

2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

**Minutes of the meeting of Fingringhoe Parish Council held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 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 Jonathan Martin Sharron Law Ian Chamberlain
Clerk	Rosemary Harvey

There were two members of the public present, together with Cllr Kevin Bentley and Cllr Patricia Moore.

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Robert Davidson and the zone warden.

2 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

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.

John Dix had complained regarding antisocial behaviour and littering in South Green Road and The Quarry.

4. **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

5. **TO RECEIVE REPORTS**

Councillor Kevin Bentley provided an update on Covid 19 pandemic. There is a general reassurance that measures are bringing the latest phase under control. Vaccinations continue to be rolled out. County council element of budget will not raise Council Tax. There is a precept increase of 1.5% in adult social care. There was discussion regarding the bridleway opening adjacent to Wheelwrights and whether there should be a sign to slow traffic for the blind entrance.

Cllr Bentley noted the need to replace the finger signpost and village sign at the top of Hays Lane and a giveway road sign and markings for the road from Rowhedge at its junction next to the Whalebone. The littering and antisocial behaviour raised by John Dix and Roland Emrich have been referred to the Divisional Commander for Essex Police.

Councillor Patricia Moore updated regarding the status of the Colchester Borough Local Plan. Part one of the general policies regarding garden communities would be left. Allocations of planning expansion to villages, including the Middlewick inspection relating to part 2 will take place in late April virtually. This part allows for 920 houses per annum. If there is no plan, the Government would seek a doubling of that figure. 1,000 properties are proposed for Middlewick but local people are countering that with requests for a Country Park instead with housing more towards Weir Lane. At the full meeting of Colchester Borough Council, £50,000 was set aside to carry out a feasibility study.

#### 6. MINUTES OF MEETING OF 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 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

Mr Steven Bland had been invited to take part in this meeting but no reply has been received. The roadway has continued to deteriorate and cars are being parked on the grass rather than in the correct spaces. The Clerk was asked to write again and invite him once again to join a zoom meeting.

ACTION: Clerk

##### b) Holly bush on the corner of the Green.

It was agreed that **Gordon Dewdney** will be asked if he can dig out the roots, cut it back from the road

ACTION: All

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

No new incidents were reported other than those referred to above.

##### d) Bench on Fan Hill

There was discussion regarding whether permission was needed to install a bench on the Fan Hill footpath and the consensus was simply to allow it.

##### e) Police engagement meeting

Cllr Martin attended this meeting during the week running up to this meeting. Community engagement officers will come out to a village meeting regarding levels of visibility. Cllr Martin has contact details.

#### 9. PLANNING

**210491– Greenacres Barn, Abberton Rd** – Notification for prior approval for a proposed change of use of agricultural building to dwelling house with associated operational development. There were no objections to the proposals.

**210458– Welln Garden, Abberton Rd** - Notification for prior approval for a

*agenda  
report*

proposed single storey rear extension extending 8m beyond the rear wall of the original dwelling. There were no objections to the proposals.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

Colchester Rotary Club Friendly bench offer – It was decided to accept the offeror placement near the pond or playing field.

Complaint chicane on Fan Hill footpath in need of repair.  
It was agreed to ask for quotations for the repair.

ACTION: Clerk

Closure of Chapel Road, Abberton Road and School Lane for 4 days from 4th May for surface dressing. - Noted

11. ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

Covered above.

12. FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

a) Accounts for payment:

The following accounts were passed for payment and approved. +others??

	£
Mrs R A Harvey (March salary)	210.00
HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE)	52.50
<b>Total</b>	£ ??

The above payments were approved for payment by bank transfer.

b) Quotes for grass cutting

The Clerk had previously obtained three quotes for grass cutting for the coming year. The current contractor will charge £232.80 plus vat to cut all areas. This does not include removal of the clippings which will be left as a mulch.

A second quote from Dines Agri Services is for £190 (no vat chargeable) per cut if clippings are mulched and £250 per cut if clippings are removed.

The third quote from G G Beecroft is for £270 per cut if clippings are mulched and £370 per cut if clippings are removed.

After discussion, the Clerk was asked to contact the Clerk at Abberton & Langenhoe for details of their new contractor Mr Knight. Further discussion to take place at the next meeting before awarding a contract.

ACTION: Clerk

13. TO RECEIVE REPORTS

Footpaths - The paths throughout the village have now dried out. Fences to footpath near the mill have been damaged. A kissing gate will be considered to stop cyclists

using this path. Consideration also to scattering bark chippings in potentially muddy areas.

Village Pond – Nothing to report although weed is beginning to accumulate..

Recreation Ground – There was nothing to report. It was noted that the lease for the ground needs renewing for another 10 years. The Clerk will make arrangements.

ACTION: Clerk

Transport Officer – There was nothing to report. It was noted that plenty of buses are now routed through the village.

Fingringhoe School – There was nothing to report.

EWT – Mr Canham said that there was no further news since the last meeting and the situation remains the same. Mr Canham will provide an update if there is any change.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm

details?

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