# TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY PARISH COUNCIL

www.tolleshuntdarcypc.org

**Chairman**: John Smith - 07505 008891

Clerk: Michelle Curtis, 4 Valkyrie Close, Tollesbury, Maldon,

Essex CM9 8SL

Tel: 07483 325853 email: clerk@tolleshuntdarcypc.org

Notice is hereby given that the virtual meeting of **TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY PARISH COUNCIL** will be held on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2020, via Zoom commencing at 7.30 pm, to which members of the Council are summoned for the transaction of the under-mentioned business.





#### M. Curtis

Michelle Curtis - Clerk to the Council

21st July 2020

Councillors: J Smith (Chairman), L Barwick (Vice-Chairman), J Brown, B Dorman,

M Henderson, G Munson, R Scott

#### THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND

Photographing, recording, broadcasting or transmitting the proceedings of a meeting by any means is permitted however the privacy of (i) persons who object to the same and (ii) children and vulnerable adults must be respected by anonymising the identities of such.

Meetings are virtual and are being held via Zoom. If you wish to attend the virtual meeting, please contact the Parish Clerk who will email you joining information.

#### **AGENDA**

#### 1. Chairman's welcome

#### 2. Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence.

#### 3. Declaration of Interest

Members are reminded that they are required to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Pecuniary Interests or Non-Pecuniary Interests which they know they might have in items of business on the agenda. They are reminded that they will need to repeat their declarations at the appropriate point in the meeting and leave the room if required under the Code of Conduct. Unforeseen interests must be declared similarly at the appropriate time.

#### 4. District Councillors

To receive information from the District Councillors.

#### 5. Public Forum

The Chairman will invite questions and observations from members of the public. A maximum time of **15** minutes will be allowed.

#### 6. Minutes

To receive and approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 30th June 2020. #

#### 7. Finance

- 7.1 To receive and approve Monthly Financial Report as at 30th June 2020. \*
- 7.2 To receive and approve Payments. #

#### 8. Planning

**Planning Applications and Decisions** 

Applications are circulated to all Councillors with the agenda, for study ahead of the meeting. Planning documents are also available for everyone to view on the Maldon District Council website (www.maldon.gov.uk).

#### Planning Applications:

To consider Planning Applications received from Maldon District Council including the following:

**Application No:** FUL/MAL/20/00493 PP-08580343

**Proposal**: Erection of 13No. Business & General Industrial Units (Use Classes B1b, B1c and B2), Office Block (Use Class B1a) and Cafe (Use Class A3), complete with related infrastructure including road, parking spaces, drainage, landscaping and ecological area

**Location**: Land South Of Beckingham Business Park Beckingham Street Tolleshunt Major

**Application No:** 20/00656/TCA PP-08842857

**Proposal:** T1 Sycamore - Fell

**Location:** 37 Chapel Road Tolleshunt D'Arcy

- Appeals: To receive notification of Planning Appeals.
- Planning Decisions: To note decisions made by Maldon District Council. \*
- Planning Appeal Decisions: To note decisions made by the Planning Inspectorate. \*

#### 9. <u>Training</u>

To consider any training requests from the Clerk or Councillors.

#### 10. COVID-19

To receive an update on COVID-19 - Volunteers

#### 11. Reserves Policy

To adopt Reserves Policy. \*

#### 12. Community Initiatives Fund

To agree to submit a full application the Essex County Council Community Initiatives Funds for Community Defibrillator.

#### 13. Police/Community Protection Officers (CPO)

To receive Police Reports (confidential) and CPO Reports.\*

#### 14. Administration

To receive information from the Clerk – update on current and ongoing matters.

#### 15. Representative Reports

#### 15.1 Burial Ground

**15.1.1** To receive an update from Cllrs Brown, Henderson and Scott in relation to the Burial Ground.

#### 15.2 Recreation Ground

**15.2.1** To receive an update from Cllrs Brown, Dorman and Munson in relation to the Recreation Ground.

#### 15.3 <u>Highway/Footpaths</u>

- **15.3.1** To receive an update from Cllr Henderson.
- 15.3.2 To receive Essex County Council Highway Highlights June 2020. \*

#### 15.4 Website / Facebook Updates

**15.4.1** To receive update from Parish Clerk

#### 16. Community Concerns

To receive information only or note future agenda items.

#### 17. Date of the next Meeting

Next meeting to be held on:

Tuesday 29th September 2020 - 7.30 pm (via Zoom)

(Key - \* = attached - #to follow)

Date: 02/07/2020

**Tolleshunt Darcy Parish Council** 

Time: 14:35

#### Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 30/06/2020 for Cashbook 1 - Current Bank A/c

Page 1

User: MICHELLE

43,946.95

0.00

Bank Statement Accour	t Name (s) Statement Date	Page No	Balances
Unity Trust Bank	30/06/2020		44,419.04
		_	44,419.04
Unpresented Cheques (	Minus)	Amount	
25/06/2020 ONLINE	H M Revenue & Customs	112.80	
25/06/2020 ONLINE	Michelle Curtis	59.70	
25/06/2020 ONLINE	Michelle Curtis	14.39	
25/06/2020 ONLINE	Michelle Curtis	20.20	
25/06/2020 ONLINE	Michelle Curtis	50.00	
25/06/2020 ONLINE	Lenny Aldridge	40.00	
25/06/2020 ONLINE	Maurice Howard	175.00	
			472.09
			43,946.95
Receipts not Banked/Cl	eared (Plus)		
		0.00	
			0.00
		_	43,946.95

Balance per Cash Book is :-

Difference is :-

02/07/2020 14:35

#### Tolleshunt Darcy Parish Council Earmarked Reserves

Page 1

	Account	Opening Balance	Net Transfers	Closing Balance		
320	EMR Elections	0.00	100.00	100.00		
321	EMR Parish Improvements	2,814.98	200.00	3,014.98		
322	EMR Recreation Ground	2,500.00	2,000.00	4,500.00		
323	Unallocated	137.57	1,000.00	1,137.57		
324	EMR Burial Ground	2,000.00		2,000.00		
325	EMR Maypole	0.00	500.00	500.00		
		7,452.55	3,800.00	11,252.55		

#### Tolleshunt Darcy Parish Council

#### Detailed Receipts & Payments by Budget Heading 30/06/2020

#### Cost Centre Report

		Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
100	Income							
	Precept	21,515	21,315	(200)			100.9%	
	Income :- Receipts	21,515	21,315	(200)			100.9%	0
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	21,515						
<u>110</u>	Administration							
4030	PAYE & NI	313	1,350	1,037		1,037	23.2%	
4070	Payroll Processing	0	100	100		100	0.0%	
4080	Training	0	875	875		875	0.0%	
4090	Bank Charges	18	72	54		54	25.0%	
4100	Audit Fees	175	175	0		0	100.0%	
4120	Subscriptions & Memberships	94	450	356		356	21.0%	
4130	Insurance	0	1,300	1,300		1,300	0.0%	
4150	Postage	0	10	10		10	0.0%	
4160	Telephone & Broadband	83	0	(83)		(83)	0.0%	
4170	Website	20	0	(20)	(20)		0.0%	
4180	Office Equipment	50	50	0	0		100.0%	
4190	Office Allowance	54	216	162	162		25.0%	
4200	Grants & Donations Paid	0	2,500	2,500	2,500		0.0%	
4230	CPOs	178	800	622		622	22.3%	
4240	Special Officers	0	2,000	2,000		2,000	0.0%	
4500	Hall Hire	500	500	0		0	100.0%	
4990	Sundries	56	450	394		394	12.5%	
	Administration :- Indirect Payments	2,793	15,700	12,908	0	12,908	17.8%	0
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	(2,793)						
130	Amenities							
4300	Defibrilator	112	120	8		8	93.6%	
4310	Grass/Hedge/Tree cutting	120	4,000	3,880		3,880	3.0%	
	Amenities :- Indirect Payments	232	4,120	3,888	0	3,888	5.6%	0
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	(232)						
135	Burial Ground							
1350	Burial Ground Income	63	3,000	2,937			2.1%	
	Burial Ground :- Receipts	63	3,000	2,937			2.1%	0
4360	Water	21	70	49		49	30.5%	

#### Tolleshunt Darcy Parish Council

#### Detailed Receipts & Payments by Budget Heading 30/06/2020

#### Cost Centre Report

		Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMF
4370	Maintenance	0	100	100		100	0.0%	
	Burial Ground :- Indirect Payments	21	170	149	0	149	12.6%	(
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	42						
140	Pavilion							
4360	Water	137	150	13		13	91.3%	
4370	Maintenance	0	500	500		500	0.0%	
4400	Electricity	0	400	400		400	0.0%	
	Pavilion :- Indirect Payments	137	1,050	913	0	913	13.0%	(
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	(137)						
145	Rec Ground							
4370	Maintenance	0	500	500		500	0.0%	
	Rec Ground :- Indirect Payments	0	500	500	0	500	0.0%	. (
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	0						
160	Projects							
4600	Maypole	0	500	500		500	0.0%	
4610	Parish Improvements	0	200	200		200	0.0%	
4620	Rec Ground	0	2,000	2,000		2,000	0.0%	
4640	Unallocated	0	1,000	1,000		1,000	0.0%	
4660	Elections	0	100	100		100	0.0%	
	Projects :- Indirect Payments	0	3,800	3,800	0	3,800	0.0%	
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	0						
	Grand Totals:- Receipts	21,578	24,315	2,737			88.7%	
	Payments	3,183	25,340	22,157	0	22,157	12.6%	
	Net Receipts over Payments	18,395	(1,025)	(19,420)				

#### Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Weekly List Of Decisions Week Ending 17<sup>th</sup> July



#### FUL/MAL/20/00441 Tolleshunt D'Arcy

Replacement of existing garden outbuilding with new garden store and games room

25 Chapel Road Tolleshunt D'Arcy Essex CM9 8TL (UPRN - 100091455057) Mr N Lempriere

#### **APPROVE** subject to the following conditions:-

#### 1 <u>CONDITION</u>

The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.

#### **REASON**

To comply with Section 91(1) The Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended).

#### 2 CONDITION

The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans and documents: 1815/01 Rev A and 1815/10 Rev A.

#### **REASON**

To ensure that the development is carried out in accordance with the details as approved.

#### 3 CONDITION

The materials used in the construction of the development hereby approved shall be as set out within the application form/plans hereby approved.

#### **REASON**

In the interest of the character and appearance of the area in accordance with policy D1 and D3 of the approved Local Development Plan and guidance contained within the National Planning Policy Framework.

#### 4 <u>CONDITION</u>

The outbuilding hereby approved shall not be occupied at any time other than for purposes incidental to the residential use of the dwellings No.25 and No.27 Chapel Road and shall not be used as separate residential accommodation or primary living purposes.

#### **REASON**

To ensure that the development is carried out in accordance with the details as approved

#### 5 <u>CONDITION</u>

Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 3 of the Town & Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 (or any Order amending, revoking or re-enacting that Order) no dormer window or other form of addition or opening shall be constructed in the roof or side elevations of the building(s) hereby permitted without planning permission having been obtained from the local planning authority.

#### **REASON**

To protect the amenity of the neighbouring occupiers and also the future occupiers of the approved dwellings, in accordance with policies D1 and H4 of the Maldon District Local Development Plan

#### POSITIVE AND PROACTIVE STATEMENT

Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Positive and Proactive Statement:

The Local Planning Authority has acted positively and proactively in determining this application by assessing the proposal against all material considerations, including planning policies and any representations that may have been received and subsequently determining to grant planning permission in accordance with the presumption in favour of sustainable development, as set out within the National Planning Policy Framework.

Officer: Sophie Mardon Dated: 14/07/2020



Admin Account
Maldon District Council
Planning Services
Council Offices
Princes Road
Maldon
Essex
CM9 5DL

08 July 2020

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Direct Line: 0303 444 5124

Customer Services: 0303 444 5000

Bristol

BS1 6PN

Email:

west2@planninginspectorate.gov.u

k

www.gov.uk/planning-inspectorate

Your Ref: 19/00287/FUL

Temple Quay House

2 The Square

Our Ref: APP/X1545/W/19/3237232

Dear Sir / Madam,

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Appeal by Wickford Development Company Ltd Site Address: Land Adjacent 86 Tollesbury Road, Tolleshunt Darcy, Essex, CM9 8UA

I enclose a copy of our Inspector's decision on the above appeal(s).

If you have queries or feedback about the decision or the way we handled the appeal(s), you should submit them using our "Feedback" webpage at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/planning-inspectorate/about/complaints-procedure">https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/planning-inspectorate/about/complaints-procedure</a>.

If you do not have internet access please write to the Customer Quality Unit at the address above.

If you would prefer hard copies of our information on the right to challenge and our feedback procedure, please contact our Customer Service Team on 0303 444 5000.

Please note the Planning Inspectorate is not the administering body for High Court challenges. If you would like more information on the strictly enforced deadlines for challenging, or a copy of the forms for lodging a challenge, please contact the Administrative Court on 020 7947 6655.

The Planning Inspectorate cannot change or revoke the outcome in the attached decision. If you want to alter the outcome you should consider obtaining legal advice as only the High Court can quash this decision.

We are continually seeking ways to improve the quality of service we provide to our customers. As part of this commitment we are seeking feedback from those who use our service. It would be appreciated if you could take some time to complete this short survey, which should take no more than a few minutes complete:

https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Planning\_inspectorate\_customer\_survey

Thank you in advance for taking the time to provide us with valuable feedback.

Yours sincerely,

#### Attila Borsos

Attila Borsos

Where applicable, you can use the internet to submit documents, to see information and to check the progress of cases through GOV.UK. The address of the search page is - <a href="https://www.gov.uk/appeal-planning-inspectorate">https://www.gov.uk/appeal-planning-inspectorate</a>

#### **Appeal Decision**

Hearing Held on 24 June 2020 Site visit made on 24 June 2020

#### by Graham Chamberlain BA (Hons) MSc MRTPI

an Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State

Decision date: 8 July 2020

#### Appeal Ref: APP/X1545/W/19/3237232 Land north of Tollesbury Road, Tollesburt D'Arcy, Essex

- The appeal is made under section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 against a refusal to grant planning permission.
- The appeal is made by Mr S. Hammond of Wickford Development Company Ltd against the decision of Maldon District Council.
- The application Ref FUL/MAL/19/00287, dated 6 March 2019, was refused by notice dated 4 June 2019.
- The development proposed is described as `Erect 23 dwellings and associated access road, parking, public open space and landscaping'.

#### **Decision**

1. The appeal is dismissed.

#### **Preliminary Matters**

- 2. Amended drawings have been deposited with the appeal by the appellant which propose a slightly different red line site area. I have accepted this amendment because the alteration is minor in scope, all parties have had a chance to address it, it aligns the site area with land ownership boundaries and does not alter the substance of what is being applied for. As such, no party has been prejudiced by this insubstantial change. Similarly, I have also accepted a plan correcting a slight discrepancy in the visitor parking arrangements.
- 3. The appellant also submitted late evidence in an attempt to address the Council's second reason for refusal and the concerns expressed by the Essex Wildlife Trust. This included the findings of a breeding bird survey and a statement from professional ecologists outlining a package of mitigation. Robust surveys could not have been undertaken earlier as spring is the optimum time of year. Moreover, the evidence was directly relevant to the matters in hand and the Council and interested parties were able to address it before the hearing opened. I therefore accepted it.
- 4. Late evidence was also submitted by interested parties just before the hearing opened. It was not extensive or overly technical and was capable of being addressed by those present. Accordingly, no party was significantly prejudiced when I accepted it.
- 5. Due to the Covid-19 situation and the corresponding need for social distancing, the site visit procedure was altered from an Accompanied Site Visit to an Access Required Site Visit. During which, I took the opportunity to view the

- site from D'Arcy House, D'Arcy Cottage and 17 D'Arcy Way as invited to by the occupants in advance.
- 6. The hearing was adjourned to enable the appellant and Council to draft two further conditions relating to biodiversity mitigation and a parking strategy. The hearing was subsequently closed in writing.

#### **Background and Main Issues**

- 7. Before the hearing opened the appellant submitted a planning obligation that would secure the provision of affordable housing at an acceptable policy compliant level. After considering this, the Council confirmed that it no longer wished to contest its third reason for refusal. As this is no longer a point in dispute, I have not addressed it as a main issue.
- 8. The evidence provided by the appellant suggests that the appeal scheme would not have a significant impact on wildlife, including breeding birds, but it would nevertheless result in some harmful impact on biodiversity through habitat loss. Accordingly, a package of onsite and off-site measures is proposed to mitigate this impact. The appellant submits that the proposal overall would achieve a 10% net gain in biodiversity as it would include a financial contribution towards offsite biodiversity projects set out in the Council's Green Infrastructure Strategy.
- 9. After reviewing this information and taking advice from its advising ecologist, the Council confirmed that it did not wish to contest its second reason for refusal as the biodiversity information now supplied was adequate and demonstrates the proposal would not be in conflict with Policies S1, N1 and N2 of the Maldon District Local Development Plan 2014 2029 adopted 2017 (MDLDP). The evidence before me demonstrates that this was the correct decision, especially as substantive evidence has not been provided which leads me to doubt the expert views of the ecologists instructed by the Council and appellant. As such, I have not considered the effect on biodiversity further as a main issue.
- 10. That said, the Council confirmed that it would only remove its biodiversity objection subject to the imposition of a negatively worded condition that prohibits development commencing until a scheme is in place to secure the financial contribution to offsite biodiversity measures. The Planning Practice Guide confirms that such an approach can be exceptionally appropriate if the heads of terms have been discussed in advance. The parties discussed these in an adjournment and provided an outline of the heads of terms and a draft of an agreed condition. I am therefore satisfied that had the scheme been otherwise acceptable a suitable form of words could have been found for the condition.
- 11. Accordingly, the main issues in this appeal are:
  - Whether the proposal would preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the Tolleshunt D'Arcy Conservation Area;
  - Whether the single access and the parking and waste arrangements would result in an appropriate layout;
  - The effect of the proposed development on the setting of D'Arcy House and D'Arcy Cottage, both Grade II listed buildings; and

 Whether any harm to designated heritage assets would be outweighed by public benefits.

#### Reasons

Whether the proposal would preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the Tolleshunt D'Arcy Conservation Area

- 12. The Tolleshunt D'Arcy Conservation Area (CA) encompasses the central more historic part of the village where the older properties tend to be positioned close to the edge of the street in a linear configuration that follows the alignment of the roads. This affords a strong and legible pattern to the grain of development in the CA, which is focussed on five historic thoroughfares that converge on the settlement.
- 13. For much of its history the village has been intrinsically linked with the agricultural economy and therefore its rural character and connection to the landscape are important features. There are some impressive views looking north out of the CA over gently undulating arable fields. Elsewhere the views tend to be more intimate and contained to the street scape. The presence within these views of trees and soft landscaping, verdant gardens and areas of green space, including the appeal site, that around the church and primary school and at the entrance to Salter's Meadow, afford the settlement a rural character. This bucolic charm is reinforced by the presence of historic buildings, many exhibiting the local vernacular, and endures despite the traffic.
- 14. Given the above, the aspects of the CA's character and appearance that afford it significance, in so far as relevant to this appeal, are the landscape setting, linear street pattern, rural feel and the rich mix of historic buildings.
- 15. The appeal site includes a small immature wood known locally as Campions Wood. It is located centrally within the village rather than on its edge. The wood is surrounded by development and has no physical connection with the open countryside and has no public access. However, it is more than a green void in the village because its wooded appearance positively contributes towards the rural character of the CA. It is therefore justifiably identified as an Important Green Space in the Tolleshunt D'Arcy Conservation Area Review and Appraisal 2004 (CAA).
- 16. The appeal site is primarily experienced as an important green space from Tollesbury Road and South Street rather than from vantage points in the surrounding landscape. In recognition of this, the CAA correctly identifies the views of the wood from these streets as being important. There are also views into the wood from neighbouring properties and from D'Arcy Way.
- 17. Consequently, the publicly visible trees on the periphery of the wood, particularly the lime trees along Tollesbury Road, are of more importance to the rural character of the CA than those towards the centre which, as the Council's Tree Officer suggests, are of less amenity value. That said, the woodland has a dense visual quality and depth which enhances and reinforces its value as a green space. The wooded appearance of the appeal site also assists in reinforcing the linear grain of development in the CA by providing an undeveloped backdrop to South Street and a focusing and enclosing of views along it. It also provides a physical buffer between the historic core of the CA and the more modern development outside, such as D'Arcy Way.

- 18. The appeal site was an agricultural field until it was planted as a meadow and orchard by Dr Salter in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. The orchard included D'Arcy Spice apples, which is a locally distinctive variety. However, the orchard is now much overgrown and only a handful of fruit trees remain. The appellant's Arboricultural Impact Assessment indicates that those which are in situ are in poor condition, unmanageable or dead. The Council has not queried these findings and I have no reason to doubt them from what I saw.
- 19. There is little evidence of the meadow following the planting of Campions Wood. Only the lime trees remain as publicly visible evidence of this period in the site's history. The appeal scheme would retain all but one of the lime trees and this would retain the site's link to Dr Salter as a notable local figure. The remnants of the orchard would be lost but it is a feature that has no public access and is difficult to experience from outside the site. The replanting of some D'Arcy Spice apples within the development, perhaps with some interpretation, would mitigate for the loss of this historic feature of the CA.
- 20. The famous crime novelist Margery Allingham lived at D'arcy House in the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. The appeal site was used by her as an area to entertain guests and host biannual cricket matches, one of which was attended by the Duke of Edinburgh. However, almost nothing remains of the meadow/cricket pitch due to the presence of the wood and therefore the evidential value has been greatly diminished. That said, Campions Wood is named after one of her best remembered characters (Albert Campion) and the Allingham Society suggest it was planted as a memorial to Margery by her sister. The appellant has not disagreed with this proposition. As such, the woodland holds some limited historic value as a feature of the CA connected to a notable local figure. The site's association with Margery Allingham also has some communal value to the residents of the village as a place which features in their collective memory, but this is limited by the lack of public access.
- 21. The appeal scheme would see a large proportion of the wood removed. This would result in a loss of historic and communal value. However, the appeal scheme would retain the section of Campions Wood closest to Tollesbury Road and this would be available to the public as a community wood. This would provide some continuity between the appeal site and its historic association with Margery Allingham. A plaque or information board could also be erected to provide some interpretation. As such, the loss of the woodland would have a limited effect on the historic and communal value of the appeal site as a feature of the CA.
- 22. The retention of part of the wood would also ensure that the development would not result in the complete loss of the appeal site as an Important Green Space. However, replacing trees with houses would significantly erode its rural appearance contrary to the guidance in the CAA. This impact needs to be considered cumulatively as other developments such as Vicarage Close and Salter's Meadow have also eroded the rural character of the CA.
- 23. The loss of the site's rural appearance would be most evident from Tollesbury road, where the site access would be provided in the form of an engineered estate road. To achieve this a TPO protected lime tree would be felled and the roadside vegetation cut back to achieve adequate visibility splays. This would open up the site allowing clear views of the proposed houses, as shown in the

- appellant's visualisations. This would harm the important view from Tollesbury Road identified in the CAA and diminish the rural character of the site.
- 24. However, when viewed from Tollesbury Road the housing would be set back behind a small woodland and therefore it would not be prominent. Moreover, Plot 1 would be a detailed, attractive and well-proportioned dwelling finished in appropriate materials. Its setting amongst trees overlooking a small field could provide an interesting and attractive composition. The spine road could also be softened by an attractive landscaping scheme that could include new planting (such as new lime trees), park land fencing and an appropriate surface treatment. These measures would go a long way to softening the impact of the development when viewed from Tollesbury Road, but they would not extinguish the harmful impact it would inherently have on the rural character of the CA.
- 25. The presence of the houses, gardens and ancillary structure such as garages would also diminish the wood's sense of depth, which is important to its rural character. The appellant intends to mitigate this by retaining a strong belt of landscaping around the edge of the appeal site in order to provide a rural 'face' to the development. Moreover, the retention of groups of trees within the estate would break the scheme up into pockets of housing, assist in providing a sense of depth and foster a rural, wooded setting.
- 26. However, Cluster 6¹ would have comparatively few trees and the tallest houses tightly configured. Plots 19 and 20 would be particularly large. Plots 22 and 23 would also be located close to the site boundaries and where the landscaping would be at its thinnest. The orientation of these properties with their gable ends facing D'Arcy Way would not mitigate for their scale. Thus, this part of the development would have an appreciably starker built up appearance that would not preserve the rural character of the CA. It would also diminish the sense of the appeal site being a buffer between the CA and the modern housing outside.
- 27. In addition, the cul-de-sac arrangement would have a suburban form that would erode the linear pattern and rural character of the CA, particularly that of South Street where the original grain is most evident. The appellant's visualisations demonstrate that some of the houses, such as Plot 19, would be prominent in the important view from South Street identified in the CAA and therefore the departure from the grain of development would be unduly overt.
- 28. That said, there are other cul-de-sacs in the village which are already discordantly set back from the road. Salter's Meadow is set behind a green swath and this softens the jarring impact it has with the linear grain of the village. The same principle would apply to an extent to the appeal scheme. Similarly, Vicarage Close is also a reasonably subtle addition due to soft landscaping. However, unlike the appeal scheme, they are small developments, and this reduces their overall impact. In any event, cul-de-sacs are not a feature of significance within the CA.
- 29. Margery Allingham Close is another cul-de-sac but it is also smaller than the appeal scheme would be and presents a frontage onto the B1026. Thus, it responds to the broad layout of the CA although it is a comparatively dense development with little in the way of soft landscaping. The presence of this

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Cluster 6 includes Plots 17-23 and is annotated as such in the Landscape and Townscape Assessment

- cul-de-sac does not justify the appeal scheme as the two schemes would be very different. D'Arcy Way is a large modern cul-de-sac, but outside the CA.
- 30. However, the retention of boundary landscaping, the set back from Tollesbury Road behind a small wood and the use of bungalows and modest two storey dwellings would soften the presence of parts of the development and therefore partially alleviate the ability to perceive its jarring form. Moreover, pulling the development closer to Tollesbury Road to better reflect the grain of the CA would place pressure on the lime trees. The set back is therefore an understandable compromise. Nevertheless, the presence of large properties, particularly those arranged over three floors, would result in the development's discordant back land cul-de-sac form being overly prominent rather than being a subtle departure from the pattern of development in the CA.
- 31. The individual dwellings would be well designed with attractive period detailing that would include timber windows and chimneys. The latter would articulate the ridges and provide interest to the roof scape. The design of the dwellings taken alongside the proposed landscaping scheme would elevate the quality of the scheme relative to other modern developments in the village, but it would not extinguish the limitations I have identified in respect of the layout and loss of rural character.
- 32. In conclusion, there is much to commend in the scheme, but my overall conclusion is that the proposed development would result in a moderate level of residual harm to the significance of the CA. Its character and appearance would not be preserved. The proposal would therefore be contrary to Policies S1, D1, D3, H4 and N1 of the MDLDP, which seeks to secure development that conserves the historic environment and protects heritage assets in accordance with their significance.

Whether the single access and the parking and waste arrangements would result in an appropriate layout

- 33. Policy C03 of the Maldon District Design Guide (MDG) seeks to secure developments that would have a network of streets, cycleways, footpaths and access arrangements. Single access developments are therefore discouraged, with the MDG explaining that a better-connected development will often be more interesting to move around and greater levels of permeability can encourage walking and cycling.
- 34. The appeal scheme would have a single access and the appellant suggests this is down to the site constraints. That said, it is unclear whether opportunities to link the site with D'Arcy Way were explored as well as providing a link through to the village centre, perhaps via Campions Lodge. Providing a walking route through the development for both residents of the proposal and those of neighbouring properties would help integrate the estate into the village and thus allow it to feel as part of the local area. The absence of this would result in an insular feel to the proposal.
- 35. The development would nevertheless be central to the village and therefore future residents would be able to comfortably walk to the available facilities along an attractive shared surface route, even though it may not be the most direct. Thus, the single access would not harmfully constrain the accessibility of future residents to local services. In this instance, the single access may be more of a missed opportunity than a harmful consequence of the proposal.

- 36. Most of the parking intended to serve the occupiers of the affordable homes would be arranged in a courtyard and not on plot. This runs the risk that future occupiers may seek to park closer to their front doors, as this can be more convenient, especially when carrying shopping or unloading children. However, the proposal has been designed to limit opportunities for this to occur due to the narrow road and shallow front gardens. The landscaped area in front of Plots 11 13 would include a tree which would prevent parking in this space.
- 37. In addition, there is scope to soften the hard edges of the parking courtyard with planting and an appropriate surface treatment. In addition, the use of a parking court enables the housing to be arranged in a tight form that better frames the street, as promoted by Policy C04 of the MDG. There may be some conflict over the use of some of the parking spaces, such as that between Plots 10 and 11, but a planning condition could be used to secure a parking strategy that would allocate the spaces to the houses and thus prevent conflict from occurring. For these reasons, the parking arrangement would be acceptable and adhere to Policy C10 of the MDG.
- 38. The appellant's intention is for the residents of Plots 8 16 to keep their bins in their rear gardens and wheel them to the front of the properties on collection day. This requires the provision of rear alley ways. It may be that future residents of these properties choose to leave their bins in their front gardens, but the distance between the rear gardens and bin presentation area would not be so great or convoluted as to make this likely. In fact, the route would be reasonably short and comparable in distance to the market houses. The short nature of the alleyways and the small number of households served by them would discourage harmful levels of waste being dumped there.
- 39. In conclusion, the single access and the parking and waste arrangements would be appropriate and would therefore result in an acceptable layout that would adhere to Policies S1 and D1, of the MDLDP, which seek to secure high quality designs and layouts.

The effect of the proposed development on the setting of D'Arcy House and D'Arcy Cottage, Grade II listed buildings

- 40. D'Arcy Cottage dates from the 18<sup>th</sup> Century and exhibits a polite architectural composition that was probably intended to elevate its status above the vernacular buildings in the village. It's significance as a heritage asset, in so far as relevant to this appeal, is primarily derived from its aesthetic value, which is principally experienced from South Street. That said, its position tight to the edge of the road is testament to the historic grain of the village. Accordingly, the wooded back drop provided by the appeal site, whilst pleasant when viewed from D'Arcy Cottage, is of more importance to the significance of the CA than the listed building.
- 41. Plots 4 and 5 would be located behind D'Arcy Cottage but they would be single storey and separated from the listed building by a thick belt of landscaping. The existing planting in the garden of D'Arcy Cottage would also soften and buffer the presence of the appeal scheme. As such, the proposed development would not harm the setting of D'Arcy Cottage.
- 42. D'Arcy House is a striking and very attractive 18<sup>th</sup> Century dwelling sat prominently in the village. It derives much significance from its aesthetic value, being a good example of polite architecture. It is also of historic interest

and its grandness relative to the smaller vernacular cottages nearby illuminates the status and importance of its occupants, two of which have been particularly notable (Dr Salter and Margery Allingham). The partially walled garden to the rear reinforces the status of the building and is a heritage asset in its own right - identified locally as a historic park and garden by the Essex Garden Trust. The wooded backdrop provided by the appeal site enables the building and its garden to be experienced as a grand country residence.

- 43. The appeal site has historic connections to D'Arcy House for the reasons already explained. The construction of housing, the removal of the orchard and the felling of part of Campions Wood would harmfully erode this. However, the passage of time has eroded the functional links between the appeal site and D'Arcy House. For example, the cricket pitch has been planted for some time and has not been used by the residents of D'Arcy House for decades. Campions Wood, reputably planted as a memorial to Margery Allingham, has some historic interest but the retention of part of this as a community woodland would serve to preserve some historic association, particularly if accompanied by interpretative material and public access.
- 44. The presence of housing to the rear of D'Arcy House, particularly the taller properties, would have a negative visual impact on the way the rear garden of the house is experienced as a tranquil detached area one would expect at a grand country residence. However, the single storey scale of the buildings proposed to be nearest to the boundary would soften this impact, as would the retention of thick boundary planting.
- 45. Overall the residual harm to the setting of the listed building, including its garden, would be greater than minor but nevertheless of a low order. In this respect I share the view of the Council. I therefore conclude that the appeal scheme, whilst preserving the setting of D'Arcy Cottage, would harm the setting of D'Arcy House and thus fail to preserve its setting. The proposal would therefore be contrary to Policy D3 of the MDLDP.

Whether the harm to heritage would be outweighed by public benefits

- 46. The moderate harm that would occur to the character and appearance of the CA and the low order harm to the setting of D'Arcy House would not be severe and therefore it would be 'less than substantial' within the meaning of the National Planning Policy Framework (the 'Framework'). Paragraph 196 of the Framework requires such harm to be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal as does Policy D3 of the MDLDP.
- 47. The appeal scheme would be a windfall development that would benefit housing supply. However, the Council are currently able to demonstrate a five-year housing land supply and is therefore presently in the process of significantly boosting the supply of housing. In this context, the delivery of a moderate number of homes would be a limited public benefit.
- 48. That said, the building and subsequent occupation of the homes would have economic benefits to the construction industry and local service and businesses, particularly those in the village which could be accessed conveniently without driving. This needs to be considered in the context of the current Covid-19 pandemic and the negative economic repercussions this is having and is likely to have. Future residents of the appeal scheme may also get involved in village life.

- 49. However, I have seen nothing of substance to suggest local businesses or facilities are failing for lack of patronage or local clubs, societies and bodies are suffering for lack of community capital. The village school has capacity but there is nothing of substance to suggest the school roll has been falling. Thus, these socio-economic public benefits attract moderate weight.
- 50. As previously mentioned, the planning obligation submitted with the appeal would secure a policy compliant and proportionate level of affordable housing, including a financial contribution. This is necessary to ensure the development is acceptable and thus adheres with Regulations 122 of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulations 2010. In this regard, it is an obligation I can take into account. The appeal scheme would deliver nine affordable homes but the evidence before me does not demonstrate that the need is so acute that the provision of what is a modest number of homes should be elevated to anything more than moderate weight as a public benefit.
- 51. The appeal scheme would provide a public open space in the form of a community woodland. This would provide public access to the site where none currently exists. However, the evidence before me does not demonstrate there is a quantitative or qualitive shortage of open space in the village. Moreover, the open space would be quite small and would have no clear function. It's advanced as a community wood but its unclear what the community would use it for, as it is not an orchard and is unlikely to act as a meeting point due to the size and close proximity to the proposed houses. It would be too small to be a destination for walking and the lack of permeability through the site means villagers would be unlikely to walk through the wood. The position of entrance pillars would afford the development, including the open space, with the feel of a private space that would make residents of the village less likely to use it. It may provide a space for children at the school too use, but I understand they already benefit from a wooded area.
- 52. In effect, the open space would serve primarily as a visual amenity for future residents of the proposal and a structural screen that contributes to the rural character of the CA. The site already does the latter without the housing. Overall, the diminutive size and lack of a clear function means it is unsurprising the local community are uninterested in it. Accordingly, the provision of an open space would be a limited public benefit in this instance.
- 53. Through a package of measures the appeal scheme would result in a 10% net gain to biodiversity even though a large number of trees would be felled. This would include around £79,000 spent on establishing new woodland and/or support to the turtle dove friendly zone. The former would probably be more appropriate given the fact that woodland would be lost. The contribution is necessary to ensure the development is acceptable and is therefore compliant with Regulations 122 of the CIL Regulations. In this regard, it is again an obligation I can take into account. This would nevertheless be a limited benefit as the net gain would take time to accrue and would be modest in scale.
- 54. The harm to the significance of designated heritage assets would be moderate but this must be considered in the context of the special attention I must pay to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of the CA<sup>2</sup> and the special regard I must pay to preserving the listed building<sup>3</sup>. I

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Section 72(1) of The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Sections 16(2) and 66(1) of The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990

afford considerable importance and weight to these statutory duties. In so doing, I find that the harm that would arise from the proposal would not be outweighed by its public benefits. Accordingly, there would be a conflict with Paragraph 194 of the Framework as harm to designated heritage assets would not have clear and convincing justification and the Framework states that great weight should be given to a designated heritage asset's conservation.

#### **Other Matters**

- 55. Various concerns have been raised by interested parties including reservations over highway safety, which I have noted. However, given my overall conclusion it has not been necessary for me to address these matters further.
- 56. As the appeal has failed, the proposal would not result in recreational disturbance from future occupants and therefore it would have no effect on the integrity of any European Site/Special Protection Area. It is therefore unnecessary to consider this matter further.

#### Conclusion

57. The proposed development would be contrary to the development plan and there are no other considerations, including the National Planning Policy Framework, which outweigh this finding. Accordingly, for the reasons given, the appeal has failed.

Graham Chamberlain
INSPECTOR

#### **APPEARANCES**

#### FOR THE APPELLANT

Stephen Hammond Wickford Development Company Ltd

Laurie Handcock Iceni Jess Breeze SES Rachel Bodiam SES

Melville Dunbar Associates

#### FOR THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY

Julia Sargent Maldon District Council Tim Howson Maldon District Council

#### **INTERESTED PARTIES**

Cllr Gerry Munson Cllr Maddie Thompson Steve Brown Avis Reaney Paul Carlier

#### **DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED DURING THE HEARING**

- 1. Letter from Holmes and Hills LLP setting out a negatively worded draft condition concerned with a green infrastructure contribution.
- 2. Email correspondence between the Council and appellant relating to the
- 3. Email from Melville Dunbar suggesting alternative wording to Condition 9 (Parking) in the Statement of Common Ground.

## TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY PARISH COUNCIL

www.tolleshuntdarcypc.org





# Reserves Policy

Clerk: Michelle Curtis, 4 Valkyrie Close, Tollesbury, Maldon, Essex CM9 8SL Tel: 07835 866239 e-mail: tdarcyclerk@gmail.com

#### Reserves Policy – Adopted at the Parish Council Meeting of 28th July 2020

#### Introduction

Tolleshunt D'Arcy Parish Council is required to maintain adequate financial reserves to meet the needs of the organisation. The purpose of this policy is to set out how the Council will determine and review the level of reserves.

Sections 32 and 43 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 require local authorities to have regard to the level of reserves needed for meeting estimated future expenditure when calculating the budget requirement. However, there is no specified minimum level of reserves that an authority should hold and it is the responsibility of the Responsible Financial Officer to advise the Council about the level of reserves and to ensure that there are procedures for their establishment and use.

#### **Types of Reserves**

Reserves can be categorised as general or earmarked.

Earmarked reserves are held for the following reason:

- Renewals to enable the Council to plan and finance any agreed projects/expenditure. These reserves are a mechanism to smooth expenditure so that a sensible replacement can be achieved without the need to significantly vary budgets year on year.
- Community Projects that require funding in line with the Action Plan.
- Carry forward of underspend The Council may commit expenditure to projects, but cannot spend the budget in the year. Reserves are used as a mechanism to carry forward these resources.
- Other earmarked reserves may be set up from time to time to meet know or predicted liabilities.

General Reserves are held for the following reason:

• funds which do not have any restrictions as to their use. These reserves can be used to smooth the impact of uneven cash flows, offset the budget requirement if necessary or can be held in case of unexpected events or emergencies.

#### **Use of Reserves**

Reserves should not be held to fund ongoing expenditure. This would be unsustainable as, at some point, the reserves would be exhausted. To the extent that reserves are used to meet short term funding gaps, they must be replenished in the following year. However, earmarked reserves that have been used to meet a specific liability would not need to be replenished, having served the purpose.

Any decision to set up a reserve must be made by the Council.

Reviewing the Council's Financial Risk Assessment is part of the budgeting and year-end accounting procedures and identifies planned and unplanned expenditure items and thereby indicates an appropriate level of Reserves.

#### **General Reserves**

The level of General Reserves is a matter of judgement and so this policy does not attempt to prescribe a blanket level.

The primary means of building general reserves will be through an allocation from the annual budget. This will be in addition to any amounts needed to replenish reserves that have been consumed in the previous year.

Setting the level of General Reserves is one of several related decisions in the formulation of the medium-term financial strategy and the annual budget. The Council must build and maintain sufficient working balances to cover the key risks it faces, as expressed in its financial risk assessment.

If in extreme circumstances General Reserves were exhausted due to major unforeseen spending pressures within a particular financial year, the Council would be able to drawdown from its earmarked reserves to provide short term resources.

Even at times when extreme pressure is put on the Council's finances, the Council must keep a minimum balance sufficient to pay three month's salaries to staff in General Reserves at all times.

#### **Earmarked Reserves**

These will be established on a "needs basis", in line with anticipated requirements.

All Earmarked Reserves are recorded on a schedule held by the Responsible Financial Officer which lists the various Earmarked Reserves. A copy of the Earmarked Reserves to be presented to the Council on a monthly basis as part of the Monthly Financial Report.

#### Current level of financial reserves

The level of financial reserves held by the council will be agreed by the Parish Council during the discussions held regarding the setting of the budget for the next financial year. All virements of funds must be agreed by full Council.

The advised level of total reserve is the annual income figure, to fully cover a years expenditure, but can be varied

Version	Details of Changes	Date	Approver
V1.0	Adopted	28/07/2019	TDPC
	Next Review March 2021		

Jun-20	02:00
	02:00
Hours Spent on Tru Cam	Number of Offenders
01:00	5
FPNs Dog Fouling	FPNs Litter Fouling
0	0
	VMO (Vehicle Moved On)
	0
	01:00

Date	Paris	rish S	Start	Finish	Total	Patrol Area	Assets	On Street	Off Street	-	Playsite Inspection	TRUCAM	CAPS	PCN	FPNS	VMO	ASB	ISSUES	RANGER	COMMENTS ON PATROL
03/06	'2020 Tolls	Ishunt D'arcy	09:55	10:25	00:30	Trucam M018						Yes	1						MF/JB	
05/06	2020 Tolls	Ishunt D'arcy	05:45	06:45	01:00	Festival Gardens				Yes									JB	
24/06	/2020 Toll I	l Darcy	10:30	11:00	00:30	M018						Yes	4						JB	
					02:00:00								5							

Essex Highways JUNE 2020

# HGHIGH.

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HELPFUL TIPS AND INFORMATION FOR LOCAL COUNCILLORS

NEW **MEASURES** INTRODUCED TO MANY ESSEX URBAN AREAS

MEGRAN





#### COMMENT COUNCILLOR KEVIN BENTI FY

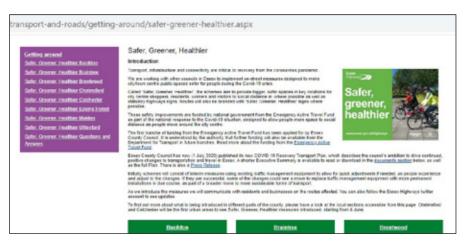
DEPUTY LEADER, ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL AND CABINET MEMBER FOR INFRASTRUCTURE

This has been a very busy month as we start to emerge out of lockdown.

While our crews have maintained our defect repair work, we have also been busy getting High Streets across the county open with extended social distancing for both walking and cycling.

During the intense lockdown we saw many more people use alternative methods of transport and this work, helped with Government funding, is helping people move around more safely, it is improving the environment and it is healthier for all of us. It also frees up more space on the road for people who absolutely have to use their car.

#### NEW SAFER, GREENER, HEALTHIER MEASURES INTRODUCED TO MANY ESSEX URBAN AREAS



As non-essential businesses and shops started re-opening on 8 June, Essex Highways, working with District Councils across Essex, implemented on-street measures designed to make city/town centre public spaces safer for people.

The need for social distancing and more queuing-space requires a fundamental rethink about how our streets and other public spaces, ensure access to everyone safely and fairly.

Under an initiative called 'Safer, Greener, Healthier', the schemes aim to provide bigger, safer spaces to better enable social distancing in key locations for shoppers, residents, workers and visitors. As well as statutory highways signs, routes will also be branded with 'Safer, Greener, Healthier' signs wherever possible. Starting with Chelmsford and Colchester, measures of various kinds have been introduced to several town centres across the county.

You can see the current list online on the new Safer Greener Healthier webpages, where you can also find the press releases, an FAQ and, for some more complex schemes, maps. There is also downloadable guidance for local councils about the use of stencils and stickers on Essex pavements. These safety improvements are funded by central government through the Emergency Active Travel Fund (EATF), part of the national response to the COVID-19 crisis.

The schemes comprise interim measures to start with, as this allow us to make quick adjustments if needed, as people experience and adapt to the changes. However, if successful, some of the changes could see an eventual move to more permanent, green coloured installations as part of wider encouragement to use more sustainable forms of local mobility.

If you have queries or comments about the schemes, email: SGH.routes@essex.gov.uk

















#### TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT COVID-19 RECOVERY PLAN PUBLISHED

Essex County Council has already implemented emergency Safer, Greener, Healthier measures in multiple Essex town centres to help people walk and cycle safely while socially distancing.

With the publication recently of Essex Highways new Covid-19 Transport Recovery Plan, the thinking behind the schemes is explained and an approach to future, further measures outlined.



Please see the Executive Summary and the full Plan (see documents section at foot of web page).

#### NEW GUIDE FOR TRAVEL TO WORK PUBLISHED

Essex County Council has also published a new guide "Smarter Travel for Essex: travelling to work post COVID-19: Briefing for businesses; guidance for employees" to advise owners, staff and customers how to safely travel and transport goods while Covid 19 is still prevalent.

Find it on Essex County Council's coronavirus hub website, under 'Support for Businesses and Employers'





## ROAD SURFACING COVERS A LOT OF GROUND - DESPITE RE-ORGANISING FOR COVID-19



Following our update in May, continued good progress has been made. Between 4 May and 22 June, Eurovia Surface Dressing crews completed 81 sites (roads or sections of road) to a total of 870,000 square metres laid.

The more intensive Micro Machine Surfacing crew started work on 18 May and completed Phase 1 on 14 June, completing 9 sites, a total of 68,418 sq metres. The Micro Hand Lay crew (contractor JPCS) have now completed 10 sites working throughout June, completing 9,000 sq metres. We carried out Joint Sealing from the 9th June on four sites to prevent water getting in and causing more potholes.

Planned resurfacing work in town centres and on residential estates has been re-programmed for next year, with some schemes on other roads brought forward, involving a slight delay in starting some programmes this summer.

70 smaller town centre/residential road schemes for completely new resurfacing were changed into 40 schemes on major roads. 3 crews were working by 1 June, with social distancing measures in place for this complex, expensive process (see warm asphalt video by Cllr Mitchell for a detailed account of how it works.) 24 schemes are now complete, with 19,000 tons of new asphalt laid. Work continues, mainly at night to avoid traffic delays on these main roads.

#### WARM ASPHALT: SAVES MONEY, ENERGY, TIME AND CUTS POLLUTION

Hot asphalt is a well-known component of many of our road resurfacing jobs.

Recently, Essex has trialled the use of a road surfacing material known as 'warm asphalt' – it's around 50° C cooler than the conventional hot material used for resurfacing, saving energy and cutting pollution.

Cllr David Finch, Leader of ECC, highlighted its use earlier this year at Full Council as a priority and we are now implementing it. Deputy Cabinet Member, Councillor Robert Mitchell explains how it worked during recent works on the A13 at Hadleigh.





#### CONFIDENCE-BUILDING CYCLE TRAINING OFFER FROM SERP

Safer Essex Roads Partnership (SERP) is supporting the Safer, Greener, Healthier initiative by extending its free cycle training to 1 September.

So, if your residents have taken up cycling over the lockdown period but mentioned that they want a bit more confidence or want to go back to work by bike, please direct them to email: <a href="mailto:saferessexroads@essexhighways.org">saferessexroads@essexhighways.org</a> and one of SERP's instructors will contact them to offer individual or family group bespoke training to suit their needs.



#### POTHOLES, PAVEMENTS AND DRAINS FIXED IN THE MONTH...

Potholes fixed per district/city/borough in May are as listed below: When considering these numbers, remember that there are many more miles of road in Uttlesford than in Harlow, for example, and the balance of types of road (main, secondary, local) are different too, so a direct comparison is misleading.

Drain clearing now complete on the A127 where crews worked only at night (using same lane closures as grass cutting teams) to minimise disruption to the travelling public.

June sees regular cleaning of local roads and higher-risk drains on main roads in Basildon, Chelmsford, Colchester and Uttlesford.

	OUNTY	LOCAL	PAVEMENT	DRAINS
F	OUTES	ROADS	DEFECTS FIXED	CLEARED
BASILDON	52	37	198	1951
BRAINTREE	70	75	129	0
BRENTWOOD	79	30	72	0
CASTLE POINT	29	39	83	0
CHELMSFORD	104	96	152	4157
COLCHESTER	59	75	41	2410
EPPING FOREST	135	72	90	0
HARLOW	50	43	55	0
MALDON	75	44	6	0
ROCHFORD	22	10	124	0
TENDRING	73	64	117	0
UTTLESFORD	62	49	26	1806
TOTALS	810	634	1093	10324

