

FINGRINGHOE PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING – 5th September 2023

A meeting of the Council took place at Fingringhoe Village Hall, Chapel Road, Fingringhoe, Colchester, Essex CO5 7BH on TUESDAY 5th September 2023 at 7pm.

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

Also in attendance – ECC Cllr Kevin Bentley and CCC Cllr Robert Davidson and 3 members of the public.

106/23	Apologies for absence – Cllr Martin & Cllr Ketley
107/23	To record declarations of interest – Cllr Gordon declared a non-pecuniary interest in planning application 231667, as a contractor at the site.
108/23	Public Questions – A member of the public asked questions to Cllr Bentley which are noted below. A trustee of Church Green Trust confirmed that the trust provides for independent living and the warden wasn't central to the running of the trust. All residents must have a link with the village either through family or previous residency. The minimum entry age is 65. When applications are made, the trustees get a list and assess the eligibility. There is not a waiting list but there is a mailing list.
109/23	To receive reports from our Essex County and Colchester Borough Councillors – Cllr Bentley - There are no indications of RAC (failing concrete issues) in Fingringhoe school. Essex appears to have more issues because they have carried out their surveys quicker. The wording for the 20mph petition was agreed and Cllr Bentley advised to get this out as soon as possible and present the petition to him, with some publicity to get the message out publicly, and complete the Local Highways Panel form for the changes. Cllr Bentley agreed to request a speed trap in the village. Cllr Davidson – the clear recycling sacks are still being delivered and there is a possibility they might not be free next year. They can be ordered on the CCC website and collected locally. There is a £5M budget deficit for next year and the council can only increase the precept by 3% which is the equivalent of £5 to a Band D household. The 20mph speed limit is supported and speed watch is effective around the villages. The councillors Locality Budget may not be available this year.

110/23	To approve minutes of the meeting on 4 July 2023 and any matters arising - the minutes as previously circulated were approved for signing. There were no matters arising.
111/23	<p>To consider planning applications received FOR INFORMATION ONLY</p> <p>231558 Mr Mark Prior Prior House, Ballast Quay Road, Fingringhoe Colchester CO5 7DB Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed Change of use of Office (Class E) to Single Residential Unit (Class C3)</p> <p>231497 Mr & Mrs Keeling Floriana, Chapel Road, Fingringhoe Colchester CO5 7AU Additional first floor plan, alterations, extension and facade material changes. Resubmission 222663</p> <p>231501 Mr and Mrs Keeling Floriana, Chapel Road, Fingringhoe Colchester CO5 7AU Additional first floor plan, alterations, extension and facade material changes to Floriana, Chapel Road, Fingringhoe</p> <p>231493 MS DALDRY Well N Garden, Abberton Road, Fingringhoe Colchester CO5 7AS Proposed new annexe</p> <p>231645 Mr & Mrs Childs The Grange, Abberton Road, Fingringhoe Colchester CO5 7AL Ground floor rear extension. Removal of side and rear extensions. Resubmission of 230256</p> <p>231646 Mr & Mrs Childs The Grange, Abberton Road, Fingringhoe Essex CO5 7AL Listed building application for a ground floor rear extension. Removal of side and rear extensions. Resubmission of 230257</p> <p>TO COMMENT</p> <p>231667 Mr Stuart Allsopp 11 Church Green, Church Road, Fingringhoe Colchester CO5 7BN Conversion of an existing 3 bedroom apartment into 2 separate 1 bedroom apartments. There are no external changes to the building, and all work will be carried out internally, where the existing front door will be used as a communal entrance. Expiry date: 23 August 2023. Extended to 6 September 2023. No comments</p>
112/23	<p>To receive planning notification decision</p> <p>231083 Mr & Mrs T Reeve Chapel House, Chapel Road, Fingringhoe Colchester CO5 7AU Change of use from methodist chapel to residential dwelling Decision: Approve Conditional</p> <p>231460 Mr & Mrs Keegan Salmons Cottage, South Green Road, Fingringhoe Essex CO5 7DW Proposed extension works and attic conversion. Decision: Approve Conditional</p>

113/23

FINANCE

a) Accounts payable July/August 2023 -the following payments were noted and agreed

Invoice date	Payee	Purpose	Cheque /BACs	Amount £	VAT
05.07.23	Suffolk Cloud	Domain name (2 years)	Bacs	35.00	
17.07.23	RCCE	Annual subs	Bacs	72.60	12.10
24.07.23	M J Grabs	Pons clearance	Bacs	150.00	
01.08.23	HMRC	Clerks PAYE	Bacs	12.80	
01.08.23	P Palfreyman	Clerks wages	Bacs	500.20	
01.08.23	CALC	Annual subs	Bacs	35.00	
01.08.23	Adrian Watson	Daisy slide, goal posts, bin	Bacs	610.00	
24.08.23	Dines Agri	Grass cutting	Bacs	265.00	
24.08.23	HMRC	Clerks PAYE	Bacs	12.80	
31.08.23	P Palfreyman	Clerks wages	Bacs	500.20	
Total				2193.60	12.10

b) To review the budget for to 30 August 2023 – noted and agreed

c) To note the bank reconciliation to 30 August 2023 – noted and agreed

114/23

RECREATION GROUND

a) To discuss current and future requests from clubs and organisations outside the village for use of the Recreation Ground football pitches for balls games, and agree a policy for requests – the Council agreed that Rowhedge Juniors could use the pitch on a Saturday morning for 90 minutes, for training only. The Council will not seek payment or provide any facilities, such as changing rooms, toilets, extra grass cuts or white lines. This will be reviewed on a regular basis. The clerk will request the public liability insurance.

b) To receive a report about the grants and S106 money available for the play area and quotes received for new items – the Clerk advised that £7310 S106 funds are available and a grant of £2600 from the CIF fund has been applied for. The outcome will be received in October. Further grants from Enovert and other funders can be applied for also. The Council agreed to the maintenance repairs costing approx. £250 and new cradle swings and toddle slide system at a cost of approx. £12500. The clerk will arrange the repairs and installation.

115/23

To discuss the quote for a Council logo and agree the next steps – the Council agreed to engage a graphic designer to design the logo at a cost of £250.

116/23	To discuss the missing Welcome to Fingringhoe sign and consider a new sign – the sign has been stolen for the 2 nd time. Cllr Davidson offered to pay for a new sign if the Locality Budget is available this year. Cllr Bentley will also review this from the ECC position as it is a Highways sign. Cllr Gordon will obtain prices for the sign and ask for a CCTV sign to be included in it.
117/23	To discuss the signage quotes for No Camping or digging a ditch near the sand works in Furneaux Lane – signage for this area would cost £500 + VAT for 4 signs. Other suggestions were building a mound to stop campers parking, as a ditch is not possible due to underground services. Cllr were concerned with liability claims although the land does not belong to the Council and how long the signage would last before being vandalised. A Land Registry document has been obtained outlining the ownership. The decision was deferred to the next meeting.
118/23	To note the poor condition of the fencing in Ferry Road, reported to ECC in August 2022 – this was first reported in August 2022 but the condition is now much worse. A further report will be sent to Cllr Bentley.
119/23	To review the quotes for school signs and consider the locations to put them – Two signs warning of the school ahead would cost £159 +VAT each, plus a post and labour costs and permission from Highways/ECC. Cllr Bentley supports the scheme and an application to the Local Highways Panel has been made, which if agreed would pay for the costs. The school have not replied to the contact made by the clerk in July 2023 but have only just returned to school. The clerk will obtain prices for temporary signs when the children are walking to the outdoor classroom. The Council agreed to wait for a response from the school and to keep the LHP application progressing. The Councillors acknowledged the document submitted by a school governor outlining their concerns and noted the problem of parking and road safety around the school has been and ongoing issue for many years.
120/23	<p>To receive reports from Parish representatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footpaths – Fan Hill is overgrown. Cllrs Chamberlain & Gordon will look at rectifying this. • Village Pond – a working party met in July and a lot of pond weed was removed. Another working party is due shortly. • Recreation Ground – nothing to report • Transport – local buses are well used on the route to Colchester. A bus consultation is out. No changes to the service are likely. • Fingringhoe School – the Kings coronation plaque was gratefully received by the school at the last assembly of the school year.

121/23	<p>Updates about ongoing issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bench on the footpath in Brook Hall Road -Cllr Chamberlain will check the progress on this bench• Coronation plaque – as reported above• John Brunning Walk – deferred next meeting• Wilder Town, Wilder Villages EWT – Cllr Martin and the clerk have a Zoom meeting next week
122/23	<p>Date of the next meeting – TUESDAY 3 OCTOBER 2023 at 7pm at Fingringhoe Village Hall</p>

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.40pm