

Chief Officer Report 12th September 2023

AGENDA ITEM 6 (c)

RIALTAS UPDATE

Rialtas has been updated with the remainder of 2022/23 this was necessary prior to being able to input the current year finances. This system will be used going forward for the monthly accounting. The office clerk will be trained on entering data, to assist the Chief Officer.

AGENDA ITEM 9

SUSTAINABILITY EXHIBITION

A request has come in from the Maldon Museum to host an exhibition in the town around sustainability, see attached report. Whilst we are not able to host the exhibition within the chambers are councillors able to discuss other ways in which we can support it coming to Burnham. I have requested further information in terms of letting us know what other parishes with no offices are doing to support and we can mirror that going forward.

AGENDA ITEM 14

TOWN EVENTS

With many more events planned, I have developed a project plan sheet which should be used going forward so that we all understand the roles and targets of each project, this will allow us to know the budget, roles and responsibilities and achievements of each project. This can also be passed to other organisations within the town to ensure they are following the same process as the council when staging events.

AGENDA ITEM 15

CCTV

Spenser from the CCTV control room has submitted an application for a grant to support the installation of CCTV in Burnham which will include the station house and also the much-needed upgrade of internet within the council chambers. I will advise further on the success of the grant once received. In the meantime, I am due to have a meeting with the computer centre on the 12th to discuss what we can do as a stand alone upgrade should the grant not be successful, this needs to take into consideration the issues that we are having with the South East Planning live stream.

RECESS

There were no major incidents during recess and the business ticked over nicely. We saw our doors open to Barclays who have settled in well, with a steady stream of people coming in to conduct their banking business. The foyer of the council offices has been transformed into a usable waiting room with the addition of a new leaflet board and signing in area. A doorbell has been installed with direct sound into the Barclays office so they can facilitate their guests. I propose a new risk assessment of the office be carried out to incorporate the changes.

Works to the dementia garden were carried out in line with the agreed quotations, this has however thrown up some further questions around any additional works that may be needed to improve the space further. I have attached an estimate for a new bin to be installed in keeping with the black and gold theme. We are expecting a visit from the conservation officer who will walk through with us any further work that may be required to ensure we are in keeping with the town and their requirements. A snagging visit has taken place with Mecoyo's and a few minor adjustments to the ramp and edging will be carried out. The memorial benches are currently being shipped and I am working with the company to obtain a date of arrival, once received Mecoyo's will return, and resin fix them to the new patio. They have also provided us with a new set of gates (free of charge) to replace the missing/broken ones.

Millfields play park equipment was removed during recess, this was due to an earlier inspection taking place and finding that the equipment did not meet the necessary standards. Works will be completed in October and the following items will be installed to replace those taken away. MDC have apologised for not keeping us in the loop with regards to the works, however this was due to the start date being moved forward with short notice.

Giant bird nest swing



Saturn carousel



Cable way



The Chief Officer and Office Clerk have enlisted to start their ILCA and SILCA training which will commence in October.

HIGHWAYS AND WHITE LINING

Report from Essex highways is attached as supporting documentation, unfortunately the white lining application submitted some time ago has now got to be completed again on a new form. I will look to complete this by the end of the week as we need new line painting across town.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TEAM

Report from the engagement team is attached as supporting documentation. A meeting with the team is being held on 8th September any further update will be provided at the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION FOR ACROSS ESSEX

Essex County Fire and Rescue Service's safeguarding officer, Les Nicoll, along with his charity North Essex Support Team (NEST) helped over 130 families gain access to free, clean, and pre-loved school uniforms at an event on Wednesday, 16th August.

The event was held at Dovercourt fire station, with local charities including Harwich Hive and Essex Free School Uniforms joining to support on the day.

A link to the Essex magazine is below showing all the latest news from crime and community.

[Essex-magazine.pdf \(ealc.gov.uk\)](#)

RURAL ENGAGEMENT TEAM NEWSLETTER

[Essex-Police-newsletter-August-2023.pdf \(ealc.gov.uk\)](#)

Essex Police are offering more ways of keeping up to date with their work across Essex through their weekly e-newsletter, called Dispatch. Dispatch provides our communities with a weekly overview of news from Essex Police, along with crime prevention advice, information about job vacancies and more, bringing together news and information published by police officers, staff and volunteers.

I have signed up for this and will circulate on a weekly basis as received.

EALC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND PARTNER CONFERENCE – 21st SEPTEMBER 2023. COLCHESTER STADIUM.

If you wish to attend, please do let me know and I can book your place for you
keynote speakers, including-

- Roger Hirst, Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner for Essex
- Rick Hylton, Chief Fire Officer / Chief Executive Essex Police Fire and Rescue Service
- B J Harrington, QPM Chief Constable, Essex Police Policing Team

ACTIVE ESSEX FOUNDATION: POWER OF SPORT: YOUTH CRIME PREVENTION CONFERENCE TO BE HELD 28TH SEPTEMBER 2023, COLCHESTER STADIUM

If you wish to attend, please do let me know and I can book your space for you
topics included are.

- bringing together partners from the criminal justice system, local authorities, statutory, community and voluntary agencies, and local trusted organisations who all believe in the power of physical activity and sport as an effective engagement, prevention and intervention tools.
- The VVU are co-presenting a workshop that will explore using sport and activity to navigate away from criminality and exploitation. With a key focus on sharing expertise and learning from others,
- The conference will celebrate partnership working. Young people will also share their own lived experience of how sport and physical activity has positively impacted their lives.

PFCC PUBLIC MEETING 19th SEPTEMBER 2023, ZINC ARTS CENTRE GREAT STONY, ONGAR

The Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner is committed to engaging with the public of Essex around policing, crime, fire and rescue services. These meetings provide members of the public with the chance to ask questions about what is happening in their area.

Questions can be sent in advance to PFCC@essex.police.uk or posted at the event on the night.

FURTHER REFORMS TO THE PLANNING SYSTEM IN ENGLAND

Published 27 July 2023

In a speech, the Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, outlined further proposed amendments to the planning system in England.

These include a consultation aimed at making it easier for households to build upwards and outwards without the need for planning approval and convert shops and offices into housing without the need for planning approval. The plan would also

make it easier to convert barns and “the repurposing [of] agricultural buildings and disused warehouses.”

Other measures include more support for planning departments (including financial) and community land trusts. Also, ones aimed at making local plans easier to produce and ensuring design quality and local support for new development as well as a focus on “inner city” development including a new “urban quarter” in Cambridge and 12 new development corporations in urban area,

It was also confirmed that the revised National Planning Policy Framework which was expected in the spring will now be published “a little bit later this year”.