/24

### 21/24 Correspondence.

- Anti-Social Behaviour Public Spaces Protection Order – Response from the consultation carried out by Essex Police in October/November 2023.  
Noted.

### 22/24 Reports from District and County Councillors.

Cllr Mclvor reported on ECC matters.

### 23/24 Consultations.

The Essex County Council Essex Minerals Local Plan Review public consultation which is now open until 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024 was noted.

### 24/24 Police matters.

PC Shepherd was unable to attend therefore no update provided.

**25/24 To agree the minutes of the Full Council meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024.**

**Resolved.** The minutes of the Full Council Meeting are approved as a true record. Proposed Cllr Gunn seconded Cllr Cole and carried unanimously.

**26/24 Finance reporting.**

- a. The Council received a list of all payments up to the end of January 2024.
- b. The Council received a list of budgetary information on all accounts.

**Resolved.** The Council notes the budgetary information and confirms that the account balance £67,350.70 agrees with the reconciliation. Proposed Cllr Vaz seconded Cllr Cole and carried unanimously.

**27/24 To note a presentation from Ride London.**

The details of this event were explained by the two representatives present. They expressed their interest in attending further meetings between now and the date of the event to give updates to the council, at which point they will have a full Activation plan and Community Access plans in place. They also discussed two levels of funding available, one of £250 for smaller one-off celebrations and up to £3000 for Ride Activations and bigger town celebrations and the opportunity to provide cycling engagement and a legacy for the event. Details via

<https://www.activessex.org/ridelondon-essex/funding-to-achieve-your-community/>

**28/24 To consider a business plan proposal from the Ongar Town Festival.**

The council considered the business plan proposal in length, and it was felt that the suggestion of a loan to the business from the council had to be legally investigated and if it was viable then an extra-ordinary meeting would be held to confirm this.

Standing orders were suspended to extend the time of the meeting to deal with the remaining items on the agenda.

**29/24 To consider the payment grant from the Locality Fund to Ongar Town Twinning.**

It was agreed that the grant be paid from the Locality Fund to Ongar Town Twinning. The money will be used to purchase the prints and for them to be framed. Acting Clerk to action.

**30/24 To consider the co-ordination of the litter picks organised by the Town Council.**

It was noted that the council officers would co-ordinate with any organisation wishing to loan the litter pick equipment from the council. Noted that the 'Great British Clean Up' initiative was being held between 15<sup>th</sup> and the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024. Cllr Mendoza is liaising with Ongar Academy regarding this initiative.

**31/24 To review the current CCTV operation.**

After lengthy discussions, it was noted that the current arrangements will be reviewed with options for new arrangements to be brought forward to a future meeting of the council for discussion and agreement. It was also noted that we have until November of this year until the next payment is due on the current contract. We will check with the

company what the current notice period is, as this will set the date by which the council will need to have decided on future arrangements ahead of the next annual payment.

**32/24 Community Updates.**

None received.

**33/24 Date of next meeting.**

21<sup>st</sup> March 2024

**34/24 Items for later agendas.**

Risk assessments.

Cemetery price structure.

Memorial management.

Future Events.

Emergency plan,

Meeting closed – 10.30pm