

7<sup>th</sup> January 2020

**Minutes of the meeting of Fingringhoe Parish Council held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at The Village Hall, Chapel Road, Fingringhoe.**

**PRESENT AT THE MEETING**

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

There were three members of the public present, Cllr Moore and Cllr Bentley.

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Ketley, Cllr Davidson and the zone warden.

In the absence of the Chairman, Cllr Clarke took the Chair.

**2 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

It was reported that sadly Mr Alex Tracey had passed away and a minute's silence was held in remembrance.

**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 report on the pond and the EWT during the meeting.

**4. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest raised.

**5. TO RECEIVE REPORTS**

Cllr Bentley reported that the recent heavy rain had caused flooding one of the worst areas locally being on the Mersea Road out of Abberton and Langenhoe, which was cleared as quickly as possible. The flooding may cause the road surface to deteriorate and any defects will be fixed as soon as possible.

Cllr Bentley suggested that the Council may wish to appoint a Highways Liaison representative as a point of contact between him and the Council. Cllr Law kindly offered to take on this role.

It was pointed out by Cllr Chamberlain that several signs have been knocked over by the verge cutters. The School sign in Fingringhoe Road is an example and Cllr Bentley will find out who was responsible for the cutting.

The Fingringhoe Village sign has been stolen from the junction of Hays Lane and Abberton Road, which the Clerk has reported to Highways.

The flooding in Maldon Road was discussed and Cllr Bentley advised that this was not an easy problem to fix and required more complicated engineering.

Issues with the width of the road at Weir Lane were raised as the edge of the road is deteriorating and there is insufficient space for two cars to pass. Cllr Bentley will check whether ECC or the MOD is responsible for this lane.

Cllr Bentley then left the meeting.

Cllr Moore then updated the meeting on the final inspection for the local plan. Sufficient allocation for housing in part 2 of the plan has been made to accommodate the requirement for housing and it was reported to be increasingly less likely that the garden communities will progress.

There are currently two consultations in progress relating to Bradwell decommissioning and extending the park and ride conditions to lock drivers into 'riding'.

Cllr Moore also reported that the borough councillor £2,000 budget has not been fully spent.

Issues with the amount of rubbish in the verges between Fingringhoe and Old Heath were raised. It was also reported that a resident of Doneyland Lodge has been digging a hole beside the road causing the kerb to drop and this was considered very unsafe as he wore dark clothes. A live extension cable was also seen across the road while the resident used a strimmer.

Cllr Moore then left the meeting.

#### 6. MINUTES OF MEETING OF 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019 had been circulated and were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting subject to one spelling correction.

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

##### a) Proposed telecommunications mast developments

The Clerk confirmed that she had followed up with Mr Norman Gillan requesting a map of the telecommunications mast location search area. The temporary mast at Wivenhoe is due to be removed by the end of this month.

##### b) Repair to wooden play equipment

Cllr Chamberlain will confirm the price of £1,352 plus VAT was accepted and progress the works.

##### c) Meeting with School head to discuss parking outside the school

Cllr Bentley was going to arrange this meeting although it is understood that the head is unwell at present.

##### d) Anti-social behaviour

There have been complaints regarding the use of two quadbikes on the recreation ground. There were also two men shooting pigeons on Priors land who were behaving in a threatening manner.

8. PLANNING

**193004/193005 – Old West House, Upper Haye Lane.** There were no objections to the proposals for a listed building application for the introduction of an open plan ground floor living space in the main house and an annex formed in an out building.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

Request for warning signs for horses to slow drivers on Abberton Road.

A request has been received for warning signs for horses on Abberton Road to slow drivers. Councillors did not think additional signage would have much effect.

England Coast Path Salcott to Jaywick.

A plan of the proposed route of the England Coast Path around Fingringhoe had been circulated and there were no objections to the proposed route.

Rowhedge Walking Football club donation of £50

The club has now returned to using the ground in Rowhedge but wished to make a donation of £50 to thank the Council for the temporary use of the ground.

10. ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

Outstanding highways issues

It was noted that 'Police speed check' signs have been put up at The Geetons by someone.

There are still Give Way signs at the Whalebone Junction outstanding.

11. FINANCE AND ACCOUNTSa) Accounts for payment:

The following accounts were passed for payment and approved.

	£
Derek Youngs (hedge cutting)	60.00
Mrs R A Harvey (printer ink cartridges)	7.99
Essex Wildlife Trust (annual membership renewal)	40.00
Mrs R A Harvey (January salary)	210.00
HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE)	52.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 370.49</b>

The above payments were approved for payment by bank transfer and two payments by cheque.

Precept requirement for 2020-2021

It was agreed that the precept request to Colchester Borough Council should be submitted for the same level of precept as last year.

12. TO RECEIVE REPORTS

Footpaths - Some steps built into the bank at Kerrison's have collapsed and Cllr Martin will report this to Jason Bothello for repair.

Village Pond – Cllr Chamberlain reported that there is a large clump of weed in the middle of the pond and he will arrange a working party in the early spring to clear weed.

Mr Canham read a report on the flow rates from the spring compared with the rainfall measurements. Mr Canham emphasised the importance of taking and recording proper

measurements from the pond. The conclusion was that the water level was back to normal but that given a rainfall of 58% higher he would have expected a higher flow rate from the spring. Mr Canham very kindly offered to continue measurements to show a professional approach to the results. He will expect a peak flow in March/April.

Recreation Ground – This was discussed earlier in the meeting. The replacement posts for the wood edge fence will be ordered and the bill sent to Cllr Dixon's cousin.

Transport Officer – There was nothing to report. A transport meeting is being held in two months' time at the Town Hall.

Fingringhoe School – There was nothing to report.

EWT – Mr Canham confirmed that the BBC Countryfile broadcast from the reserve has attracted many new visitors to the reserve and several new fish species are being found in the new area.

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 4<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.03 pm