

**Minutes of the meeting of the Communications Committee of Chelmsford Garden Community Council held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at 5.30pm at the Beaulieu Community Centre, 17 Centenary Way, Chelmsford, Essex**

**Present: Councillors** Joel Alderman (Chair)  
Melanie Williamson  
Andrew Wright  
Daniel Jeffreys  
Kuldeep Golla  
Romilly Wakeling  
Derek Drew-Smith

**Comms Manager** Julie Birkumshaw (Clerking the meeting)

**Executive Officer** Suzanne Walker

No members of the public were present

**24/CC.36: Apologies**

Received from Councillors Chloe Tron and Brian Jeapes

**24/CC.37: Declarations of Interest**

None.

**24/CC.38: To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Communications Committee held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

Councillors **approved** the minutes of the meeting of the Communications Committee held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2024, following a correction from Councillor Melanie Williamson in relation to the fact that she is not a director of the Channels CIC. The Chair Joel Alderman then signed them.

**24/CC.39: Public Question Time**

No members of the public were present

**24/CC.40: To consider a new venue for future Councillor drop-in events.**

After a discussion, it was **agreed** that the Channels drop-ins would continue until December 2024 and then be reviewed. Two tester sessions will be held at Costa Coffee in September and October, with dates and attendance to be confirmed with Councillors.

**24/CC.41: To receive updates on the progress regarding future events.**

**Photo Competition** - It was agreed that judging for the photo competition would be

held the week commencing 2nd of September. Councillors Alderman and Drew-Smith agreed to attend. Julie will update on entries and local judges to join the councillors. Julie will discuss with councillors a convenient date and time for the next meeting.

**Update from the Channels CIC** – There will be a community pumpkin and photo booth and details will be shared with Julie after that event. This will give clarity for the Council to decide if to collaborate with the CIC in October 2025.

**Updates from The Land Trust** - Confirmation required from the Land Trust on Halloween plans. Information awaited as to a scarecrow trail which Councillors would like to be Parish wide and more information required.

**Remembrance** - Councillors **agreed** to buy two mixed-sex pairs of Royal British Legion Tommy figures with a maximum budget of £1000 to include Chelmsford Garden Community Council logo editions, fixings and erection. Suggested positions for the figures include the raised beds outside The Beaulieu Community Centre, Boleyn Gardens, and Channels Park. To check if the Land Trust can assist with storage prior to purchasing the figures. To enquire with the Vicar what arrangement there are for Remembrance and Councillor involvement. Julie will discuss with Chelmsford City Council if a councillor can lay a wreath at Chelmsford's formal Remembrance event at the Civic Centre.

**Fireworks** - It was considered that more discussion was needed, but the large budget necessary for a new firework event might not be accepted by the community. Julie will conduct a poll on social media and provide feedback at the next meeting.

**Christmas** - Following a meeting with the manager from the Beaulieu Community Centre ideas for collaborating on a Christmas event included ball games, singing, lantern trails, a choir, or the Strayhorn Band. Julie will bring further information to the next committee meeting and Councillors will decide on their involvement. Another idea discussed was a community window display, Christmas Carols, bingo, and football on Christmas Day for the community.

**24/CC.42: To consider arrangements for a VE Day event May 2025.**

It was **agreed** to look for a new site within the parish and research a more celebratory event based on eight hundred and under attendees. A less formal and party-type event was agreed upon. Councillor Melanie Williamson suggested a small informal lighting of the Beacon on the 8th of May, with the main event to take place on the following Friday or Saturday.

**24/CC.43: To consider a Volunteer scheme for Council events**

It was **agreed** to defer this to the next committee meeting.

Meeting concluded at 7pm