



# GREAT HORKESLEY PARISH COUNCIL

[www.greathorkesley-pc.gov.uk](http://www.greathorkesley-pc.gov.uk)

## MINUTES

**Minutes of the Minutes of Great Horkesley Parish Council  
Held at 7:30pm on Wednesday 21 July 2021  
Members Present: Councillors Mead (Chairman) Baker,  
Taverner, Wescomb-Cross and Williams.  
Colchester Borough Councillor: Cllr Darius Laws.**

**1. Chairman's Welcome and Announcements**

The Chairman welcomed all members and Cllr Darius Laws to the meeting

**2. Apologies and Reasons for Absence**

The Chairman received apologies from Councillor Arnold, Duckworth, and Ewing and on advice from the Chairman, these absences were approved as they were considered acceptable.

**3. Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest, whether registered or not, in respect of any item

**4. Public Open Forum Public Open Forum (Have Your say)**

No public in attendance.

**5. Minutes of the last Meeting**

It was agreed to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 16 June 2021 as a true and accurate record.

**6. Salt Bag Partnership Scheme for Winter 2021/22**

It was agreed to participate in the scheme this year, and to order further salt as due to the previous mild winters salt had not been ordered for several years.

**7. Village Hall**

- a. The Conditions of Hire was reviewed and approved with no changes.
- b. The Regular Hirers Conditions of Hire was reviewed and agreed with no changes.
- c. The Risk Assessment was reviewed and agreed with no changes.
- d. The Chairman informed the meeting he was continuing to update the Fire Risk Assessment, a decision will be deferred the next meeting
- e. The Covid-19 Conditions of Hire supplement was agreed with no changes required.

**8. Defibrillator**

a. Cllr Wescomb-Cross informed the meeting that she had sourced information regarding the best site for the defibrillator was outside of the village hall as the village green was nearby where sporting activities take place, it is also central in the village. It was agreed to purchase an identical model as the defibrillator inside the hall. The price quoted was £545 + VAT. Two residents had offered to carry out defibrillator training for residents to attend in the hall.

Cllr Wescomb-Cross is to source further information regarding grant funding.

9. It was agreed that Cllrs Mead and Williams will organise letting the one-off hirers into the hall. The regular hirers have their own key allocated for use at their designated hire time. Cllr Baker also offered to help and asked for guidance as to the procedure. The chairman is to organise a meeting at the hall.

**10. Village Sign**

- a. The Chairman informed the meeting that the sign had been put up on Saturday 17 July 2021 and that he and Cllr Williams had attended with assistance from residents with the relevant skills to assist.
- b. The Chairman reported a resident had supplied plants to put at the base of the sign, any further work regarding planting, will be discussed and agreed with the residents involved in securing the village sign. A resident kindly offered to donate plants.

**11. Flooding**

**Cllr Barber could not attend the meeting in person therefore the written report at item 14 was received.**

**12. Planning**

- a. No applications were lodged still within their consultation period.
- b. No applications were lodged after the agenda had gone out.

**13. Highways**

- a. **Cllr Barber's please find report at Item 14.**
- b. No new highway problems arising since the last meeting.

**14. The following reports were received from officers of other authorities:**

**Colchester Borough Council Rural North: Cllr Darius Laws** informed the meeting that the locality budget had increased from £1000 to £2000 for the year, and we would have until May 22 to apply for funding, he suggested that it would be an idea to apply for funding towards the cost of the new defibrillator for the village.

**ECC Constable Division: Cllr Lewis Barber's report:**

1. Trinity School Update

*You will have seen that there has been a delay to the completion of the permanent Trinity School site until at least January 2023. I share with you the frustration, concern, and disappointment at this. I have asked officers to check the implications of this on secondary school provision. We also have an upcoming meeting with Sir Bernard Jenkin and the Trust to discuss the admission's policy of the school. Although this was occurring anyway, it is now prudent timing. We are trying to arrange diaries.*

2. Flooding

I am working to tackle some existing flooding issues with the Parish Council and relevant authority. We have had one success already down School Lane with some significant investment to take place. We will keep working on these through the sunnier months (that have finally become sunnier).

### 3. Road Safety

*I am still awaiting further information from officers about the policy detail, such as cost, for the speed indicator signs. In the meantime, it may be prudent to consider what sites you would want to have such signs along, if any. I can then request the sites be approved in principle and this does not commit you to anything. But the sites would be approved ready for if you did wish to do so.*

### 4. Traffic and Road Safety

*Linked to the above, we are planning our second meeting on a cross village Highways Plan. We are arranging diaries and we will hopefully start making inroads into some of the problems after a productive first meeting.*

### 5. A12 Widening Consultation

*The consultation has been launched for the proposed A12 widening. The portal can be found here and there is an in-person exhibition at Marks Tey Village Hall on Friday 23rd May. There are various webinars and virtual sessions too:*

<https://highwaysengland.citizenspace.com/he/a12chelmsford-to-a120-widening-consultation-june21/>

### 6. Rural Bus Service

*ECC has launched a new 'bus back better' strategy. I'd welcome any feedback you may have on the local bus service, and I have spoken with the Cabinet member on this. It will assist with us tackling pricing, timetabling and reliability issues with rural bus services.*

### 7. Safety Survey

*This forms part of the work I am doing at ECC and I would be grateful for any input and sharing.*

<https://survey.euro.confermit.com/wix/0/p288717880200.aspx?ebrm=00000010&fbclid=IwAR3oil9XT-Kr4zuiRjQQ5dQs0KqpAk1melr1cWTmqwDhorR6f2p6SgDFub/>

### 8. Broadband

*The Gigabit Broadband Voucher is about to be launched in Essex to help those properties that are least likely to be included in commercial rollouts. Groups of properties can claim up to £1,500 per household and £3,500 per business. If this may be something that interests anybody, please let us know.*

### 9. Youth Services

*I would be pleased to receive any ideas to support youth provision across the Borough. The key here is Borough. I am keen to ensure all areas of the Borough, including rural areas, receive their fair share of investment. I have a small budget through the Colchester Youth Strategy Group for any immediate ideas, but I am soon meeting with CBC on behalf of ECC to discuss ideas further on youth provision.*

## 10. Highways

Please let me know if I can assist with any issues. Highways has agreed to sweep the pavement and A134. I had received reports of excess stones down this road, and I am pleased to receive this commitment.

## 15. **Financial Matters**

- a. It was agreed to the note payments authorised at the last meeting, and those made under the Clerk's delegated powers since the last meeting and any receipts as set out in **Appendix B**.
- b. No payment of invoices in respect of goods or services not covered under delegated powers:
- c. It was agreed to note the Village Hall financial payments and receipts as set out in **Appendix C**
- d. It was agreed to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Accounts. The Chairman had checked the details behind the accounts and found all information to be correct with the reconciliation. Cllr Baker asked whether the budget was on course and why there was a minus in the June accounts. The Clerk replied we were waiting on S106 money for the car park resurfacing work as the parish council had paid the invoice in full once the work had been completed.

## 16. **Clerk's Report.**

The Clerks Report can be found on the GHPC website. (Details above)

## 17. **Village Warden's Report.**

The Village Wardens report can be found on the GHPC website. (Details above)

## 18. **Future meetings and business.**

It was agreed to change the date of the next meeting from Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> to the 22 September 2021, as several members could not attend earlier in the month. The next meeting will take place in the John Appleby Hall at the new village hall starting at 7:30 pm.

## 19. **It was agreed to make a resolution under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 to exclude the press and public from the meeting, for reasons of contract confidentiality in order to discuss the matters below.**

## 20. **Personnel matters**

- a. The confidential matters were discussed.

**Appendix B: Financial Payments & Receipts**

<b>Accounting Dates: 11 June 2021 – 14 July 2021</b>				
<b>ID</b>	<b>TO/FROM</b>	<b>DETAILS</b>	<b>REF:</b>	<b>PAYMENTS RECEIPTS</b>
18	Jan Stobart	Internal Audit	Bacs	£185.00
19	Google	Email Storage	DC	£1.59
20	Essex Pension Fund	Contributions	Bacs	£660.37
21	HMRC	Tax & NI Contributions	Bacs	£562.18
22	Zoom	Remote Meetings	DC	£14.39
23	CALC	Annual Subscription	Bacs	£35.00
24	SLCC	Annual Membership	Bacs	£234.00
25	EE Ltd	Mobile Phone	DD	£14.35
26	Contractor	Village Warden	Bacs	£891.00
27	Clerk	Salary & Expenses	Bacs	Left Blank
28	HMRC	Vat Reclaim		<b>£1,122.01</b>
29	Sign Of The Times	Great Horkesley Village Sign	Bacs	£5,419.20
30	HP Ink	Printing	DC	£9.99
31	Google	Email Storage	DC	£1.59

**Duly signed at the parish council meeting held on the 22 September 2021**

**Chairman's Signature.....**