



FINGRINGHOE PARISH COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING – 5th MARCH 2024

A meeting of the Council took place at Fingringhoe Village Hall, Chapel Road, Fingringhoe, Colchester, Essex
CO5 7BH on 5 March 2024 at 7pm.

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

Also in attendance – and Colchester City Councillor Powling and 4 members of the public.

032/24	Apologies for absence – Cllrs K Bentley, R Davidson, N Gordon and J Martin
033/24	To record declarations of interest – none
034/24	Public Questions - none
035/24	<p>To receive reports from our Essex County and Colchester Borough Councillors – Cllr Powling There may still be a review of the Wards but the council will still keep 51 councillors which might affect Rowhedge and Old Health. The budget has been cut by 25% for some service which will affect Neighbourhood Services and refuse and others. Mike Lilley is the new Mayor for 2024/25.</p> <p>Report from Cllr Bentley –</p> <p>*The petition on 20mph has now been presented to the Cabinet Member and I sent a photograph for inclusion in the next Parish News. This will now go through the process of being formally recorded as part of the process we need to go through and I have alerted officers at the Local Highways Panel. As I mentioned before this is quite a drawn out process due to the legalities that have to go through to change Traffic Regulations Orders but it is now underway.</p> <p>*Fence posts – I have asked these to be removed as requested (Ferry Rd)</p>

	<p>*Flooding – again we continue to have a lot of rain which is causing surface flooding issues. I report them when I hear of them and I know about Hays Lane. If there are others then please let me know, sometimes it's ditching that needs clearing and it can be Highways or private land. In both cases I will pursue it for the village.</p> <p>*Road repairs – we've had some done close to the Nature Reserve with more to do, and others that have been reported to me or online have been or are in the process of being done. Please again let me know of when defects are noticed or indeed reported so I can keep an eye on them.</p>																																				
036/24	To approve minutes of the meeting on 6 February 2024 and any matters arising - the minutes as previously circulated were approved for signing. There were no matters arising.																																				
037/24	<p>To receive planning notification decision</p> <p>232449 Mr & Mrs M THIEL Bluebell Barn, Abberton Road, Fingringhoe Colchester CO5 7AL Change of use of land from agricultural land to amenity land. Erection of detached garage/cart lodge and external balcony to existing converted barn. Decision Type Approve Conditional</p> <p>232614 MR KEELING Floriana, Chapel Road, Fingringhoe Essex CO5 7AU Application to vary condition 2 (drawings) of planning permission 231501 to allow for retention of existing garage within scheme and to re-arrange boarding and brickwork to suit alterations. Boarding added to reduce weight to rear first floor extension. Decision Type: Approve Conditional</p> <p>240111 Mr Will Ketley Picketts Farm, Church Road, Fingringhoe Colchester CO5 7BL Application for prior notification of agricultural or forestry development - proposed new building for vehicle and hay storage Decision Type: Prior Approval Required (Approved)</p>																																				
038/24	<p>FINANCE</p> <p>a) Accounts payable February/March 2024 - the following payments were noted and agreed.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Payment date</th> <th>Payee</th> <th>Purpose</th> <th>Cheque /BACs</th> <th>Amount £</th> <th>VAT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>27.02.24</td> <td>HMRC</td> <td>Clerks PAYE</td> <td>Bacs</td> <td>17.60</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>27.02.24</td> <td>Impact Signs</td> <td>Village sign</td> <td>Bacs</td> <td>186.00</td> <td>31.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>29.02.24</td> <td>P Palfreyman</td> <td>February wages</td> <td>Bacs</td> <td>524.40</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>05.03.24</td> <td>CCC</td> <td>Signage – school & sand works</td> <td>Bacs</td> <td>780.86</td> <td>130.14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>05.03.24</td> <td>Clear Councils</td> <td>Annual insurance</td> <td>Bacs</td> <td>491.72</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Payment date	Payee	Purpose	Cheque /BACs	Amount £	VAT	27.02.24	HMRC	Clerks PAYE	Bacs	17.60		27.02.24	Impact Signs	Village sign	Bacs	186.00	31.00	29.02.24	P Palfreyman	February wages	Bacs	524.40		05.03.24	CCC	Signage – school & sand works	Bacs	780.86	130.14	05.03.24	Clear Councils	Annual insurance	Bacs	491.72	
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	05.03.24	West Mersea Community First Responders	Defibrillator training	Bacs	50.00	
	Total				2050.58	161.14
	<p>b) To review the budget for 2023/24 – noted and agreed</p> <p>c) To note the bank reconciliation to 29 February 2024 – noted and agreed</p> <p>d) To approve the appointment of the Internal Auditor for 2023/24 at a cost of £230.00 - noted and agreed</p> <p>e) To agree the insurance premium for the year commencing 1 April 2024 at a cost of £491.72 – noted and agreed as last year of the 3 year agreement</p> <p>f) To agree to grass cutting/weed killing costs for 2024/25 at a cost of £276 per visit – noted and agreed</p>					
39/24	<p>To consider a request for a donation for the continued production of News & Views – following discussion a donation of £250.00 was agreed. Funds of £449.27 currently held will only cover the next two editions in June and September.</p>					
40/24	<p>Housing Needs Survey</p> <p>a) To review the letter to be sent to residents and the survey, and consider any amendments needed - the council agreed that the template provided by the RCCE was suitable and did not need adapting.</p> <p>b) To confirm the process for the HSN – following discussion the Council agreed to reconsider the process and will arrange for the survey to be completed first, review all sites available and then look at providers. Hastoe Housing Association have agreed to fund the survey as the only housing association interested in managing the accommodation in the village</p> <p>c) To discuss and agree how the data in the HSN can be shared (to note all data is confidential and names and addresses will be redacted before the Parish Council receives the data). Not discussed as not applicable at this stage.</p>					
41/24	<p>Recreation Ground</p> <p>a) To review the two quotes to supply, deliver and install play bark for the play area costing £1040 + vat and £730 + vat – following discussion it was agreed to engage the more expensive quote as there would be more bark which would be deeper.</p> <p>b) To review the quote to repair the car park for £990 + vat for materials and plant to fill the holes with crushed tarmac and compact – the quote was agreed and the clerk will arrange for the carpark and bark to be completed at the same time.</p>					
42/24	<p>To review the quote for refreshing the car park white lines at the village hall at a cost of £595 + vat – agreed and subject to timings with village hall users.</p>					

43/24	To discuss a request from Fingringhoe United Charities to oversee the charity – the Council have been advised that the chairman was standing down and more trustees were needed to keep the charity running. The Council agreed that it was a worthwhile cause and Cllrs Ketley, Chamberlain and Law and Mr D Henderson agreed to become trustees with Cllr Ketley taking the chair. The clerk will inform the charity.
44/24	To receive reports from Parish representatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footpaths – nothing to report • Village Pond -nothing to report • Recreation Ground – nothing to report • Transport – nothing to report • Fingringhoe School – nothing to report
45/24	Updates about ongoing issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defib training – training took place last week and although there was a disappointing take up, it was well received by those who attended • Pond ecology report – the Green Group are looking into this and will keep the Council informed • Ferry Road railings – covered in Cllr Bentleys report • D Day celebrations – the Council may consider lighting the beacon and the clerk will liaise with the Fingringhoe club to extend the event • John Brunning Walk – an update should be provided in April to see if ECC can fund the improvements. The landowners have advised that the fence has been vandalised, large planks of wood are dragged in to walk on when it's muddy and then dumped on his land and bottles and litter dropped. • Signage – school sign, village sand and sand works signs. All signs are now installed
46/24	Date of the next meeting – WEDNESDAY 3rd 2024 at 7pm at Fingringhoe Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.30pm