

5<sup>th</sup> February 2019

**Minutes of the meeting of Fingringhoe Parish Council held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at The Village Hall, Chapel Road, Fingringhoe.**

**PRESENT AT THE MEETING**

In the Chair	Councillor Mike Clarke
Councillors	Emma Dixon Ian Chamberlain Jonathan Martin
Clerk	Rosemary Harvey

There were nine members of the public present, Cllr Davidson and the zone warden.

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Ketley, Cllr Bentley and Mr Canham.

2 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

3. **OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL**

Members of the public present wished to comment on the John Brunning Walk to Rowhedge and on the Aveley Lodge Care Home planning application.

4. **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

5. **TO RECEIVE REPORTS**

The Zone Warden reported that a burned out vehicle left at the cross roads of the bridleway at Plane Hall Farm had been cleared away. The police checked the vehicle but found nothing of interest.

The resident at Barnfields paid the dog fouling fine just before the matter was due at Court. There is a prosecution pending in relation to fly tipping at Oxley Hill.

Councillors discussed participation in the Spring Clean invitation and a date of Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March was fixed and agreed with the zone warden. The litter pick equipment will be left with Cllr Chamberlain as previously.

The zone warden will be present at Langenhoe Village Hall on the first Wednesday of each month from 10am to 11am to distribute recycling supplies and answer questions.

Cllr Davidson reported on progress with the Borough Plan and opportunities for villages to support exception sites for development. The budget for the borough council will be finalised shortly and council tax is expected to rise.

Turning to the flooding of the Roman River on the Fingringhoe Road a response has been received from Piers Chantry at the Defence Infrastructure Organisation stating that the area will be fenced along the northern bank of the Roman River to prevent cattle getting onto the

river wall when the ground dries. The area is still becoming waterlogged, although not now flooding onto the road and is becoming salt marsh. Cllr Davidson suggested the council try writing to Lawrence Kernan.

#### 182206 Aveley Lodge Care Home

The revised plans for Aveley Lodge Care Home had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. The applicant reported that Highways are now supporting the revised application. There has been a reduction in the number of beds and the building redesigned to reduce the height of the building and lessen the impact. The business needed to expand but the applicant stated the increase has been kept to a minimum. Agreement has been made with the Club to use that building to conduct staff training off site. Car parking on site has been increased from 14 to 18 spaces and safety on the highway is accepted as an issue. When an ambulance or delivery vehicles are present it was not felt there is sufficient parking availability. The site is too small for the development being proposed.

A resident was concerned that the visibility splays at the access are not sufficient. The route past the home is used as a cut through between Mersea and Old Heath and traffic travels at a considerable speed. The Council continues to try to reduce traffic speeds.

The application will be included on the agenda again next month when the full council members should be present.

#### 6. MINUTES OF MEETING OF 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018 had been circulated and were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

#### 7. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

##### a) Training on the defibrillator

The Clerk confirmed that the training has been arranged for 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 7pm. The training session is limited to 12 participants and any further training sessions requested will cost £400 each. The session will be advertised in News & Views and on the village facebook site. It is hoped that those attending the training will be able to assist the Clerk, who is currently the designated 'guardian' of the equipment should there be an emergency and someone needed to assist with the equipment. When she is at work the Clerk is currently a minimum of a 25 minute drive away from the village so further guardians in the village are needed to provide faster access.

It was reported that there is a defibrillator and trained staff at Aveley Lodge who can be contacted if an emergency arises with anyone living close to the Care Home.

##### b) Quotes for Pontoon project at Ferry Road

A quotation has been received from Colin South prepared by Gary Humm who undertakes a lot of work for Brightlingsea Harbour, for a total of £27,583. This quote was for the construction of a 60ft pontoon, using second hand refurbished units. This was considered too expensive by councillors and Cllr Davidson will try to obtain a second more reasonable quote for the work.

##### c) River wall breach and flooding of Fingringhoe Road

This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

##### d) Barrier on Church Green

The locking barrier has now been installed on the Green to prevent unauthorised vehicle access.

- e) Salt/grit bin  
The salt/grit bin has been installed by the Green on the junction by the The Whalebone and is filled ready for use.
- f) WW1 Soldier Silhouette  
It was felt the soldier should be left on Pigs Foot Green at the present time. Cllr Davidson will notify if he hears any suggestion that enforcement will be removing the statue.
- g) Query common boundary with the quarry  
Cllr Ketley asked that the boundary between the common and the quarry land be checked to ensure there is no encroachment. Cllr Clarke said he would check the area.
- h) Fly tipping incidents in village  
No fly tipping incidents were reported.
- i) Update on reports of threatening & anti-social behaviour in village  
There were no incidents reported.

## 8. PLANNING

Telecommunications Tower. There is still no application received. The telecommunications tower is currently erected in a temporary position in Wivenhoe for a year. It is understood that the company intends to seek permission from the Secretary of State to move the tower to Fingringhoe. Residents were dismayed that Anglian Water were intending to sub-let and permit development on terms which were not permissible under the terms of their lease.

182206 Aveley Lodge Care Home revised plans – this was discussed earlier in the meeting.

190125 Colby Lodge, Chapel Road – application for a horse exercise menage. There were comments received from a resident that the application should be made conditional upon the ménage being used for private use only with no commercial use, in order to protect the amenity of the surrounding residents. In addition there should be no external lighting, particularly floodlighting. However it was commented that providing the facility was for private use only the amount of time lights would be used is unlikely to interfere with neighbours.

190124 Lower Brick House Farm – alteration of planning consent (design of garage). There were no objections.

## 9. CORRESPONDENCE

Free mental health first aid training promoted by ECC and MHFA England – details of the course were placed in the correspondence box for councillors.

Chelmsford Park & Ride consultation. It was noted that the consultation ends on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2019 should anyone wish to comment.

Request for funding Neighbourhood Watch signs. It was agreed that ten of the signs at £6.50 each will be funded by the parish council.

CBC Spring Clean 22 March – 23 April

It was agreed earlier in the meeting to hold a litter pick on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March.

10. ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

Outstanding highways issues

The highways schedule was circulated to councillors. The Clerk will send another reminder to Cllr Bentley that details of the cost of a new battery for the VAS are needed so that this can be repaired, if it is in fact a new battery which is required once an engineer visits the unit.

Give way signage is required at the top of Fingringhoe Road by the Whalebone PH as many drivers do not stop to give way.

11. FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

a) Accounts for payment:

The following accounts were passed for payment and approved.

	£
Derek Youngs (Hedge cutting)	60.00
Adrian Watson (security post)	340.00
Adrian Watson (installation salt/grit bin)	75.00
Essex Wildlife Trust (annual subscription)	40.00
Ian Chamberlain (pond clearance)	620.00
Broxap Limited (supply salt/grit bin)	180.00
Mrs R A Harvey (January salary)	204.00
HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE)	51.00
Mrs R A Harvey (February salary)	204.00
HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE)	51.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 1,825.00</b>

All the above payments were approved for by cheque with the Clerk's salary to be paid by bank transfer.

Cllr Martin advised that he had unfortunately been unable to attend the RCCE local plan seminar at present the £20 attendance fee has not been charged.

b) Precept

The Clerk confirmed that a precept request had been filed with Colchester Borough Council requesting the same level of funding as last financial year. This will leave the council with £1,000 to spend on projects such as topping up bark in the play area.

A letter has been received from Kendall Plus, the grass cutting contractors advising that the cost of each cut this year will rise by £9 excluding vat. The council will continue to closely monitor the number of cuts carried out.

12. TO RECEIVE REPORTS

Footpaths

Apart from the problems with the John Brunning Way, no further issues relating to footpaths were raised.

Village Pond

Cllr Chamberlain asked if the School can arrange for balls to be removed from the pond as he did not feel it was the council's role to continually remove balls when they are being kicked over the fence.

Recreation Ground

This was discussed earlier in the meeting. It was suggested that additional play bark will be needed to top up the surface this year. Quotations have been obtained by the Clerk for a new rocker animal which will cost between £700 to £800 to install. Cllr Clarke will check the cost of repairing the existing rocker. In addition the safety report recommended checking the wooden legs of the equipment to check that they are not rotting.

Transport Officer

There was nothing to report.

Fingringhoe School

Problems with parent's parking are still occurring.

EWT

A replacement warden, now to be known as a Ranger, has been appointed. Alex Long commenced on site in early January and has been engaged in familiarising with the reserve and other EWT sites. The Visitor Centre Manager, Verity Hales intends to continue the practice of writing a piece for News & Views.

13. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION & NOTING

The correspondence box was circulated to councillors.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm