

**Minutes of Meeting of Earls Colne Parish Council held in the Council Chamber
on Wednesday 17th January 2018**

PRESENT: Cllrs: Mrs. M. Barrett, Mr. J. Bendall, Mr. R. Curtis, Mr. P. Clarry, Mr. I. Morton-Smith, Mr. I. Sparks and Mr. F. Williams.

Mrs. V. Holmes and Mrs. A. Emerson were present in their capacities as Clerks together with District Cllrs. Gabrielle Spray and Chris Siddall.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllrs. Mrs. G. McCubbine, Mr. H. Street and Mrs. J. Parish.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION:

One member of the public in attendance who reported faulty street lights in Station Road and Coggeshall Road, and a problem with a blocked drain on Station Road. Resident advised to contact Clerk with details of street lights to ensure these are logged with Highways. Clerk to contact Essex County Council re drainage issue.

District Cllrs. Siddall and Spray were invited to respond as matters arose.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS: The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20th December 2017 were approved and signed as a true record.

5. CASUAL VACANCY: Members noted there were 2 candidates for the Casual Vacancy. Candidates have been invited to make a short presentation at the next Parish Council Meeting and a decision will then be reached on whom to appoint.

6. CLERK'S REPORT:

- a) The Clerk reported on correspondence received from a resident concerned about dog fouling in Queens Road. The Dog Warden has confirmed fouling signage will be installed in Queens Road and a site survey conducted to determine if a bin should be installed.
- b) Several residents have raised concerns re street lighting this week. Concerns raised to Cllr. Beavis that faults are not being resolved on a timely basis. Cllr. Beavis has raised this matter with the Members Inquiries Team for investigation and noted that issues with the on-line report have also been logged.
- c) Correspondence has been received from Mrs. J. Meleschko (WI) requesting permission to plant two fruit trees on the green next to the Baptist Church and two fruit trees on the green opposite. Mrs. Meleschko to be invited to attend the next meeting to discuss this proposal and in the interim, impact on the Community Worker's duties to be assessed.

7. PLANNING:

a) **Decisions reached:** None

b) **Current applications:**

Cllr. Curtis reported on the following tree applications:

17/00411/TPO Notice of intent to carry out works to tree protected by Tree Preservation Order - T5 (T2) - Oak – Fell – 5 Monks Road – objection to T5 due to age of Oak, objection to T4 due to elm tree significance, no objection to T3

17/00410/TPOCON Notice of intent to carry out works to tree in a Conservation Area - Poplar (T1 & 2), fell due to rot and providing no value, reseed with grass as adjacent area is grass – 30 Upper Holt Street – objection as tree is not diseased.

18/00001/TPO Sycamore (T1) - reduce the entire crown back to previous pruning points (approximately 3 metres) due to excessive shading on house and front garden – 22 Joselin Close – no objections.

Cllr. Clarry reported on the following planning applications:

- 17/02158/FUL Proposed internal alterations and cart lodge – Colne Green Farm, Halstead Road - objection to south elevation mezzanine and glazing
 - 17/00248/FUL Minor alterations to 16/01999/FUL – 6 Oxford Court – no objections
 - 17/02189/FUL Conversion of farm outbuilding and erection of timber structure for B1 commercial use – Gatehouse Farm, Coggeshall Rd – no objections with note that current 40 speed limit should be extended to encompass this section of Coggeshall Rd
 - 17/02211/FUL & 17/02212/LBC – Proposed ramp and stepped access – The Lion PH, High Street – no objections
 - 17/02276/FUL & 17/02277/LBC – Extension to outbuilding and change of use to new teaching area for Pub Group – The Lion PH, High Street – no objections with caveat that outbuilding should not be used for residential purposes
- c) Land North West of Station Road – The Chairman reported that a letter had been sent to Braintree District Council Planning Officers to make it clear that the Parish Council would object to any development on this site and that Tim Havers from Planning at Braintree had informed Gladman of the need to include the Parish Council in future discussions on their plans. Once planning has been submitted, Parish Council representatives will meet with Planning to discuss the details of the application.
- d) Land North East of Station Road – The Chairman noted that work had commenced on site. Public Exhibition to be held on 6th February. Intention to attend monthly meetings with CALA Homes throughout the course of the development.
- e) Cllr. Gabrielle Spray provided an update on current applications in the village.
- Discharge of Conditions Application received for Monks Road. Once confirmed, development will commence.
 - Land North East of Station Road – detailed plan anticipated in March, once feedback from Public Exhibition considered
 - Land South of Halstead Road – no progress.
 - Local Plan Review – due to run for six days. Current focus on Section One Garden Communities with plan to review Section Two which covers policies that apply to Braintree Council, in spring. Approval of plan targeted for autumn, although Section One may be decided upon first.
 - Received email from resident re state of pavements and number of pot holes in Tey Road which will be followed up with Cllr. Beavis. Request that Parish Council escalate through Cllr. Beavis too.

8. MEMBERS' REPORTS: No matters to report.

9. ALLOTMENTS NEWHOUSE ROAD: Members agreed to reduce annual rent for the allotments at Newhouse Road to £300 for foreseeable future. Clerk to confirm in writing.

10. COMMITTEES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: Cllr. I. Sparks provided an overview on proposal for roles and responsibilities. Cllrs. I. Sparks, M. Barratt, I. Morton-Smith and P. Clarry to form a sub group to further discuss the process for inspections and the key areas of responsibilities. Clerk to update current list of responsibilities with Council members' preferences. Item will be added to agenda for next Parish Council meeting.

11. CENTENARY AWARD: Members approved the advertising of the 2018 centenary award.

12. VILLAGE CAROL SERVICE AND OPEN SHOPPING EVENING: The Chairman noted that the WI requested that we review advertising of the event for the next year.

13. COMMUNITY WORKER: The Chairman noted that an advert has been posted for a part time community worker with a closing date of 16th February. One application received to date.

14. ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS: The Chairman will attend the Braintree District Highways Panel meeting on the 18th January and report to members at the February meeting.

15. CAR PARK & PUBLIC CONVENIENCES: Members noted that plumbing work has been completed in the Public Conveniences.

16. BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL: No matters to report.

17. VILLAGE HALL: No matters to report.

18. HEALTH & SAFETY: No matters to report.

19. FINANCE:

a) Payment of Invoices: Schedule of payments approved by members.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

Date

Chairman