

PRESENT:

Councillors: Mrs. M. Barrett, Mr. J. Bendall (Chairman), Mr. R. Curtis, Mr. P. Harrington, Mr. C. Hazell, Mrs. D. Howorth, Mr. K. Shipp, Mr. I. Sparks, Mr. R. van Dulken and Mr. F. Williams.

Mrs. P. Herbert was present in her capacity as Clerk, together with two members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. R. Hall, Cllr. J. Pike, Cllr. G. Spray and Mr. P. Darlington (Village Agent).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs. Hazell and Williams declared a prejudicial interest in item 16a) relating to the Village Hall bar as they were related to the contractor who had submitted a quotation for work to be carried out.

Cllrs. Harrington and Curtis declared a prejudicial interest in item 15 relating to a review of allotment fees as they were both allotment holders. Cllr. Bendall declared a prejudicial interest in the same item as his wife was an allotment holder.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

Mr. and Mrs. Rushen, proprietors of PJ's Tearoom, expressed concerns about a planning application for change of use to Tearoom at 23 High Street. They felt that the village could not support two tearooms and, if the application were successful, it could result in both businesses failing which would be detrimental to the village. A petition was being compiled which would be sent to the District Council (advised since the meeting that the petition had 139 signatories).

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:

The Minutes of meetings held on 21st September 2011 and 5th October 2011 were approved and signed.

5. CLERK'S REPORT: There was nothing to report.

6. PLANNING

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

11/00980/FUL & 11/00981/LBC – Erection of single storey rear extension and internal alterations – Elm House, 14 Upper Holt Street Granted

11/00970/LBC – Removal of existing render on south facing elevation and replacement with lime render – 93 High Street Granted

11/01141/FUL & 11/01136/LBC – Removal of existing 20th Century windows, replace with sliding sash to match main dwelling, removal of internal ceiling linings to bathroom and bedroom and insulate ceilings and re-line – Chandlers, 28 Upper Holt St. Refused

11/01103/FUL – Installation of 8 photovoltaic solar panels to the rear flat roof mounted on A frames – 71 Tey Road Granted

11/01189/T56 – Proposed pumping station and mast – Coggeshall Road Withdrawn

b) **Current Applications:** Cllr. Shipp reported on the following applications:

11/01312/T56 – Notification of permitted development – Erection of 6m telemetry aerial, kiosk and ancillary works – Pumping Station, Curds Road

Members had no objections to this application.

11/01313/FUL – Change of use from mortgage brokers (A2 use) to Tea Rooms (A3 use) – 23 High Street

Members objected to this application on the grounds that there were sufficient food outlets in the village already.

11/01339/FUL – Erection of side extension to existing detached chalet bungalow with single storey pitched roof extension annexed to rear elevation – The Croft, Coggeshall Road

Members had no objections to this application.

11/01328/FUL - Erection of single storey rear extension – 17 Willow Tree Way

Members objected to this application on the grounds that the proposed extension was out of keeping with the Willow Tree Way development and the Conservation Area in terms of both design and character.

The Chairman reported on the following application:

11/01086/FUL – Erection of single storey shed in front garden – The Old Stables, 85A The High Street (Revised drawings)

Having considered the revised drawings, members withdrew their objections to this application.

Cllr. Curtis reported on the following tree applications:

11/00282/TPOCON – Pollard one lime tree – 34 York Road

Members had no objections to this application.

11/00288/TPO – Crown reduce one lime tree, reduce one yew tree – 34 Josselin Close

Members had no objections to this application.

7. MEMBERS` REPORTS:

- a) **War Memorial update-** Cllr. Sparks advised that he had obtained a quotation for cleaning the War Memorial for the sum of £1175, plus £225 for the application of a protective coating. It was agreed that this item should be considered for the budgets for 2012/13.

8. ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL:

- a) **Review of ECC Corporate Vision – Consultation Document:** No comments were made on this document.

9. BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL:

- a) **Public Car Park and Toilets:** There was no new information to report.

- b) **Braintree District Local Development Framework:** Members noted that the District Council had adopted the Core Strategy on 19th September, subject to a 6 week legal challenge period.
- c) **Report on Localism Summit – 22/9/11:** Cllr. Williams reported on this event which he had attended with the Chairman.
- d) **Mi Community Scheme:** The Clerk advised that this Scheme had been created by the District Council and had £500,000 to invest in local people and projects over the next four years.

10. 2013 REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES

Members noted that the Review proposed that Earls Colne would move from the former Braintree constituency to the proposed North West Essex constituency.

11. DIAMOND JUBILEE:

- a) **Proposed Monument:** It was agreed to proceed with the commissioning of a monument to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee which would be erected on the Village Green and unveiled during the morning of Saturday 2nd June. It was agreed that the wording on the monument should read:

Queen Elizabeth 11 – Diamond Jubilee – 1952-2012
 For the people of Earls Colne
 Commissioned by Earls Colne Parish Council
 Funded by a legacy from Christopher Holmes OBE, DL

- b) **Celebrations:** Mrs. Barrett reported on the Open Meeting which had taken place on 12th October. The next meeting of the Working Group would take place at 7 p.m. on Wednesday 9th November.

12. BRAINTREE COMPACT

Members decided not to become a signatory to the Braintree Compact.

13. REVIEW OF EALC TRAINING COURSE

Members discussed the training course which had taken place on the 5th October and it was agreed that the course had been useful.

14. EARLS COLNE IN BLOOM

The Clerk advised that the Secretary of the Halstead in Bloom Group had agreed to come along to talk to the Parish Council about how their group got started at 7 p.m. on Wednesday 2nd November.

15. REVIEW OF ALLOTMENT FEES

It was agreed that there would be no increase in the allotment fees for 2012, and that the charge for water use would be considered when the bills were received.

16. VILLAGE HALL

- a) **Bar Security:** Members considered a quotation received for supply and fitting electric roller shutters to the bar area and associated electrical work for the sum of £3,400. It was agreed that two further quotations should be obtained for this work.
- b) **Parish Council Door Entry System:** The Clerk advised that the current system had been installed approximately 15 years ago and that it was working intermittently. It was agreed that, for reasons of security, this should be investigated urgently and that the Chairman and Clerk

should be authorised to take whatever action they felt necessary to remedy the situation as soon as possible.

17. FINANCE:

- a) **Payment of Accounts:** For payment of accounts see Appendix 1.
- b) **Bank Signatories:** It was unanimously agreed that Cllr. Richard van Dulken should be removed from the list of bank signatories and that Cllr. Christopher Hazell should replace him as bank signatory.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

Date

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CHAIRMAN