

7th March 2017

Minutes of the meeting of Fingringhoe Parish Council held on Tuesday 7th March 2017 at The Village Hall, Chapel Road, Fingringhoe.

PRESENT AT THE MEETING

In the Chair - Councillor Gerald Ketley

Councillors
 Mike Clarke
 Emma Dixon
 Vivienne Cathmoir
 Kim Cranfield
 Ian Chamberlain
 Jonathan Martin

Clerk Rosemary Harvey

There were three members of the public, Cllr Davidson and the zone warden present.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Bentley, Cllr Moore and Mr Canham.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

3. OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

There were no matters any members of the public present wished to raise.

4. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

5. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM CLLR BENTLEY, CLLR DAVIDSON & ZONE WARDEN

Cllr Bentley sent a report that enquiries were ongoing in relation to the overgrown hedge on Chapel Road at the entrance to bridleway 7. The Chairman had visited the site and met with the residents and due to the line of the road it was not felt possible to improve visibility by cutting back the hedge. It was suggested that the best solution was to install a mirror on the opposite side of the road. Funding for a mirror may be available. The Clerk was asked to write to the residents advising them of the parish council's finding.

ACTION: Clerk

Cllr Bentley advised that he is still trying to progress repairs to South Green Road and Furneaux Lane. Councillors noted that the road surfaces of Lodge Lane and Langenhoe Hall Lane in Langenhoe had both been completely replaced and that these roads receive less road traffic.

The ongoing issues with inconsiderate parking outside Fingringhoe School were discussed. Cllr Davidson said that the North East Parking Partnership need to approve changes to road markings. The introduction of single yellow lines with timed parking restrictions were favoured. Cllr Bentley will be reminded to arrange a visit to the site.

Cllr Davidson offered to take photographs of the damaged road edge on Fingringhoe Road to post on the highways website.

The increase in council tax by Colchester Borough Council has been agreed at 3%.

Finally, Cllr Davidson reminded residents that refuse collections will change from April and no black sacks will be issued to residents in future.

The zone warden was thanked for his help removing tyres and oil drums fly tipped into the ditch in Furneaux Lane. The oil which has leaked into the ditch was reported to the Environment Agency and sawdust has been spread over it but the oil and sawdust needs to be removed. The land belongs to Essex County Council. The Clerk was asked to follow up with the Environment Agency.

ACTION: Clerk

The zone warden reminded councillors that the Great British Spring Clean is in progress and he is prepared to assist with litter picking groups supplying equipment.

6. MINUTES OF MEETING OF 3RD JANUARY 2017

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd January 2017 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) Overgrown hedge at entrance to bridleway 7
This was discussed during Cllr Bentley's report.
- b) Condition of Fingringhoe Road
This was discussed during Cllr Davidson's report.
- c) Cory grant for new gate at Recreation Ground
The Chairman offered to obtain a quotation for a new metal gate.
- d) Fly tipping in Village
This was discussed during the zone warden's report.
- e) Incidents of threatening and anti-social behavior in village
Cars are reported to be being driven at speed down Furneaux Lane and the introduction of sleeping policemen on the straight stretch of road outside the Recreation Ground was suggested. This will be proposed to Cllr Bentley.

8. PLANNING170219 Communications tower in Ballast Quay Road.

During discussion the following points were raised:

- The parish council has not supported the application as alleged in the Supporting Statement.
- Why is another tower required so close to an existing one.
- Tower has to be higher than the existing one and will be visible damaging the visual amenity particularly when trees lose their leaves.
- Spoil landscape

It was agreed the Parish Council will object to the application.

9. CORRESPONDENCEPensions Regulator auto enrolment

The Clerk has received confirmation that the council has successfully completed auto enrolment.

10. ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

Cllr Martin is setting up training for the new speed watch team.

11. FINANCE AND ACCOUNTSa) Insurance Renewal

The proposal to renew the council's liability insurance from 1st April with Zurich has been received. The premium is £40 lower than last year due to no claims being made. The council has entered a long term agreement which is active with Zurich until 1st April 2021. It was agreed to renew the liability insurance as proposed by the Clerk.

b) Accounts for payment:

The following accounts were passed for payment and approved.

	£
Zurich Municipal (annual insurance renewal)	943.77
Essex Wildlife Trust (annual membership renewal)	40.00
ReAssure (Clerk's annual pension payment)	90.00
Mrs R A Harvey (MS Office premium subscription)	79.99
Mrs R A Harvey (refund of postage during year)	28.06
Mrs R A Harvey (February salary)	200.00
HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE)	50.00
Mrs R A Harvey (March salary)	200.00
HM Revenue Customs (PAYE)	50.00
Total	£ 1,681.82

The Clerk's salary and amounts to HMRC were approved for payment by bank transfer. All other payments were agreed.

c) Approval of 2017 accounts

The accounts for the year ended 31st March 2017 will be required to be displayed from Monday 5th June. As the June council meeting will not take place until Tuesday 6th June it was agreed a finance committee meeting will be held during the last week of May to approve the accounts prior to publication.

12. TO RECEIVE REPORTS

a) Footpaths

There was nothing to report.

b) Village Pond

Cllr Chamberlain has trimmed the pond edges. A number of balls were collected from the pond. It was suggested someone from the school should collect and return the balls once a week.

c) Recreation Ground

The ground was reported to be in good order.

d) Transport

The school bus was reported to have arrived early on a few occasions and not been reliable in collecting pupils from school. Cllr Dixon will contact the bus company.

e) Fingringhoe School

A good number of applications for school places have been received from village residents this year.

f) EWT

There was nothing to report.

13. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION & NOTING

A list of general correspondence and circulars received was circulated. The correspondence box will be circulated around the councillors to read the contents.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 4th April 2017 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm