

4<sup>th</sup> December 2018

**Minutes of the meeting of Fingringhoe Parish Council held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at The Village Hall, Chapel Road, Fingringhoe.**

**PRESENT AT THE MEETING**

In the Chair	Councillor Gerald Ketley
Councillors	Emma Dixon Ian Chamberlain Jonathan Martin
Clerk	Rosemary Harvey

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

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Clarke and Mr Canham.

2 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

3. **OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL**

There were no matters any member of the public present wished to raise.

4. **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

5. **TO RECEIVE REPORTS**

Cllr Bentley confirmed that gritting of highways has started. The village has joined the salt bag scheme and has received a delivery of salt. As many road defects as possible have been repaired. A new faster pot hole filler machine was reported to be available. Details of a pothole in South Green Road and Church Road were reported.

A total of 86 parishes have expressed an interest in joining the highways devolution trial. The scheme is said to favour larger councils as the funding will be calculated on head of population. Cllr Bentley suggested that smaller parishes may wish to combine with neighbours to pool resources and reduce costs. The scheme will not cover potholes but such problems as grass verges and repair of signs. Details of the scheme will be forwarded.

Cllr Bentley will speak with CBC regarding unparished areas.

Vehicles speeding through the village is causing concern and Cllr Bentley was asked to give priority to assisting with the repair of the VAS sign. It is thought the battery is likely to have failed and Cllr Bentley said he would check with his officers whether this is the case and if a scheme is available to purchase the batteries more cost effectively. The parish council need to know the cost of the battery if we are to be asked to make a contribution towards this.

Turning to the problems with salt water flooding of Fingringhoe Road, it was noted that the river wall is now repaired but the area remains an eyesore. The landscape along this approach into the village has been destroyed. The Chairman reported having had a site

meeting with the Environment Agency. It was agreed the council should compose a letter to the garrison commander complaining of the destruction of the ground and lack of action to resolve the problem. The Clerk will draft a letter and Cllr Davidson will forward the contact details for the commander.

ACTION: Clerk

Other highways issues around Colchester were discussed including flooding on Maldon Road near Colchester Zoo and the roadworks in Ipswich Road.

Cllr Davidson reported that the consultation on Essex public libraries is now open and asked as many people as possible to complete the consultation.

A special team of 4 special constables, 3 PCSOs and a police constable are to be tasked with patrolling the town centre in order to reduce crime.

Cllr Davidson requested a copy of the resident's email regarding the proposed telecom tower. He did not believe that the applicants had properly considered other options for siting the tower. No official notification or communication of the appeal for the tower has been seen. The applicants may appeal to the Secretary of State on the grounds the tower is required for essential infrastructure. The parish council will support the meeting with MP Bernard Jenkin on 21<sup>st</sup> December.

6. MINUTES OF MEETING OF 6<sup>th</sup> November 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2018 had been circulated and were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

7. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

a) Training on the defibrillator

The Clerk is finalising a date for the training sessions for the public on the use of the defibrillator and suggested either the 19<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019. The training session is limited to 12 participants and any further training sessions requested will cost £400 each.

c) Update on Pontoon project at Ferry Road

The Clerk has asked Mr Colin South whether he is able to provide a quote for the pontoon and will check with him again. Cllr Davidson will then contact Mr Kerrison once an estimate of the cost involved is known.

d) River wall breach and flooding of Fingringhoe Road

The breach has now been repaired. The Chairman has had a meeting with the Environment Agency on site. A letter is proposed to be sent to the Colchester Garrison Commander and Cllr Davidson will provide the Clerk with the contact details.

e) Barrier on Church Green

The Clerk has contacted the school who have no knowledge of the whereabouts of the locking post. The Chairman will contact Adrian Watson to see whether he is able to supply a suitable post.

f) WW1 Soldier Silhouette

The Clerk confirmed that £60 had been sent to purchase the WW1 silhouette. Cllr Davidson confirmed that the wardens and planning department will not remove the soldiers although they do not have planning permission. It was suggested the soldier be removed in the New Year for safe keeping until next year.

- g) Fly tipping incidents in village  
No fly tipping incidents were reported.
- h) Update on reports of threatening & anti-social behaviour in village  
It was reported that drug dealing may have been taking place on Furneaux Lane.

## 8. PLANNING

Telecom tower at sewage works – this was discussed earlier in the meeting.

182803 Plane Hall Farmhouse, South Green Road – application for a two storey extension to side and rear. There were no objections.

182772 Brambles, Chapel Road – application for a shower room. There were no objections.

## 9. CORRESPONDENCE

### Properties available at Barnfields

English Rural Housing report that they currently have available a one bedroom flat and a two bedroom house. The Clerk said that an advertisement for the properties is on the notice boards and details of the property available at the time of going to print are in News & Views. The letter from one resident who wrote expressing an interest in the property has been passed on to English Rural Housing.

Cllr Davidson requested details of the properties.

ACTION: Clerk

### 2018 Play ground inspection report

The issues identified in the annual safety inspection are;

- a) One of the rockers has broken off the base and is resting on the ground.
- b) Some of the wooden legs need to be checked as they appear to be beginning to rot.
- c) Play bark needs topping up and raking.

The Chairman will ask Adrian Watson whether he is able to replace the wooden sections of the legs. The safety report has been passed to Cllr Clarke.

## 10. ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

### Outstanding highways issues

The issues on the highways schedule were discussed with Cllr Bentley during his report.

## 11. FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

### a) Accounts for payment:

The following accounts were passed for payment and approved.

	£
Kendall Plus (grass cutting 6 <sup>th</sup> November)	248.40
Anglia Inspection Services (play area inspection)	174.00
Mrs R A Harvey (December salary)	204.00
HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE)	51.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 677.40</b>

All the above payments were approved for payment by bank transfer.

12. TO RECEIVE REPORTS

Footpaths

Cllr Martin will make enquiries on progress with the coastal path. There was still concern that the developers in Rowhedge have closed some of the access paths on the John Brunning walk and that the route was not now accessible between the villages. The Clerk was asked to check again with the ECC Rights of Way Officer.

ACTION: Clerk

Village Pond

Cllr Chamberlain has spent 1½ days clearing weed from the pond, and the condition was reported to be improved. Working parties will be organised in the spring in conjunction with the Green Group.

Recreation Ground

This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

Transport Officer

There was nothing to report.

Fingringhoe School

It was reported that a parking enforcement officer attended at the school at 8.45 am one morning but there was criticism that he had not taken any action to improve parking habits.

EWT

There is currently no news of a replacement warden.

13. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION & NOTING

There were no items for the correspondence box since the last meeting.

It was reported that the unit in the telephone box is not working. The Chairman will ask Neil Gordon whether he can carry out the repairs. It may be the case that the solar panel on the roof needs cleaning.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm