



FINGRINGHOE PARISH COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING – 4th FEBRUARY 2025

A meeting of the Council took place at Fingringhoe Village Hall, Chapel Road, Fingringhoe, Colchester, Essex
CO5 7BH on 4TH February 2025 at 7pm.

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

Also in attendance - Colchester City Councillor Robert Davidson and two members of the public.

- 014/25 Apologies for absence – CCC Cllr Carl Powling and CCC Cllr Dr Martin Parsons
- 015/25 To record declarations of interest – none
- 016/25 Public Questions – a committee member from Church Green Trust advised that the committee have been discussing whether the Trust could be more proactive with the village and the Parish Council, and if others within the village could make use of their space including the courtyard, for any village activities, along the lines of the Queen’s Jubilee event
Also a request to prevent cyclists using the John Brunning Walk as a cycle path instead of a footpath, by installing a style or signage
- 017/25 To receive reports from our Colchester City Councillor

Robert Davidson – had just attended the Local Plan pre meeting for Councillors and advised the May 2025 elections will not be going ahead. In the Council reorganisations, Cllr Bentley and other district leaders are going to push for five unitary councils within the district.

Fingringhoe will get some development as part of the Local Plan review.

Garden waste charges will increase by £5 per year to £60.

018/25 To approve minutes of the meeting on 7th January 2025 and any matters arising - the minutes as previously circulated, were approved for signing. There were no matters arising

019/25 To receive planning notification decision

242341 Dr Tareen 6 The Dingle, Ballast Quay Road, Fingringhoe Essex CO5 7DB
Demolition of existing conservatory and construction of a single storey side extension.
Construction of a two-storey side/rear extension. Decision Type: Approve Conditional

020/25 FINANCE

a) Accounts payable 31st January 2025 -the following payments were noted and agreed

Payment date	Payee	Purpose	Method	Total Amount £	VAT
31.01.25	P Palfreyman	January wages	Bacs	493.00	
31.01.25	HMRC	Clerks PAYE	Bacs	68.60	
31.01.25	Unity Trust Bank	Service charge	Bacs	6.00	
Total				567.60	

b) To review the budget to 31st January 2025 – noted and agreed

c) To note the bank reconciliation to 31st January 2025 – noted and agreed

021/25 To review the quotes for a new village name plaque – following discussion the Council agreed to review the site for size and suitability. A Locality grant towards costs of £700 has been granted by CCC City Cllrs Davidson and Powling.

022/25 Affordable Housing – to review the decision to look at potential sites around the village and decide the next steps. Following discussion, the Council have decided not to proceed with the Rural Housing project as there is already affordable housing in the village. The results of the Housing Needs Survey will remain valid for 5 years, should the Council decide to revisit the decision at some point in the future.

023/25 To review and adopt the following polices:

- Biodiversity Policy – agreed and adopted
- Documents & Records Retention policy – agreed and adopted
- Scheme of delegation - agreed and adopted

024/25 To consider any VE Day 80 celebrations on 8th May 2025 – Councillors will confirm their availability to help on the night and once numbers are known, if there are enough people to help, the Beacon may be lit and other activities may be considered

025/25 To receive reports from Parish representatives

- Footpaths – nothing to report
- Village Pond – nothing to report
- Recreation Ground – nothing to report
- Transport – nothing to report
- Fingringhoe School -nothing to report

026/25 Updates about ongoing issues

- Pond bridge – Cllr Chamberlain will repair the bridge
- Broken bench Holmwood Farm – Cllr Chamberlain will repair the bench
- Common Land - the Clerk is looking into the boundaries of this land
- Councillor vacancy – Cllr Michael Clarke will be stepping down from the Council in May 2025, following more than 30 years of service to the Council. Cllr Ketley said that the Council will be sad to lose him and thanked Mike for all he had done. There will be a vacancy on the Council from May 2025.

027/25 Date of the next meeting – TUESDAY 4th MARCH 2025 at 7pm at Fingringhoe Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.55pm