



FINGRINGHOE PARISH COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING – 6th FEBRUARY 2024

A meeting of the Council took place at Fingringhoe Village Hall, Chapel Road, Fingringhoe, Colchester, Essex
CO5 7BH on TUESDAY 6TH FEBRUARY 2024 at 7pm.

Councillors present: Gerald Ketley – Chairman
Michael Clarke – Vice Chairman
Ian Chamberlain
Emma Dixon
Neil Gordon
Sharron Law
Jonathan Martin
Petra Palfreyman – Parish Clerk

Also in attendance – Colchester City Councillor Powling and 6 members of the public.

017/24	Apologies for absence – Cllrs K Bentley & R Davidson
018/24	To record declarations of interest – Cllr Keltey declared a pecuniary interest in planning application 240111
019/24	Public Questions – Laura Atkinson from the Rural Community Council for Essex explained their role in helping parish councils considering rural exception sites, specifically the proposed site at Clay Barn. Laura gave an explanation of the purpose and process for a Housing Needs Survey (HNS). Anyone wishing to be considered for any such housing, must be registered on the local housing register and should contact Colchester City Council.
020/24	To receive reports from our Essex County and Colchester Borough Councillors – Cllr Powling confirmed there has already been a 24% uptake with the brown garden waste wheelie bins. The budget is still being looked at as a £3.5M saving must be made within the next 2 years. The

	<p>MP's boundary's have changed, and Sir Bernard Jenkin has lost areas around Witham but gained some areas around The Hythe and Old Heath in Colchester. Cllr Powling has granted £750 from his Locality Budget to the Council for upgrades to the play area.</p> <p>Report from Cllr Bentley –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I received the 20 is plenty petition on Saturday from the Chairman and the Parish Clerk and I will in turn present this to Cabinet Member for Highways. The process has already started and although it takes time to get anything changed legally on the Highway, it is underway. Of course, there will be lots of consultation with local people. 2. At the request of the Clerk I am enquiring whether we can use locality budget monies for the ecology work on the village pond 3. The Chairman also asked me about the play area, and I will do the same. 4. I have worked with the Clerk and have secured £1,000 for the village from my current Locality Budget for a variety of project in the village. 5. ECC sets its budget next Tuesday and in order to balance the books we are asking for a 2.99% increase in the basic rate with a 2% for the Adult Social Care precept. Like all households we are facing rising costs and demands and particularly in our social care work and home to school transport. However, there will be good news re: Highways which I will report back on once agreed publicly.
021/24	<p>To approve minutes of the meeting on 10 January 2024 and any matters arising - the minutes as previously circulated were approved for signing. There were no matters arising.</p>
022/24	<p>To consider planning applications received</p> <p>232449 Mr & Mrs M THIEL Bluebell Barn, Abberton Road, Fingringhoe Colchester CO5 7AL Change of use of land from agricultural land to amenity land. Erection of detached garage/cart lodge and external balcony to existing converted barn. Target date: 07/02/24. The Council object to this application as per the previous objection and a further objection was raised regarding the entrance and exit on to the highway.</p> <p>240172 Mr and Mrs Button Clay Pightle, Abberton Road, Fingringhoe Essex CO5 7AT Proposed remodelling of the existing dwelling including the removal of the existing conservatory, the erection of two bay windows to the front of the dwelling alongside a porch, a rear extension, and a loft conversion creating a 1.5 storey dwelling. (resubmission) Expiry date: 21/02/2024 No comments</p> <p>240111 Mr Will Ketley Picketts Farm, Church Road, Fingringhoe Colchester CO5 7BL Application for prior notification of agricultural or forestry development - proposed new building for vehicle and hay storage Expiry date: 5/2/24 extended to 7/2/24 No comments.</p>

023/24	<p>To receive planning notification decisions</p> <p>232789 Mr Will Ketley Picketts Farm, Church Road, Fingringhoe Colchester CO5 7BL Application for prior notification of agricultural or forestry development - building for vehicle and hay storage Decision Type: Prior Approval Required (Refused)</p> <p>232544 Ms Bacon Kinsham, Chapel Road, Fingringhoe Colchester CO5 7AU New single storey extension to front, side and rear. Decision Type: Approve Conditional</p>																																																
024/24	<p>FINANCE</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="320 544 1289 1099"> <thead> <tr> <th>Payment date</th> <th>Payee</th> <th>Purpose</th> <th>Cheque /BACs</th> <th>Amount £</th> <th>VAT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>10.01.24</td> <td>Imperative Training</td> <td>New defibrillator pads</td> <td>Bacs</td> <td>80.34</td> <td>13.39</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10.01.24</td> <td>Dines Agri Services</td> <td>Play area maintenance</td> <td>Bacs</td> <td>150.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>12.01.24</td> <td>Hawes & Son</td> <td>Dudley Rd hedge</td> <td>Bacs</td> <td>50.40</td> <td>8.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30.01.24</td> <td>HMRC</td> <td>Clerks PAYE</td> <td>Bacs</td> <td>17.60</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>31.01.24</td> <td>P Palfreyman</td> <td>January wages</td> <td>Bacs</td> <td>525.40</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>823.74</td> <td>21.79</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>a) Accounts payable January/February 2024 -the payments above were noted and agreed. b) To review the budget for 2023/24 – noted and agreed c) To note the bank reconciliation to 31 January 2023 – noted and agreed</p>	Payment date	Payee	Purpose	Cheque /BACs	Amount £	VAT	10.01.24	Imperative Training	New defibrillator pads	Bacs	80.34	13.39	10.01.24	Dines Agri Services	Play area maintenance	Bacs	150.00		12.01.24	Hawes & Son	Dudley Rd hedge	Bacs	50.40	8.40	30.01.24	HMRC	Clerks PAYE	Bacs	17.60		31.01.24	P Palfreyman	January wages	Bacs	525.40								Total				823.74	21.79
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025/24	<p>To review the quote for a pond ecology report – the clerk advised that two quotes received were for £850 + vat & £400 + vat, the 2nd quote being a less involved analysis. Following discussion, the Council agreed not to go ahead with this. A member of the public advised the Fingringhoe Green Group were interested in the pond ecology and would contact the clerk to see if we could work together.</p>																																																
026/24	<p>To receive a report about the John Brunning Walk following a meeting with the ECC/Coast Path officer – the clerk and a member of Fingringhoe Parish Council and East Donyland Parish Council met with the ECC Highways/Coast path officer and walked part of the path. The boundary between Fingringhoe and East Donyland, just past The Mill House was established and the officer confirmed that this path followed Footpath 25. The officer advised he would request funding to improve the path (with the landowner’s permission). If not, the path is earmarked for improvements in 2025 or 2026 as part of the Coast Path in Essex project. Meanwhile, FPC and EDPC can liaise and decide if they would like to do something sooner. A recent quote for upgrading the path in the muddiest stretch was over £5000.</p>																																																

027/24	To agree the costs of the bin emptying and playground inspections contracts for 2024/25 – the cost of £728.95 for emptying 7 bins and 4 quarterly playground inspections, was agreed.
028/24	To discuss the Housing Needs Survey, costs and implications – the HNS would be delivered to every resident to ask for their views regarding the housing needs within the village. The survey would be managed by the RCCE who would collect and compile the data. If a need was established within the village, the site at Clay Barn maybe considered as a rural exception site. The developer involved has offered to pay for the HNS (costs between £484.51 and £282.31) and the Council agreed to accept this offer, provided that the Council are in receipt of and manage the data, as they deem suitable.
029/24	<p>To receive reports from Parish representatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footpaths – nothing to report. • Village Pond – nothing to report. • Recreation Ground – more play bark is needed. The play area gate is slow to close and some railings around the car park are falling off. • Transport – nothing to report. • Fingringhoe School – nothing to report.
030/24	<p>Updates about ongoing issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 mph speed limit – see 020/24 report from Cllr Bentley • Defibrillator training – training has been arranged for 4 March in the village hall at 7pm • Signage – school sign, village sign and sand works signs – a site for the school sign is being considered, the village sign is ready to be put up in its original place and the sand works signs will be put up next week • Barnfields – the front fence will be repaired, and residents have been asked to tidy up around their properties and use allocated parking spaces. • Locality Budget – Cllr Powling has granted the Council £750 towards the play area. • Village Hall/School parking – the school have liaised with the preschool and agreed staff parking at the village hall to alleviate the parking on the road around the school. • Police – the Police are looking for suitable stretches of road within the 30mph speed limit where they can safely monitor speed and stop drivers. • Ferry Rd – Cllr Bentley has requested that the broken fences are removed.
031/24	Date of the next meeting – TUESDAY 5 th MARCH 2024 at 7pm at Fingringhoe Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting at closed at 21.10pm