

5th May 2020

Minutes of the meeting of Fingringhoe Parish Council held on Tuesday 5th May 2020 by conference call due to restrictions imposed due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

PRESENT AT THE MEETING

In the Chair Councillor Gerald Ketley

Councillors Mike Clarke
Emma Dixon
Jonathan Martin
Sharron Law

Clerk Rosemary Harvey

There were two members of the public present, together with Cllr Bentley and Cllr Davidson.

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Chamberlain 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. There were no matters any member of the public wished to raise.

4. **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest raised.

5. **TO RECEIVE REPORTS**

Cllr Bentley reported that the Local Highways Panel has approved the additional signage for Abberton Road, warning of horse riders. The application will now be passed to the finance committee for funding. Highways roadworks schemes were reported to have been restarted and the Ipswich Road works are back on schedule.

Cllr Bentley gave an update on the Coronavirus epidemic and the contingency plans in place by Essex County Council. The County Council is now looking at opening the recycling centres.

Cllr Davidson said that the waste collection service calendar had changed as the service was approximately 50 staff short. An updated information pack for residents has been sent to the Clerk today.

Approximately £9m was reported to have been spent providing accommodation for rough sleepers. The Government had promised to refund these out of pocket expenses.

The CBC locality budget has been brought forward and is open to groups to apply for small grants to assist with Covid-19 related expenditure.

6. MINUTES OF MEETING OF 7TH APRIL 2020

The minutes of the meeting held on 7th April 2020 had been circulated and were approved and will be signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

7. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

a) Postponement of annual meeting

The Clerk reported that the legislation enabling the monthly council meetings to be held remotely does not cover the holding of the annual parish meeting and this must be delayed until public meetings are once again permitted to be held.

b) Anti-social behaviour

A vehicle parked at the gateway to Essex Wildlife Site has been traced by police to Grays, Essex and is believed to be part of a County Lines gang dealing in drugs.

Last night two youths were reported to have been interfering with the playground area and were abusive when asked to leave. It was noted that the gate to the recreation ground is being shut each night and opened during the day. It was suggested that police patrols in Furneaux Lane would help reduce anti-social behaviour in that area. Police do not always attend when called if there are problems. It was suggested a representative from the parish council should attend the meeting on 3rd June with the police and fire commissioner, Chief Inspector Huddleston.

A fly tip at the top of Furneaux Lane was reported to have been cleared up within a couple of days.

c) English Rural Housing

The Chairman said he had spoken to Stephen Bland regarding the rubbish left in the back garden. Mr Bland said that he cannot visit the site at the present time due to the Coronavirus restrictions. Two properties are now said to be empty.

d) Soldier on Pigs Foot Green

The Clerk reported that the soldier will be replaced tomorrow having been repainted, in time for VE day commemoration.

8. PLANNING

2008311– 1 Woodside Cottages, Haye Lane – proposed erection of single and two storey side extension.

There were no objections to the proposals.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

South Green Road closure commencing 4th May for 3 days.

It was noted that the works by Anglian Water have now finished. The works were not reported to have caused any problems.

Horse warning signs.

Cllr Bentley reported earlier in the meeting that the application for the signs has been approved by the Local Highways Panel and funding is now being applied for.

10. ROADS AND FOOTPATHSOutstanding highways issues

There were no updates to report to the list. The Chairman will discuss with Mr Neil Gordon whether a new village sign can be made to replace that taken from the Haye Lane, Abberton Road junction.

11. FINANCE AND ACCOUNTSa) Accounts for payment:

The following accounts were passed for payment and approved.

	£
Mrs R A Harvey (printer ink cartridges)	7.99
Mrs R A Harvey refund of phone call charge	30.57
Cllr Law refund of phone call charge	35.47
Mrs R A Harvey (May salary)	210.00
HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE)	52.50
Total	£ 336.53

The above payments were approved for payment by bank transfer and a cheque to Cllr Law.

12. TO RECEIVE REPORTS

Footpaths - Cllr Martin was not aware of any problems with the footpaths. There are presently more walkers on the path than usual and there have been some incidents with people wandering over the MOD land and not keeping to the footpaths.

Cllr Dixon has spoken with Dan Wormall regarding the path worn around the back of 40 acre field. Signs put up in the past have been removed.

Village Pond –

Mr Canham reported that he had measured the pond flow and there is a small reduction from last month at 0.57 litres per second versus 0.59 in April. The flow remains below the average for the previous May measurements at 13% down but is better than the 20% down last month. Mr Canham will continue to monitor monthly and report to the Parish Council.

Flow rate at S1 in litres per second observed 2020	January	February	March	April	May
	0.30	0.40	0.51	0.59	0.57
Mean 2013-2015	0.60	0.64	0.87	0.74	0.66
Trend % Down	50%	38%	41%	20%	13%

Cllr Chamberlain has cleared weed from the pond and it was reported to be looking tidier.

Recreation Ground – It was noted that the play area will need more play bark in future.

Transport Officer – There was nothing to report.

Fingringhoe School – The school is open to the children of key workers.

EWT – Mr Canham reported that the reserve remains closed and local staff are furloughed. This has delayed getting an improvement to the signage. Mr Canham is now dealing with Michael Rodberg, Area Manager for Visitor Engagement. Michael is arranging for a master notice to be produced which Mr Canham will copy and laminate. The notice will then be put up in suitable locations around the village. If the public do drive to the gate it is too narrow to turn

around. There has been an additional problem of unwanted visitors reported as getting into the reserve when it is closed.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 2nd June 2020 at 7pm.

It was agreed that a meeting using Zoom will be tried for the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.00 pm