

7th July 2015

Minutes of the meeting of Fingringhoe Parish Council held on Tuesday 7th July 2015 at The Village Hall, Chapel Road, Fingringhoe.

PRESENT AT THE MEETING

In the Chair	-	Councillor Gerald Ketley
Councillors		Mike Clarke Emma Dixon Kim Cranfield Viviane Cathmoir Jonathan Martin
Clerk		Rosemary Harvey

There were twelve members of the public and Cllr Davidson present.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Chamberlain, Cllr Bentley and the zone wardens. Cllr Davidson apologised for lateness.

2 ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

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

Members of the public wished to comment on item 8 in the agenda.

4. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were declared.

5. ADDRESS BY CLLR BENTLEY, CLLR DAVIDSON AND ZONE WARDENS

Cllr Davidson reported that planning officers are reviewing sites proposed in relation to the call for sites for housing. A report is being prepared to go out for consultation in the spring once planners have conducted a preliminary review into the suitability of sites. It was noted that village boundaries could be moved as a result of the review.

Details of the sites proposed can be viewed online on the CBC website. The Clerk was asked to invite a planning officer to attend the September meeting to discuss the report.

ACTION: Clerk

The Abberton & Langenhoe Parish Council play area is being dismantled and refurbished in the autumn. If any neighbouring councils are interested in having any of the current equipment they should advise the Council.

Cllr Bentley sent a report stating that he is in communication with Cllr Martin regarding the solar farm appeal.

All road defects are said to have been reported by Cllr Bentley and he is following up the repairs to the white railings.

The Zone Wardens had sent apologies for absence for the meeting but were thanked for dealing with the dumped tyres on the bridleway very efficiently.

6. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 2ND JUNE 2015

The minutes of both meetings were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meetings.

7. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

a) Post Box relocation

The Clerk confirmed that she has spoken with Royal Mail and that the box is being relocated to the verge opposite the Whalebone Public House. A search to locate services in the verge is currently being conducted and it is hoped the post box will be moved in the next 3 weeks.

ACTION: Clerk

b) Refurbishment of the Village Hall Car Park

The quote obtained from Whitnells for the same work as quoted by Promac was for £35,843 plus vat and therefore too expensive. Whitnells were therefore asked to come on site again and advise what work they could complete for the amount of the grants obtained. Whitnells have recommended that they tidy up the back area and kerb it, make the changes to the entrance and lay underlay over the whole area. The work suggested will give the whole Carpark apart from under the sheds a base surface to take 30mm wearing course at a later date. The Clerk will contact Cory to confirm that the project may be amended as suggested.

ACTION: Clerk

c) Fly tipping on the bridleway

The zone wardens have reported that the persons suspected of the domestic waste fly tipping on the bridleway have been interviewed under caution with a view to proceeding with the prosecution against them. A load of tyres has since been dumped in the same location and was speedily dealt with by the wardens. A question was raised whether gates could be placed across the track to prevent dumping of waste but as this is a public bridleway this was not thought feasible.

It was commented that the bridleway has become narrowed in parts after being leveled at the Furneaux Lane end and the Chairman will speak to Mr Dix.

ACTION: Cllr Ketley

8. PLANNINGUpdate on Holmwood Solar Farm appeal

The deadline for submitting written representations to the Planning Inspectorate is 17th July. It is understood that the school is making a representation on the grounds of traffic risks and access to the outdoor classroom. Although all previous submissions will be seen by the Inspector it was advised that it is helpful to restate objections. Cllr Martin has met with Planning Officer Calder, who is responsible for writing the CBC response is assisting with writing the rebuttal. Additional grounds for objection cannot be raised at this time. The Planning Inspectorate website was said to be difficult to use and not intuitive.

After 31st July the Inspector is likely to make a site visit. There will be no advance notice of this visit and it is not a public meeting. The CBC planning officer would also like to make a site visit.

It was noted that the capacity of the proposed site has increased from 19 megawatts to 22 megawatts. Either higher specification panels will be required or a denser array. An 8 hectare strip has been left on the site for overwintering birds. The cabling route is still unclear but there are several options and as this is permitted development planning permission is not required.

It was agreed that Cllr Martin will prepare a submission from the Parish Council for approval by councillors by the end of the week.

ACTION: Cllr Martin/Clerk

Replacement Waste Local Plan

It was noted that sites W12 Ballast Quay and L1(15) Fingringhoe are not currently selected as sites but it was recommended during discussion that to guard against the possibility of them being reselected that a response should be made.

The Clerk was asked to restate the views of previous objections and this proposal was carried by a majority with one abstention.

ACTION: Clerk

151138- The Spinney, Haye Lane

There were no objections to the application for demolition of an existing extension and replacement with a larger extension.

151192 – The Victory, Ferry Road

A second retrospective planning application in relation to various outbuildings on site. The Clerk was asked to make a similar comment to previous applications on this site that no residential occupancy should be permitted in the outbuildings.

150779 – Ballast Quay Road

Application for demolition of three agricultural buildings and replacement with one building with no change of use. Objections have been made that the new building is a much larger construction than the buildings being replaced and concerns at the potential increase in traffic to the site.

- Holly Trees, Church Road

It was commented that the proposed extension was too large in view of the size of the site and represented overdevelopment. The highway is narrow and will not allow for street parking and the parking spaces provided on site were not felt sufficient. Cllr Davidson offered to call in this application.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence had been received.

10. ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

Repairs to access road to EWT site

A further report from Cllr Bentley is awaited.

Traffic Calming and Speed Management

It was reported that there will be a speed watch around Colchester on Friday.

Potholes, resurfacing and repairs

It was reported that the finger direction post at the top of Haye Lane is missing lettering on one arm. A speed sign has also been turned into the hedge.

ACTION: Clerk

Repairs to white railings

Cllr Bentley is continuing to request the repair.

11. FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

a) Accounts for payment:

The following accounts were passed for payment and approved.

	£
Kendall Commercial Services Ltd (grass cut 26 th May)	239.52
Kendall Commercial Services Ltd (grass cut 18 th June)	239.52
Rural Community Council of Essex (subscription)	66.00
Fingringhoe Village Hall (donation for upkeep & use of cupboard)	250.00
St Andrews Church (upkeep of churchyard)	250.00
Mr F Spratt (Litter clearing)	150.00
Mrs R Harvey (July Salary)	200.00
HMRC (PAYE)	50.00
Total	£ 1,445.04

The cheques were approved and signed. The Clerk's salary and amounts to Kendall Contract Services and HMRC were approved for payment by bank transfer.

12. TO RECEIVE REPORTS

a) Footpaths

Vegetation along the bridleway behind the former post office has been cut back but thick stalks have been left so that there is only a narrow track which can be walked on. Cllr Dixon will request that the path be leveled out after the harvest.

ACTION: Cllr Dixon

b) Village Pond

A further clear out of weed will be required from the pond in the near future.

c) Recreation Ground

The grounds were reported to be in good order. The pre-school left some large metal stakes in the ground which were used to anchor the bouncy castle at the fete. Cllr Clarke has advised them of this and asked that they be more careful in future to avoid potentially damaging the grass cutting equipment.

d) Transport

There was nothing to report.

e) Fingringhoe School

There was nothing to report. Mrs Martin will attend the September meeting to give an update on progress at the school.

f) EWT

The extension to the site was reported to be ahead of schedule.

13. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION & NOTING

A list of general correspondence and circulars received was circulated. The correspondence box will be circulated around the councillors to read the contents.

Mr Newton confirmed that the village fete is being held on Saturday 29th August. Sheena Taylor is organizing helpers for the event. There was interest expressed in another scarecrow display.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting and AGM will be held on Tuesday 1st September 2015 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm