

4th June 2019

Minutes of the meeting of Fingringhoe Parish Council held on Tuesday 4th June 2019 at The Village Hall, Chapel Road, Fingringhoe.

PRESENT AT THE MEETING

In the Chair Councillor Gerald Ketley

Councillors Emma Dixon
 Ian Chamberlain
 Sharron Law

Clerk Rosemary Harvey

There were twelve members of the public present Cllr Bentley and Cllr Moores.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Clarke, Cllr Martin, Cllr Davidson, the zone warden 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

There were no declarations of interest.

5. TO RECEIVE REPORTS

Cllr Bentley gave an update on availability of funds from the Community Initiative Fund which is now being administered by the EALC.

Pot holes were reported to have been fixed in the major routes and attention is now being turned to local and estate roads. In addition money from the government and winter savings will be used to repair footways. The EALC devolution scheme is being launched formerly next week for a six month trial period. Funds can be used by the parishes for such things as extra verge cutting or finger post repairs.

Cllr Dixon reported that the VAS sign on Abberton Road is now working again. Cllr Ketley advised that the pot hole near the second gate at Picketts Farm had not been repaired as highways employees stated it was not deep enough. Cllr Bentley advised that as he had reported it, it should have been fixed. Turning to the no entry sign requested on Church Road highways officials advised that they wanted to see a photograph of the sign to prove that it was once there. In addition, the white give way markings at the Whalebone junction need repainting and a Give Way sign is needed on the approach up Fingringhoe Road.

The Clerk will send Cllr Bentley the schedule of outstanding highways issues.

Cllr Moore reported that the voucher scheme used for garden waste sacks has been extended to clear plastic bags and boxes, so that a check can be kept on who is requesting them.

Turning to action points from the previous meeting, Cllr Moore said that she had reminded Cllr Davidson to speak with Mr Kerrison regarding the pontoon. She suggested speaking to the ward councillor for the area, Paul Dundas on 07748 680412 regarding clearing the drains on Maldon Road near Colchester Zoo. Dundas

A request has been made for the rubbish in Lightship Road to be cleared. A fly tipping incident at the Recreation Ground has been dealt with and fly tipping near Doneyland Lodge will be cleared by Colchester Borough Council by Friday. Cllr Moores will also make enquiries into moving the bollards to make it more difficult for vehicles to pull over and stop.

Turning to the proposed telecommunications mast, the parish council has been liaising with our MP Bernard Jenkin. There has been a meeting on site previously and the application has been declined by planning on two occasions. During the discussion the main objections to the proposed telecommunications mast and comments were:

- There is already an existing mast in Ballast Quay Road – why can this mast not be used.
- The mast is replacing a mast on Rowhedge which was taken down as a result of the development and the mast will not be of benefit to Fingringhoe.
- The developers were invited to attend this meeting but stated it was too short notice. They state they wish to hold a drop-in session towards the end of June and should therefore be asked to extend their response deadline.
- The company state that alternative locations have been investigated but give no details. There is not sufficient expert knowledge locally to carry out a radio survey in order to suggest other sites to the developers.
- Impact on visual amenity. It was still considered the mast will be visible. Assurance on health factors there is no information on potential impact on health or property values. The site is in the coastal protection zone.
- All the previous objections still stand and the changes proposed in the plans make no material difference to the previous objections.

The Clerk will invite representatives of WIG to the July council meeting.

6. PRESENTATION ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Ms Laura Atkinson, Rural Housing Enabler from Rural Community Council of Essex attended to give a presentation on affordable housing in rural communities. Affordability would be achieved through either shared ownership, or local discounted sales.

If a piece of land can be identified abutting the village envelope then the rural exception route can be used as Fingringhoe has less than 3,000 population. The scheme has to be based on evidence of need and to provide this evidence a survey of residents will be required. Only one or two open market properties would be permitted on the site in order to make the scheme commercially viable. Applicants for the properties would need to be on the housing register but local connections would move applicants up the priority list.

Finding a suitable piece of land available for purchase at agricultural value was thought to be the major hurdle to overcome.

7. MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF 7th May 2019

The minutes of the AGM and meeting held on 7th May 2019 had been circulated and were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meetings.

8. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

a) CPR course on 17th September

The Clerk reported that the village hall has been booked for the training and the Clerk said that free training is available from Colchester First Responders and that she intends to book a trainer from them.

b) Repair to white finger posts

A repair is being carried out to the post opposite the Whalebone. The post at the top of Haye Lane is going to be left.

c) Repair to wooden swing legs

The wooden swing has now been removed from the recreation ground and is in the process of being repaired.

d) Fly tipping incidents in village

No incidents of fly tipping were reported at the meeting.

e) Update on reports of threatening & anti-social behaviour in village

It was reported that Plane Hall Farm has been vandalised and that paint has been thrown over the front of the house.

9. PLANNING

Telecommunications Tower.

This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

191262 9 Brook Hall Road – proposed disabled bathroom – there were no objections to the proposals.

191219 Phear House, Chapel Road – proposed two storey and first floor extension - There was no objection to the proposals.

191248 Haye Cottage, Upper Haye Lane – proposed extension to existing outbuilding. There was no objection to the proposals.

Greenacres, Abberton Road – it was noted that the agricultural tie on the property was removed in 1979. Highways have not yet commented on the retrospective application for the new vehicle access.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Chris Leney, land agent

The Chairman confirmed that he has spoken to Chris Leney the land agent for Peter Thistlethwayte regarding the ditch adjoining the road near Fingringhoe bridge. The river wall has not been seen to be flooding again but cattle are on the wall once more.

Robert Luckman request to use recreation ground.

A request has been made to use the recreation ground for a boot camp and football. It was questioned whether the lease of the ground permitted the parish council to sub-let use of the ground. Secondly, there are no changing or toilet facilities on the ground

and use by large numbers on a regular basis would require such facilities and the landowner does not wish the ground to be developed.

Men's football matches will wear out the ground considerably more than children's games. Considerably more traffic would be generated on Furneaux Lane which is not suitable for such use. The proposals sound like a business proposition for the site. In view of the above, the ground is not suitable for the uses proposed.

Planning Course

Two places have been reserved on a free planning course taking place at the Town Hall, Colchester on Thursday 12th September at 6pm for Cllrs Martin and Law.

Steve Switzer to leave Zone Warden Team.

It was noted that Steve Switzer is to leave the zone warden team and being replaced by Brandon Kirk.

11. ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

Outstanding highways issues

It was noted that the Vehicle Activated Speed Sign (VAS) is now working once again.

The schedule of outstanding highways issues will be passed on to Cllr Bentley.

12. FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

a) Accounts for payment:

The following accounts were passed for payment and approved.

	£
Kendall Facility Management Ltd (grass cut 1/3 May 2019)	259.58
Hot-Line Printers (printing annual report)	100.00
Mrs R A Harvey (June salary)	210.00
HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE)	52.50
Total	£ 622.08

The above payments were approved for payment by bank transfer.

b) Certificate of Exemption from Audit

The Clerk confirmed that the Council's accounts for the financial year ended 31st March 2019 qualified for exemption from audit and the Certificate of Exemption was signed by the Clerk and Chairman.

c) Approval of Annual Governance Statement

The Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for the year 2018/2019 had been circulated to councillors. The Annual Governance statement section 1 was considered and approved and signed by the Clerk and Chairman.

d) Approval of Section 2 of the Annual Accounting Statements.

The Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for the year 2018/2019 had been circulated to councillors. The Annual Governance statement section 2 was considered and approved and signed by the Clerk and Chairman.

13. TO RECEIVE REPORTS

Footpaths - There was no report.

Village Pond - The pond was reported to be in good order.

Recreation Ground – It was noted that the broken swing had not been removed quickly enough and had been reported to Colchester Borough Council. Cllr Chamberlain is meeting on site at 2pm on Monday to discuss fencing with a contractor.

Transport Officer

There was nothing to report.

Fingringhoe School

There was nothing to report.

EWT

There was nothing to report.

14. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION & NOTING

The correspondence box was circulated to councillors and included a full set of the annual accounts and AGAR.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 2nd July 2019 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm



02.07.2019.