

Minutes of Meeting of Earls Colne Parish Council
held in the Council Chamber on Wednesday 17th April 2019

PRESENT: Cllrs. Mrs. M. Barrett, Mr. J. Bendall, Mr. T. Calton, Mr. R. Curtis, Mrs. J. Meleschko, Mrs. J. Parish, Mr. I. Sparks, Mr. H. Street and Mrs. N. Spelling.

Mrs. A. Emerson was present in her capacity as Clerk, together with District Cllr. G. Spray.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllrs. Mr. I. Morton-Smith, Mr. P. Clarry, District Cllr. C. Siddall and County Cllr. J. Beavis
Cllr. J. Bendall reminded members that nominations would be received at the next meeting for Chairman and Vice Chairman.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Interests were noted in respect of agenda item 12: Cllrs. J. Meleschko, N. Spelling and M. Barrett re the Women’s Institute; Cllr. R. Curtis re the Allotment Association.
3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION WITH RESPECT TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA:** Cllr. J. Bendall invited Cllr. G. Spray to comment during the meeting as appropriate.
4. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETING:** The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 20th March 2019 were approved and signed as a true record.
5. **CLERK’S REPORT:** Report provided.
 - Cllrs. M. Barrett and R. Curtis to review allotment documentation for Newhouse Road.
 - Cllr. N. Spelling to prepare community asset form for the Library building.
 - Members to provide suggestions for Community Initiatives Fund in advance of next Parish Council Meeting.
6. **PLANNING:**
 - a) Decisions reached by Braintree District Council as follows:-

Application No.	Description	Location	Decision
19/00463/DAC	Application for approval of details reserved by condition 6 of approval 18/00871/FUL – Conversion of existing barn dwelling to 2 x 3 bedroom dwellings and porch extensions and creation of 1 x 4 bedroom detached dwelling	The Farm, Colne Green Farm, Halstead Road	Application Permitted
19/00200/HH	Erection of a single storey side extension to west flank elevation of dwelling	6 Oxford Court	Application Permitted
19/00023/TPOCON	Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area – Beech (between house and Queens Rd) reduce height by up to one third due to close proximity to house, Eucalyptus (at rear of house, by back door) – thin out branches by one half to maintain current height and shape	21 Queens Road	Application Permitted
19/00020/TPOCON	Notice of intent to carry out works to tree in a Conservation Are – cut the branches from 1 Holm Oak away from building to leave 8 feet away	The Grange, 46 Park Lane	Application Permitted

18/02115/OUT	Construction of a single storey dwelling	Pudsies Paddock, Station Road	Application Refused
18/02033/FUL	Construction of single storey extension to rear of existing building	Gatehouse Farm, Coggeshall Road	Application Permitted

b) Current Applications were reviewed by the Parish Council as follows:-

- Tree related applications – Richard Curtis

Application No.	Description	Location	Decision
19/00082/TPO	Notice of intent to carry out works to trees protected by TPO 64/00	Land Monks Road	No objection
19/00076/TPOCON	Notice of intent to carry out works to tree in a conservation area	3 Squires Court, High Street	No objection

- Other applications – John Bendall

Application No.	Description	Location	Decision
19/00535/HH	Proposed detached garage/cart lodge with games room above and external staircase	Shepherd and Holly House, Newhouse Road	No objection
19/00478/HH	Double storey extension to side / single storey extension to rear of existing building	42 Hillie Bunnies	No objection
19/00534/COUPA	Notification for a prior approval for a proposed change of use of agricultural building to a dwelling house (class C3)	Becklands Farm, America Road	Information Only
19/00433/FUL	Change of use of land to site 9 holiday lodge caravans and associated hard and soft landscaping	The Essex Golf & Country Club, the Airfield	No objection

- Application reviewed at March meeting, which required further investigation

Application No.	Description	Location	Decision
19/00316/HH	Demolition of an existing car port, garage and link building and the erection of a new two storey extension and detached car port	37 Coggeshall Road	Objection on basis of external staircase, location of car port and overbearing nature of extension

c) Cllr. G. Spray noted that 18/00371/REM re Land North East of Station Road, would be heard at the Planning Committee on Tuesday 23rd April.

7. **MEMBER'S REPORTS:**

a) Coffee with Cops – Thursday 4th April

Cllr. I. Sparks reported on recent event held at Whoop Tea Do. Feedback from residents related to parking issues around the village.

b) Annual Tree Survey

Cllr. R. Curtis provided an overview of the areas highlighted in the recent tree survey conducted by Richard Fordham. Clerk to source quotes for remedial work. Clerk to identify who owns the Sycamore tree at the back of the Store in the Car Park, which is in need of attention.

8. **ELECTIONS 2ND MAY:** Advert for two vacancies will be posted on Monday 6th May. Closing date for applications will be Monday 13th May at noon.

9. **RECREATION PLAY AREA FENCING:** Members reviewed the quotations for the Recreation Play Area fencing. Members agreed to engage Tarmec & Croft to complete the work, but felt that further discussion was required on the details of that work. Agreement reached that \$106 monies held at Braintree District Council should be used to finance the fencing. Cllrs. I. Sparks and J. Parish to confirm details with Tarmec & Croft and obtain revised quote.

10. **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN:** Cllr. T. Calton provided a status update on Neighbourhood Plan activities. Cllr. J. Meleschko discussed work completed to date on a cycling strategy and it was agreed that the next stage was to discuss with landowners.

11. **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING:** Members reviewed the draft agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting. It was agreed that we should ask the school and surgery to provide an update at the meeting on their plans for the coming year.

12. **CENTENARY AWARD:**

The following awards were agreed by councillors:-

Earls Colne Twinning Association – £200

Friends of Earls Colne Churchyards – £200

1st Earls Colne Scout Group – £500

Earls Colne Recreation Club – £300

Earls Colne Friendship Club – £100

Ashwells Amenity Pleasure Ground Trust – £300

Earls Colne Allotment Association – £200

The application made by the Women's Institute was put on hold whilst members investigate the purchase of a new projector for the village hall.

Members agreed that in future, applicants should be asked to request a specific amount and that a word limit of 100 words be applied to the award.

13. **INSTALLATION OF SUB METERS:** Members were updated on the application process for sub meters. Clerk to obtain three quotes for installation.

14. **COMMUNITY WORKER:** No matters reported.

15. **ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS:**

a) Division Cluster Meeting: Cllr. I. Sparks reported on the recent meeting. The matter of Community Specials was discussed and it is likely the costs are in the region of £1,000 per year. Currently two of the specials working at Braintree are from Earls Colne. Cllr. Sparks advised that he has followed up on whether they would be interested in working in the village.

16. **BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS:** No matters reported.

17. **CAR PARK AND PUBLIC CONVENIENCES:** No matters reported.

18. **VILLAGE HALL:**

a) Projector & Screen: Members discussed the possibility of purchasing a projector and screen for use in the Village Hall. Cllrs. I. Sparks and N. Spelling to investigate feasibility of running a pilot scheme.

b) Bar Service: Members agreed that Amerio's Bar be appointed as our bar service at the Village Hall.

19. **HEALTH & SAFETY:** No matters reported.

20. **FINANCE:**

a) Members approved the payment of invoices for April.

Meeting closed at 9.35 pm

Chairman

Date