

**Minutes of Meeting of Earls Colne Parish Council**  
**held in the Council Chamber on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs. Mr. J. Bendall, Mr. T. Calton, Mr. R. Curtis, Mrs. J. Meleschko, Mrs. J. Parish, Mr. I. Sparks, Mr. M. Tracey and Mr. N. McKean (co-option); District Cllr. G. Courtauld; Mrs. A. Emerson (Clerk).

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllrs. Mrs. M. Barrett, Mrs. N. Spelling and Mr. H. Street; District Cllr G. Spray; County Cllr. J. Beavis
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr. R. Curtis expressed an interest in 20/00039/TPOCON, agenda item 7b
3. **CO OPTION OF CASUAL VACANCY:** Members agreed unanimously to co-opt Nik McKean to the Council. Acceptance of Office form completed.
4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION WITH RESPECT TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA:**
  - Two residents attended re agenda items 7b – 20/00030/TPOCON and 20/00116/HH.
5. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETING:** The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020 were approved and signed as a true record.
6. **CLERK'S REPORT:** Report provided, detailing status of previous resolutions.
  - Clerk provided an update on the Church Clock, Operation Varsity, Amerio's Bar, insurance claims relating to the village roof, damaged lighting column and the railings at the Shrubbery, Legionella checks, the Fire Risk Assessment, recent instances of graffiti around the village, the MUGA, plans for the Essex Bus Shelter project, a new Parking Partnership Surgery and upcoming work on the Ash tree at the Shrubbery.
  - Members discussed request from Farleigh Hospice to allow them to park their information vehicle in the village and agreed that this could be trialled outside the Village Hall assuming the vehicle did not overlap on the emergency exits. Members noted that this was not the hospice used locally and did not feel that it would be appropriate to use bays outside the Co-op given current parking constraints within the village. This arrangement will be reviewed periodically.
  - Members agreed that the matter of unparished areas should be raised to EALC for consideration for this year's NALC Lobby Day to be held in Parliament on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020.
  - A resident has asked what views the Parish Council have expressed in relation to the incinerator at Rivenhall. This matter has not been discussed by the Parish Council previously. District Cllr G. Courtauld advised that it had been debated at Braintree District on Monday evening at Full Council where members confirmed that they are not in support of the initiative. The Incinerator has planning permission and support of the Environmental Agency.
  - A resident has asked what steps the Parish Council are taking to support/encourage the take-up of electric powered vehicles. Members summarised activities taken by the council on electric vehicles and instructed the Clerk to respond.
  - Members were in favour of attending a presentation on Gateway to Homechoice and prevention of homelessness. Clerk to make arrangements for suitable date/time.
  - The Clerk updated members on feedback from BDC re the Open Spaces Plan: Tey Road footway extension considered to be a Highways matter, the statement re access to the centre of the village from residential areas was too vague and needs to be made more

specific and the De Vere garage improvements do not fall under the definition of Open Space. Members also agreed that once the Energy Efficiency Report is received for the Village Hall, a business plan should be created and discussed with BDC to identify if improvements to the village hall could be funded in part via S106 in the future.

## 7. PLANNING:

a) Decisions reached by Braintree District Council as follows: -

Application No.	Location	Description	BDC Decision Minutes
19/01112/DAC	Land West of Station Road	Application for approval of details reserved by condition 5 of approved application 18/00121/OUT	Application Permitted
19/02127/HH	54 Coggeshall Road	Two-storey side/rear extension, provision of balcony to rear of existing house, alterations to fenestration and alterations to the driveway entrance with new gate, walls and brick piers.	Application Permitted
19/02108/DAC	The Essex Golf & Country Club The Airfield	Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 5, 6, 7 of approved application 19/00433/FUL	Application Permitted
19/02060/NMA	The Essex Golf And Leisure Club The Airfield	Non-Material Amendment to permission 19/00433/FUL granted 08/07/2019 for: Change of use of land to site 9 no. holiday lodge caravans and associated hard and soft landscaping. Amendment would allow: - The provision of a variety of lodge types.	Application Permitted
19/02094/DAC	Land Adjacent To Keepers Cottage Station Road	Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 3, 4, 5 and 9 of approval 19/01044/FUL	Application Permitted
19/02081/HH	Bamboozle Bungalow 7 Coggeshall Road	Part single, part two-storey rear extension	Application Permitted
19/00329/TPO & 19/00321/TPOCON	13 Coggeshall Road	Notice of intent to carry out works to 2 trees in a conservation area and 4 trees protected by Tree Preservation Order 19/00 - T1-T4 Limes	Part Granted, part refused
19/02293/NMA	Land West Of Station Road	Non-Material Amendment to permission 19/00802/REM. Amendment to allow: re-positioning of garage door, fencing alignment, footpath alignment, change in the access and gate to the attenuation basin and revised layout to pick up technical changes to the attenuation basin.	Application Permitted
19/00324/TPO	23 Coggeshall Road	Notice of intent to carry out works to tree protected by Tree Preservation Order 3/8	Application Permitted
19/02218/FUL	The Cart Lodge, Peartree Hall, Coggeshall Road	Erection of an agricultural building	Application Permitted

Application No.	Location	Description	BDC Decision Minutes
19/02154/FUL	Land Adjacent Earls Colne Recreation Ground, Halstead Road	Provision of Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) with associated fencing, floodlights and access pathway	Application Permitted

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

- Tree related applications – Richard Curtis

Application No.	Location	Description	Application No.
20/00029/TPOCON	96 High Street	Notice of intent to carry out works to tree in a Conservation Area	No objection
20/00028/TPOCON	Village Green Church Hill	Notice of intent to carry out works to tree in a Conservation Area	No objection
20/00025/TPO	Willow Tree Way	Notice of intent to carry out works to trees protected by Tree Preservation Order 17/90, 35/00	No objection
20/00030/TPOCON	9 Foundry Lane	Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area	No objection
20/00039/TPOCON	6 Halstead Road	Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area	No objection

- Other applications – Richard Curtis

Application No.	Location	Description	Parish Council Decision
20/00122/DAC	Land Rear Of Tey Road	Application for approval of details reserved by condition 15 & 16 of approval 18/00214/OUT	Information Only
20/00061/HH	37 Coggeshall Road	Demolition of an existing car port, garage and link building and the erection of a new two storey extension and detached car port.	Objections on basis of over development, location of garage, street scene. Caveat re use as holiday let.
20/00040/FUL	Colne Priory Upper Holt Street	Extension to historic driveway and associated relocation of manege.	No objection
20/00116/HH	9 Foundry Lane	Erection of a part single, part two-storey side and rear extension and alterations to boundary wall to create new parking area.	No objection
20/00192/HH & 20/00193/LBC	41 Tey Road	Demolition and removal of existing modern single-storey additions, and detached garage; and the erection of part single-storey, part two-storey rear extensions, and the erection of a replacement detached single-storey garage; together with internal and external works.	No objection

c) Transfer of Open Space – CALA Homes

Members reviewed the correspondence relating to the Transfer of Open Space and it was agreed that a site visit should be arranged to conclude open matters including the identification of the boundaries with neighbouring land owners.

d) Highways Consultation Report re Hydewell, Halstead Road

Members agreed that a letter should be sent to the Planning Department at BDC stating that the issues that have been raised by the Parish Council re this application have not been addressed by Highways. Cllr. Bendall to draft letter with Cllrs. Sparks and Street.

8. **MEMBERS REPORT:**

a) Cycle Path

Cllr. Meleschko provided an update on the proposed cycle way from Earls Colne to Marks Hall and onto Coggeshall. A Cycleway Project Group has been formed, with representation from Coggeshall Neighbourhood Plan Infrastructure Group, Sustrans, Braintree District Council, and Marks Hall. Cllrs. Meleschko and Parish will represent the Parish Council on the group. A feasibility study is being conducted by Sustrans. Marks Hall has applied for a grant from the Rural Development Programme, part of which relates to the cycle path with work planned to commence in June.

9. **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE:** Cllr. Calton provided an update on the Neighbourhood Plan project. Members were advised that the funding application for the 2 parking surveys was rejected and it was agreed that a Number Plate Recognition survey be funded by the Parish Council out of General Reserves with an anticipated cost of £2,000. Clerk to submit a FoI request to Braintree District Council to obtain data on how many homes have been planned and/or approved for the Service Villages in the plan period.

10. **VE DAY:** Cllr. Sparks confirmed that a meeting was scheduled with the Recreation Club and requested that the matter be added to next month's agenda.

11. **ANNUAL REPORT:** Members reviewed the proposed format of the Annual Report. Feedback to be sent to the Clerk in advance of the next Meeting so that it can be incorporated into the final version for approval at the March meeting. Clerk to ensure absent councillors receive copy of report.

12. **UPDATE ON COMMUNITY ORCHARD AND INCREDIBLE EDIBLES:** Cllr. J. Meleschko provided an update on additional planting on Brick Meadows, which now takes the total number of fruit and nut trees planted by the WI to 66 in the village. Members were updated on plans for Incredible Edibles which is now up and running. Members agreed that existing planters could be repurposed for Incredible Edibles and located at the junction of Burrows Road/High Street and Massingham Drive/High Street.

13. **CENTENARY AWARD 2020-21:** Members reviewed the Terms and Conditions for this year's award. It was agreed that an additional condition be added to state that awards cannot be provided where expenses have already been incurred and paid out by the organisation.

14. **HIGHWAYS DEVOLUTION:** Members reviewed report on Highways Devolution Pilot project tasks. No matters were raised.

15. **FINANCE:**

a) Payment of Invoices – Members reviewed the list of payments for February 2020 and a summary of budget overspends and approved all expenditure. Members noted that the Bank Reconciliation for January will be completed by Cllr. Tracey and reported on at the next meeting.

b) Members agreed to fund general Village Hall roof repairs of £560 + VAT from the Earmarked Reserve.

- c) Members reviewed the Village Hall Arrears for Zumba and agreed to the proposed payment plan. Clerk to advise hirer that should payment plan not be adhered to, legal action will be taken via the Small Claims Court.

Meeting closed at 22.16 pm

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Chairman

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Date