

FINGRINGHOE PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING – date/month

A meeting of the Council took place at Fingringhoe Village Hall, Chapel Road, Fingringhoe, Colchester, Essex CO5 7BH on TUESDAY 1 November 2022 at 7pm.

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

Also in attendance – CBC Cllr Robert Davidson and 7 members of the public.

155/22	Apologies for absence – Cllr Martin
156/22	To record declarations of interest - none
157/22	Public Questions – a member of the public asked what was happening about the 20mph speed limit and was advised this would be addressed later in the meeting.
158/22	Reports from Colchester Borough Councillor Robert Davidson. Cllr Kevin Bentley has a lot of duties as Leader of ECC and is not often able to attend our meetings. Two thirds of the ECC budget is going towards Adult Social Care and this means there will not be much left for the roads. Cllr Lee Scott has advised that Parish Councils can get the outstanding work done themselves if it is urgent and not being carried out by Highways. Cllr Davidson offered to ask a Highways engineer to meet with Councillors to see what we can do. This could take up to a month to put in place. The Council agreed to this. CBC are trying to assess how to deal with the £5M deficit. The statutory services must be considered first. Council tax can only increase by 3% unless there is a referendum. Colchester will officially become a city on 23 November 2023. Historically a city status will help to improve the economy. The Local Plan will be reviewed in 2026 to ensure that there is still a 5 year supply up to 2032. In 2032/33 there will be another Local Plan.

	Total				1006.00	42.00
	<p>b) To review the budget for 2022/23 – noted and agreed c) To note the bank reconciliation to 31 October 2022 – noted and agreed d) To consider the budget for 2023/24 – the draft budget was provisionally agreed but will be looked at again during the December 2022 meeting.</p>					
163/22	<p>To receive an update about the 20-mph speed limit and review the petition questions and design – Paul Warren circulated the proposed first draft of the petition which will be circulated to residents to understand their views on the proposals. Some suggestions were made for the petition and Paul and the clerk will work together on this. The clerk is attending an ECC 20's plenty webinar on 17/11/22 so the Council agreed to review the petition at the next meeting. The clerk advised that to add a fillable PDF to the website for completing petitions, would be £35.00 The clerk agreed to contact Cllr Kevin Bentley to see if there is a minimum percentage of residents that need to reply to make the petition valid, and East Donyland Parish Council to see what percentage of their residents responded. Other formats for the petition such as survey monkey were also discussed.</p>					
164/22	<p>To discuss celebrations for King Charles III coronation on Saturday May 6 2023 – this item was deferred until the next meeting for Councillors to consider potential events and the Clerk to ask other Councils what they will be doing.</p>					
165/22	<p>To discuss installing CCTV at the recreation ground car park at a cost of £150 + VAT – following discussion it was agreed to pay £150.00 for the CCTV. Cllr Ketley also stated he is obtaining a price for a camera at the recreation ground, in view of the recent vandalism.</p>					
166/22	<p>PLAY AREA a) To discuss and agree the quotes for play area equipment maintenance – a quote of £450.00 for works to the picnic house, next swing, bench and goal posts was agreed. b) To discuss the vandalism at the play area and agree the next actions – the Clerk advised that on 19/10/22 vandals uprooted the new seating in the play area and put them on the Daisy slide, causing minor scuffs to the slide and leaving the play area unsafe. The Police were notified. The Clerk contacted the contractor to ask them to reinstall the seating as it appeared they had not been securely installed, which the contractor declined. The Council expressed their disappointment that the contractor will not reinstall the seating free of charge or at a discounted rate. The Council felt that the installation was not fit for purpose as the concrete</p>					

	<p>foundations were small and not very deep. The Clerk will contact the contractor again and ask them to reconsider.</p> <p>c) To receive an update about the cantilever swing surface – the surface is on order and will be installed once received.</p> <p>d) To receive an update about the gate repairs – the parts to repair the gate are on order and will be installed once received.</p>
167/22	To consider responses to the Highways User Survey – Cllr Gordon agreed to complete and submit the survey on behalf of the Council. Cllr Gordon advised that there were over 100 outstanding Highways issues reported to ECC, as shown on the ECC Highways website.
168/22	To review the lease for the Recreation Ground and agree the next actions – the Clerk advised the lease is currently in progress. The land agent confirmed the insurance cover is adequate and will advise what the approximate fee will be.
169/22	To agree the Council meeting dates for 2023/2024 – Council dates for 2023 were confirmed as the first Tuesday of the month except for April, which will be on Monday 17 th April 2023 and this will be the Annual Parish meeting. The Annual meeting of the Council will be on Tuesday 2 nd May 2023. There will not be a meeting in August. There may be Extraordinary General meetings as the need arises throughout the year. Dates for 2024 will be agreed later in 2023.
170/22	To discuss what the Council can do to support the Essex Wildlife Trust initiative for Wilder Towns, Wilder Villages – as the Council does not own or maintain very much land, it was agreed to write a paragraph for News & Views so the village is aware of the initiative and can be encouraged to take part in creating wild corridors, spaces, streets, houses and gardens. It was agreed that No Mow May is not suitable for the Recreation Ground. A representative from Fingringhoe Green Group advised they would be looking to do some work at The Commons and plant some bulbs around the village hall area.
171/22	<p>To receive reports from Parish representatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footpaths – Cllr Dixon will look at the footpath map for a footpath that used to run opposite Picketts Farm behind Hall Farm, running level with Furneaux Lane. • Village Pond – some weed will be removed with a rake and the next working party will be in the Spring. • Recreation Ground – per the report at 166/22 • Transport – the bus service is better than it has been for about 4 years but is not well used by the residents • Fingringhoe School -nothing to report

173/22	<p>Correspondence received –</p> <p>a) Phone box – the resident emailed to say she might have a volunteer to buy the bookshelves.</p> <p>b) John Brunning Walk – the Clerk received photos of the new signage and email of thanks from family</p> <p>c) Brass plaque – the plaque is now ready to install</p> <p>d) Utility poles planning applications –the clerk contacted CBC planning who advised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that Poles/masts which need prior approval would be notified to us in the usual way a planning application is notified • Poles/masts which fall under permitted development are notified to CBC as part of the normal consultation process but that is not passed on to local councils as it is permitted development, and therefore we do not get a say. <p>Service providers should be making every effort to notify households/areas of their intentions. If there isn't any where to physically put up a notice, they should be putting notices through letterboxes in the nearby location. The notices should show details of who to contact/appeal to.</p> <p>e) Tree survey – all work has been completed apart from the Willow on Church Green</p> <p>f) Locality budget application for signage - £500 has been agreed for the cantilever swing surface and £1000 is going through the approval process for the signage and installation. Payment is made once the works are completed.</p> <p>g) Pigs Foot Green – a quote for new posts in being obtained. Some posts were damaged by a vehicle and after inspection to replace them, it was noted that some are rotten and should also be replaced</p> <p>h) Planning application 222663 Floriana Chapel Rd – application for additional first floor plan, alterations and extension. The Council agreed a comment to object as the deadline for the application is 17/11/12 and before the next meeting. Cllr Robert Davidson agreed to look at the plan and call it in. The application will also be added to the next agenda</p>
174/22	<p>Date of the next meeting – TUESDAY 6 December 2022 at 7pm at Fingringhoe Village Hall.</p>

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.15pm