

Paul Gadd County Councillor Update

Wendens Ambo Parish Council 4/12/23

[Note, items in italics are repeats from last month, still unresolved]

1. Locality Fund:
 - a. All monies have now been allotted for this year
2. Highways matters affecting the parish:
 - a. My second tranche of 18 potholes to be repaired is now open so please notify me of any. When you do, please include location, at least 2 photos and the reference number from when it has been reported – if any haven't been reported, please report them first - Tell us - Essex County Council (essexhighways.org);
 - b. *[On the LHP scheme to introduce a 40mph zone west of the village, as I reported last month, I have a note from the 28/9/23 LHP meeting that the Wendens Ambo scheme was submitted to the design team on 04/08/23 – I have no idea why only then – and that “there is the possibility that developer funding might be available for this scheme”; I’m sorry but I haven’t been able to get any further information, and the system has been “closed for maintenance” for the last month so I can’t access the schemes updates.][I’m sorry, but still no update]*
 - c. I note that the agenda refers to a possible footpath dedication – let me know if you need any help. If it is a consensual footpath and the landowner is happy for the dedication, I have a very short model agreement that I have got from ECC for use with another path which I can let you have.
3. ECC Matters:
 - a. A boundary review for the Essex County Council divisions is in progress. As I think you know, Uttlesford will move from 4 to 5 divisions. The Boundary Commission have just produced their consultation report, which is available at <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/essex>. Wendens Ambo was due to move but it is now proposed that it will remain as part of Saffron Walden division.
 - b. Finances remain under huge pressure and ECC are consulting on potential cuts. I, and members of the Independent group on ECC, are proposing a motion at the next Full Council meeting, on 12 December, to write to central Government calling on them to fund local authorities properly, as for example Hampshire and Kent CCs have publicly done in the last year.