

1st September 2020

Minutes of the meeting of Fingringhoe Parish Council held on Tuesday 1st September 2020 by video conference due to restrictions imposed due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

PRESENT AT THE MEETING

In the Chair Councillor Gerald Ketley

Councillors Mike Clarke
Emma Dixon
Ian Chamberlain
Sharron Law
Jonathan Martin

Clerk Rosemary Harvey

There were two members of the public present and Cllr Davidson.

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Bentley and the zone warden.

2 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

3. **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

The meeting was temporarily adjourned to allow members of the public present to raise any points relevant to matters on the agenda. Mr Canham will speak later in the meeting to report on EWT and corvid culling. There were no other matters any member of the public wished to raise.

4. **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

5. **TO RECEIVE REPORTS**

Cllr Davidson reported that there are currently two consultations in progress. Firstly to restructure local councils to remove district councils and proposes one mayor of Essex. The second in relation to planning consultation to categorise land into marked not for development and brownfield which can be developed. Fingringhoe is presently classified as a non-growth village.

No report has currently been received from Cllr Bentley. It was commented that there are two pot holes at the Church Road end of the village. County Broadband are closing roads in the village when work is not going ahead. It was noted that a pole had been erected on private land at The White House which has now been moved. The Clerk was asked to contact Cllr Bentley to ask if signs can be removed when work is not taking place to allow traffic to use the routes.

ACTION: Clerk

6. **MINUTES OF MEETING OF 7th JULY 2020**

The minutes of the meeting held on 7th July 2020 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) Google map correction of Furneaux Lane
The Clerk confirmed that Google have been advised of the error on the map and requested to change Furneaux Lane to Fingringhoe Road. It was suggested that the correction needed to be sent to Ordnance Survey.
- b) Verge cutting in South Green Road
Nothing more has been heard.
- c) Repairs to bench on Green near School
It was reported that Adrian Watson has completed the bench and it will be reinstalled within the next few days.
- d) New bin at Recreation Ground
Adrian Watson has made two new bins one will be installed outside the play area and the other by the entranceway two thirds of the way down towards the bottom of the car park. The bins are expected to be fitted tomorrow and Cllr Clarke will check the positions.
- e) Road closures by County Broadband
This was discussed earlier in the meeting.
- f) Tree surgery to veteran oak
Permission has now been given to trim the dead wood from the oak. Gordon Dewdney will start this tomorrow. Gordon will also trim the smaller oak tree near the road together with the holly bush which is blocking visibility on the road.
- g) Fence repairs at Recreation Ground
The repairs are now completed and it is noted the timber posts have a 15 year lifetime guarantee.
- h) Dog bin on Footpath near Jaggars
The Clerk reported that the dog waste bin has been installed by the zone warden and is being used.
- i) Incidents of threatening or anti-social behaviour
it was reported that a number of motorcycles and cars had gathered at the bottom of Ferry Road and a resident had called the police.
- j) Culling of Corvids
Mr Canham has investigated and advised that individual species licences have been withdrawn and replaced with a general licence. Noise is not a valid reason for culling and it will be necessary to demonstrate damage.

8. PLANNING

201692 – Meanings, Ferry Road - Proposed single storey side extension. There were no objections to the proposals.

9. CORRESPONDENCEDrowning incident August 1946

There are details of this accident on the parish council's website and the memorial to the men who lost their lives is in Colchester Cemetery. The Clerk has informed the relative who made enquiries.

10. ROADS AND FOOTPATHSOutstanding highways issues

Cllr Law said that she had not received a report from Cllr Bentley. The Give Way sign at the top of Fingringhoe Road has still not been installed.

11. FINANCE AND ACCOUNTSAccounts for payment:

The following accounts were passed for payment and approved.

	£
Impact Signs (manufacture, supply and fit new village sign)	162.00
Mrs R Harvey (August printer ink monthly charge)	7.99
Colchester Association of Local Councils (membership subscription)	35.00
Maydays Estate Services Ltd (supply and replacement of fencing)	1,532.88
Mrs R Harvey (September printer ink monthly charge)	7.99
Kendall Facility Management Ltd (grass cut May)	266.08
Kendall Facility Management Ltd (grass cut July)	266.08
Kendall Facility Management Ltd (grass cut August)	266.08
Mrs R A Harvey (August salary)	210.00
HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE)	52.50
Mrs R A Harvey (September salary)	210.00
HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE)	52.50
Total	£ 3,069.10

The above payments were all approved for payment by bank transfer.

12. TO RECEIVE REPORTS

Footpaths - The footpath to Post Wood has been ploughed over but following the Chairman's request it has now been rolled and reinstated.

The railings at the top of the Fan Hill footpath were reported to be down.

Village Pond – Mr Canham had circulated a report on the pond at the beginning of August during the Council recess. Further measurements were taken on 31st August for September. There is a further 21% reduction from last time at 0.22 litres per second versus 0.28 at the beginning of August. The flow remains below the average for previous September measurements at 24% down. This reduction cannot be accounted for by rainfall.

The total rainfall from 1st January to the end of July 2020 was 264mm, 3.8% up on the average for the same period during the comparison 3 years, 2013-15 at 254mm. To the end of August 2020 rainfall is 301mm whereas for the comparison year the average was 312mm, a minor reduction of 3.5%.

Mr Canham reported that this gives some cause for concern at the downward trend and he will continue to take monthly measurements and report at council meetings.

It was noted that public signs prohibiting camping have been overgrown with ivy.

At some time an environmental analysis of the water may be carried out as the water may not now be contaminated.

Flow rate at S1 in litres per second observed 2020	January	February	March	April	May	May-June	July	Aug	Sept
	0.30	0.40	0.51	0.59	0.57	0.48	0.38	0.28	0.22
Mean 2013-2015	0.60	0.64	0.87	0.74	0.66	0.59	0.48	0.31	0.29
Trend % down	50%	38%	41%	20%	13%	19%	21%	10%	24%

Recreation Ground – It was noted that wooden railings have been put up against a tree. The bins were discussed earlier in the meeting.

Transport Officer – There no problems reported.

Fingringhoe School – pupils are due to return to school on Friday.

EWT – Mr Canham has still received no contact from EWT regarding reopening to the public. No volunteers are going on site at present.

Methodist Chapel – Mr Canham advised that the last post office service will take place at the Chapel tomorrow. The post office service will then be moving to Church Green Trust.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 6th October 2020 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm