

**Minutes of a Meeting of Earls Colne Parish Council held in the Council Chamber  
On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2011**

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**PRESENT:**

Councillors Mrs. M. Barrett, Mr. J. Bendall (Chairman), Mr. R. Curtis, Mrs. R. Hall, Mr. C. Hazell, Mr. K. Shipp, Mr. I. Sparks and Mr. R. van Dulken (present for part of the meeting)

Mrs. P. Herbert was present in her capacity as Clerk, together with Cllr. C. Siddall, Cllr. G. Spray and four members of the public.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. D. Howorth, Cllr. F. Williams and Cllr. J. Pike

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

**3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

Four applicants for the casual vacancy on the Parish Council introduced themselves and spoke briefly on why they would like to become a parish councillor.

**4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:**

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2011 were approved and signed.

**5. CLERK'S REPORT**

a) **Broadband Implementation Conference:** Cllrs. Barrett and Shipp agreed to attend this conference at Coggeshall Village Hall on 18<sup>th</sup> July.

**6. PLANNING**

a) **Decisions reached:** Members noted the following decisions reached:

*11/00322/FUL – Retrospective change of use of land for the siting of a mobile home  
Supervise the horticultural business at Olivers Plants – Broomfield Farm Nurseries,  
Coggeshall Road* Refused

*11/00080/TPOCON – Fell one holly and one sycamore tree – 35-37 Park Lane* Granted

*11/00304/FUL – Conversion of existing garage to bedroom and ensuite including  
New link to main dwelling and erection of new double garage – 91 High Street* Granted

b) **Current applications:** Cllr. Bendall reported on the following planning applications:

*11/00670/FUL – Erection of an extension to form an annexe – Gardeners, Station Road*

Members had no objections to this application.

*11/00675/LBC – New front door – Nightingale Cottage, Nightingale Hall Road*

Members had no objections to this application.

Cllr. Curtis reported on the following tree applications:

***11/00116/TPOCON – Remove one conifer and reduce one conifer – 35 Upper Holt Street***

It was agreed that a decision on this application should be delegated to the tree warden.

***11/00132/TPO – Remove overhanging branches of one oak tree – 13 Church Hill***

Members objected to this application on the grounds that the oak tree was a large, mature specimen which was in a prominent position in Church Hill. Any reduction in the size of the tree would detract from the street scene.

c) **Meeting with Colne Valley Golf Club:** Members noted that Cllrs. Bendall and Curtis would attend a meeting at the Golf Club on 27<sup>th</sup> June to hear the Golf Club's proposals for a new starter course in Station Road.

d) **Land at Station Road:** The Clerk advised that the agent acting for the landowner of a site in Station Road had requested a meeting to discuss proposals for a development scheme and open space. It was agreed that this meeting could take place at 7 p.m. on 6<sup>th</sup> July.

**7. MEMBERS' REPORTS:**

a) **BALC AGM:** Cllr. Bendall reported on this meeting which he had attended on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. He advised that Cllr. Jo Beavis had reported on her role as Cabinet Member for Local Communities and had offered to talk to parish councils about her role. It was agreed that Cllr. Beavis should be invited to attend a future Parish Council Meeting.

**8. ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL:**

a) **Parish Paths Partnership:** The Clerk advised that Essex County Council had decided that they could cut the footpaths at a cheaper rate and had taken the work back. The Clerk had advised the contractor accordingly.

Cllr. van Dulken arrived at this point in the meeting.

**9. BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL:**

a) **Public Car Park and Toilets:** Notes of a meeting with Paul Partridge had been distributed to members and firm proposals from the District Council were awaited.

**10. DIAMOND JUBILEE/VILLAGE HALL CENTENARY**

The first meeting of the Working Group was still to be arranged.

**11. EALC:**

a) **Parish Council Training Course:** Members were reminded that a training course for all members had been booked to take place on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October in the Council Chamber.

b) **EALC AGM/Making the Links Conference:** Members were advised that these events would take place on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at Great Dunmow, commencing at 1.30 p.m. It was agreed that this item should be placed on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.

c) **Competitions:** It was agreed that the Parish Council should enter the following competitions:

- Communications Award
- Website Award
- Localism in Action

- Community Engagement Award

It was agreed that the Chairman should be nominated to receive an invitation to the Annual Buckingham Palace Garden Party.

**12. GREENFIELDS COMMUNITY HOUSING:**

- a) **Meeting with Chairman of Halstead Area Form:** Members considered a proposal from Greenfields to run their Christmas event in conjunction with the Village Carol Service and it was agreed that a meeting of the Christmas Committee should be called on 14<sup>th</sup> July to discuss this.
- b) **Area Estate Inspections:** Members were encouraged to accompany the Neighbourhood Co-ordinator on her estate inspections.

**13. VILLAGE HALL**

There was nothing to report.

**14. FINANCE:**

- a) **Payment of Accounts:** For schedule of payments see Appendix 1

**IN COMMITTEE**

**15. PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY – CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBER**

Members considered four applications received for this vacancy and it was agreed that Paul Harrington should be co-opted to the Parish Council.

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CHAIRMAN