

Minutes of Meeting of Earls Colne Parish Council
held in the Council Chamber on Wednesday 20th March 2019

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

Mrs. A. Emerson was present in her capacity as Clerk, together with District Cllrs. C. Siddall and G. Spray

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllrs. Mr. I. Morton-Smith, Mr. P. Clarry, Mr. R. Curtis, Mrs. J. Parish, County Cllr. Jo. Beavis
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** none declared
3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION WITH RESPECT TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA:**
 - A resident attended the meeting to observe proceedings.
 - Two residents attended the meeting for agenda item 6b) 19/00293/FUL
 - Two residents attended the meeting re work undertaken on CALA homes site (Land North East of Station Road) over the past couple of weeks. Residents had not been informed of plans to carry out the work and concern was registered over extent of the land clearance.
4. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETING:** The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 20th February 2019 were approved and signed as a true record.
5. **CLERK'S REPORT:** Report provided.
 - Clerk clarified the matter of pecuniary interest and casting vote in relation to the discussion last month re carry over of Centenary Award. Members agreed that 12 month rule applies to awards without exception.
6. **PLANNING:**
 - a) Decisions reached by Braintree District Council as follows:-

Application No.	Description	Location	Decision
18/02310/DAC	Application for approval of details reserved by condition 19 of approval 16/01475/FUL – Residential development of 50 new homes with highways access from Monks Road, public open space, SUDs, associated hard and soft landscaping and infrastructure	Land East of Monks Road	Application Permitted
18/02301/COUPA	Prior approval for change of use of an agricultural building to residential unit	Becklands Farm, America Road	Planning Permission Required

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

- Tree related applications – John Bendall

Application No.	Description	Location	Decision
19/00067/TPO	Notice of intent to carry out works to trees protected by TPO 42/00	Claystones, The Croft	No objection

- Other applications – Hugh Street

Application No.	Description	Location	Decision
19/00436/HH	Construction of single storey garage/workshop/cart lodge to replace existing garage	Moonraker, Coggeshall Road	No objection but Parish Council would not like to see this used for residential purposes
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	No comment
19/00394/PLD	Application for Lawful Development Certificate for a Proposed Use or Development – Proposed Loft Conversion	1 Oxford Court	No comment
19/00353/HH	Erection of single storey side and rear extension	33 Queens Road	No objection
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	To be reviewed in further detail outside of this meeting
19/00317/HH	Erection of single storey rear extension and associated alterations	Eden House, 12 Upper Holt Street	No objection, but Parish Council sympathetic to objection raised by neighbour
19/00306/FUL	Construction of Goods in Transit Shed	Broomfield Park, Coggeshall Road	No objection
19/00349/DAC	Application for approval of details reserved by condition 3 of approved application 18/00871/FUL	The Barn, Colne Green Farm, Halstead Road	No comment
19/00293/FUL	Erection of detached dwelling within the ground of Meadow Croft – Revised Scheme	Land Adjacent Meadow Croft, Station Road	No objection

c) Land Rear of Tey Road – Planning Committee Meeting – 26th February 2019

Cllr. Sparks provided a summary of events at the Planning Committee for Tey Road. There was disappointment that the Planning Committee did not refuse the application on highway grounds. Members felt that the committee should have allowed it to go to appeal instead of pre-empting the decision. Cllr. Bendall noted that hearing is an issue at these meetings and Cllr. Spray advised that this is in hand.

d) Planning Committee – 26th March 2019 – Land North East of Station Road

Cllr. Spray advised that reserved matters for the Cala site will be reviewed at the next Planning Committee. The Planning Officer has recommended that is refused based on the housing mix and design of affordable housing.

7. **MEMBER'S REPORTS:**

- a) Christmas High Street and Carol Service Meeting – Cllr. Bendall provided an update on recent discussions re the village open evening and carol service. This year's event will be on Friday 6th December with the carol service and refreshments being held at the Baptist Church.
- b) Recreation Club MUGA Meeting – Members were provided with minutes of the meeting held on 12th March

8. **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN:**

a) Update on Village Initiative

Cllr. Calton provided an update on status. We have received approval from BDC on the area that our Neighbourhood Plan will cover. Further meetings have been held by the Steering Group and by the Task Groups. Our housing lead has stepped down from the role and there will be a meeting next week to identify a replacement lead. A short questionnaire has been created and this will be delivered along with the Annual Report this year. We are meeting with students at Ramsey school on Monday and waiting for a date for Honeywood. Hire of projector/screen was discussed and it was agreed that the viability of purchasing the equipment be reviewed and added to the agenda for next month.

9. **EV CHARGING POINT:** Cllr. Street provided an update on EV charging. Members decided that full costings were required before a decision could be made. Cllr. Street to investigate further. Cllr. Street to investigate if there is a closing date for the OLEV grant.
10. **MANAGEMENT OF ALLOTMENTS AT NEWHOUSE ROAD:** Members reviewed the request from the Earls Colne Allotment Association. Members agreed that they would not wish for the Parish Council to take on full responsibility for the allotments. They were in agreement with the ECAA taking full management of the allotments, on the condition that instead of paying no subscriptions, a nominal fee of £1 per plot be established. This brings both allotments in the village in line with each other in terms of fees paid to the Parish Council. The Parish Council agreed that they would continue to be responsible for the fence and the gate but that the hedge and all other areas would be the responsibility of the ECAA.
11. **LOCAL BUS CONSULTATION:** Members agreed the proposed Parish Council responses to the Local Bus Consultation.
12. **ANNUAL REPORT:** Members reviewed the draft annual report and suggested changes were agreed.
13. **ANNUAL MEETING:** Members were reminded that they will need to present their areas at the Annual Meeting. It was agreed that the Neighbourhood Plan be added as a separate agenda item to allow discussion of plans for the coming year. Clerk to contact BDC to arrange recycling talk for Annual meeting. Library questionnaire and Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire to be included in Annual Report as inserts.
14. **COMMUNITY WORKER:** No matters reported.

15. ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS:

- a) Highways Devolution – Footway Survey: Members agreed to footway proposal. A resident had contacted the Parish Council re applying pressure to ECC to prioritise the repairs needed on Tey Road footway. Members agreed that this would be achieved through the footway proposal.

16. BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS: No matters reported.

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

18. VILLAGE HALL:

- a) Annual Fire Safety Review: Members agreed that additional automatic fire detection precautions recommended by Fire Safety Officer be included in budget discussions in October for 2020/21.

b) External Doors: Agreement that external doors be painted Racing Green.

19. FINANCE:

- a) Members approved the payment of invoices for March and reviewed the Actual/Forecast figures for the year.

b) Members reviewed the quotations for the Annual Tree Survey and agreed to proceed with Richard Fordham £200.

Meeting closed at 9.55 pm

Chairman

Date