

3rd November 2020

Minutes of the meeting of Fingringhoe Parish Council held on Tuesday 3rd November 2020 by video conference call due to restrictions imposed due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

PRESENT AT THE MEETING

In the Chair Councillor Gerald Ketley

Councillors Mike Clarke
Emma Dixon
Ian Chamberlain
Jonathan Martin
Sharron Law

Clerk Rosemary Harvey

There was one member of the public present, together with Cllr Bentley and Cllr Davidson.

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Canham and the zone warden.

2 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

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. There were no matters the public wished to raise.

4. **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Chamberlain declared an interest in an invoice for payment for grounds maintenance.

5. **TO RECEIVE REPORTS**

Cllr Bentley said that he will invite Kevin Ashkettle, the operations director of County Broadband to the next meeting, to update the council on the company's plans and status of the works in the village. Cllr Bentley advised that there have been problems caused elsewhere in other villages by County Broadband and asked to be sent details of dates and times of incidents when roads are closed so that he can raise them.

Cllr Bentley updated councillors on the current Covid-19 situation. Essex County Council had asked to be moved into tier 2 due to the high level of the R rate in Essex. Colchester now has the second highest number of new cases in Essex. As at 2nd November the number of cases was beginning to plateau so the restrictions are thought to be beginning to have an effect. At the end of the lockdown it is proposed that the County Council will ask to be placed into Tier1. If any company/business in the village is affected by the restrictions, then Cllr Bentley asked to be informed as grants are available.

Cllr Bentley then left the meeting.

Cllr Davidson was congratulated on his election as Mayor of Colchester, a position he will hold until May 2022.

The Town Hall and shops will be closing on Thursday 5th November when the lockdown comes into effect. It is not known whether the waste services will be affected.

The proposed development of stables at land south of Kingsland, Abberton Road was discussed and then Cllr Davidson left the meeting.

6. MINUTES OF MEETING OF 6TH OCTOBER 2020

The minutes of the meeting held on 6th October 2020 had been circulated and were approved and will be signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

7. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

a) Barnfields problems with parking and rubbish

The Clerk confirmed that she has written to Stephen Bland but not received a response to date. Now that the country is in lockdown again it is unlikely Mr Bland will be able to visit the site.

b) Work by County Broadband

This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

c) Update on incidents of threatening and anti-social behaviour

It was reported that there had been complaints of fireworks being set off in the carpark at the Recreation Ground, frightening the sheep.

8. PLANNING

202300– Avey Lodge – small extension to the rear to enable Covid secure family visits. There were no objections to the proposals.

202223 – land south of Kingsland, Abberton Road – Erection of stables

Councillors questioned why the proposed stable block was so large and why positioned in the middle of the field. The buildings will block one of the few remaining uninterrupted views from Abberton Road across the Pyefleet Channel. It was suggested the stables should be located by the hedge of “Greenacres” where there is an existing field access gate onto Abberton Road. The Clerk was asked to lodge an objection to the proposed development.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

Request from school to spray paint tree roots.

The school have requested to spray paint tree roots on the green to highlight a trip hazard. They have clarified that they were not referring to roots of the oak trees but the trees which were cut down near the school buildings. Cllr Chamberlain will check the site to see whether the roots can be dug or ground out which will provide a better long term solution than spray painting them.

Request from Tyler Gregoire to use the football pitch

A request has been received from Tyler Gregoire to use the football pitch at the Recreation Ground as the home ground for their team for the 2021/2022 season. It has been pointed out that there are no facilities at the ground, and it was believed this will cause an issue with no toilets at the site if large numbers were to attend. Secondly, the site is a public amenity and cannot be reserved for use. The Clerk was asked to decline the request.

Road closures

It was noted that Abberton and Chapel Roads will be closed on 5th November and 10th November for road works.

10. ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

It was noted that the Give Way sign at the top of Fingringhoe Road and the finger post at the top of Hays Lane are still outstanding.

11. FINANCE AND ACCOUNTSa) Accounts for payment:

The following accounts were passed for payment and approved.

	£
Mrs R A Harvey (printer ink cartridges)	7.99
J Hawes & Son (hedge cutting Dudley Road)	21.60
I C Maintenance (grounds maintenance)	315.00
Mrs R A Harvey (November salary)	210.00
HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE)	52.50
Total	£ 607.09

The above payments were approved for payment by bank transfer and a cheque to Ian Chamberlain.

It was noted that Cllr Bentley has approved a grant of £600 from his locality budget towards the cost of the three litter bins supplied by Adrian Watson. The Clerk will complete the grant application forms.

12. TO RECEIVE REPORTS

Footpaths - It was reported that there is a tree down across the bridleway which has been reported to the Wormalls. Turning to the overgrown hedge at Fan Hill, it was reported that there are some long straggly pieces of growth which need tidying and Cllr Chamberlain offered to attend to this.

Village Pond – The pond will be left at present as a working party cannot be held under the current Covid restrictions.

Recreation Ground – There was nothing to report and the ground was in good order.

Transport Officer – There was nothing to report.

Fingringhoe School – There is still no new head appointed and nothing to report at present.

EWT – Following the latest lockdown instructions, from 4pm on Wednesday 4th November EWT will be closing all visitor centres until at least Wednesday 2nd December. Recognising the importance of local green spaces for communities, reserves will be kept open to the public but no facilities will be available. Bird hides will remain open as long as masks are worn inside and social distancing measures are followed.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 1st December 2020 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.00 pm