



GREAT HORKESLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes

Minutes of the virtual meeting held on Zoom of Great Horkesley Parish Council

Held at 7:30pm on Wednesday 25 November 2020

Members Present: Councillors Mead (Chairman)

Arnold, Baker, Duckworth, Ewing, Taverner, Wescomb-Cross and Williams.

1 Public

Laura Atkinson RCCE Rural Housing Enabler & Community Led Housing Advisor.

1. Chairman's Welcome and Announcements

The Chairman welcomed all council members, a member of the public and Laura Atkinson from the RCCE.

2. Apologies and Reasons for Absence

All Councillors present.

Cllr Arnold made a statement to the

Cllr Nigel Chapman sent his apologies and intends on attending the next parish council meeting.

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Ewing declared an interest in Agenda Item 17

Cllr Williams declared an interest in Agenda 8.

4. Public Open Forum Public Open Forum

A resident reported they had witnessed regular drug dealing on the open space. The resident has witnessed a car pulling up and parking then individuals who are on the green approach the car this usually happens at 10pm – 11pm.

There are usually six or seven people are involved a mixture of boys and girls.

The resident commented on a youth shelter that had been discussed in the past and that the parish council had agreed not proceed with installing the shelter, the resident did not agree with the proposal and was pleased the shelter had not gone ahead as this could encourage further anti-social behaviour.

The resident is concerned that older vulnerable children out on their own could be affected or approached by the individuals involved in the drug dealing.

The Chairman thanked the resident for the update and continuing to do make a log of the events witnessed and was asked to continue with updateing the parish clerk.

Cllr Wescomb-Cross is to inform the police of the anti-social behaviour witnessed and request increased police presence in the village.

5. Minutes of the last Meeting

It was agreed to approve the minutes of the parish council meeting held on the 23 September 2020 as a true and accurate record.

6. Planning

- a. To agree any comments in respect of applications still within the consultation periods as set out at **Appendix A**.

- b. The application shown below was lodged after the agenda had been sent out, the council agreed on No Comment regarding the consultation.

7. Colchester Woodland Project

- a. Cllr Duckworth conducted a survey in the village regarding the planting of trees on the open space, 31 replies have been received, the Clerk commented that she will put information on the noticeboards, website and in the village news to encourage further replies.
Cllr Arnold reported in the past there was an avenue of lime trees on the main road which were brought down in the 1987 gales, he suggested we could repeat this to commemorate the Queen's Platinum jubilee which is in June 2022.
Cllr Arnold is to put this into the village news.

8. Village sign

- a. The parish council agreed on erecting the village sign as designed by a resident. The Clerk is to source information regarding permission for the badges being shown on the sign for Colchester Borough Council and Essex County Council. The siting will determine whether to have a mono or a double- sided sign. The possible siting of the village sign was at the end of Keelers Way/A134. where the Noticeboard is sited would be investigated, with further consultation with Colchester Borough Council regarding planning and Essex County Council regarding any services in that area. Advertising consent maybe needed depending on the size of the sign. Site lines will be taken into consideration when deciding on the position for the village sign. Financing is sourced from locality budgets and any shortfall being paid by community groups. The parish council will pay the invoice and claim back the VAT.

9. Housing Needs Survey

- a. Laura Atkinson Rural Housing Enabler and Community Led Housing Advisor attended the meeting regarding giving a overview of the housing needs survey, and to advise on a potential Neighbourhood Plan.
Rural Affordable Housing adviser grant funded by Defra and Essex County Council and local authorities across Essex who support parish councils a housing need survey is completed this is delivered to every household in the parish, the survey can be completed online and on paper, the survey comes in 2 parts questions are completed about the existing housing situation, the second part is completed if the resident new housing needs in the village she looks at the reply analysis and prepare a report, all information. All information is confidential.
Ideally we need to have a five to ten year plan, or evidence for the Neighbourhood plan that meets the needs of the village from the survey.
Parishes under 3000 residents would be a rural exception site scheme and do not develop a lot of open market housing it has mainly rural affordable housing prioritised for local people.
Local people have priority on the properties in perpetuity, with a covenant on the land, that states the housing is for local people, if the housing cannot be filled there would be a cascade down to nearby villages.

On a rural exception site scheme there is a quality of design and protected, depending on who owns the land.

Quality of design is excellent and understand the need for cheaper housing which is economical to run regarding sustainability.

The older scheme was not as protected as the new system which is a major improvement on past schemes, especially the rural exception site.
Cllr Arnold reported the land which is not in the emerging plan, led to a residents group forming a group to complete a Neighbourhood Development Plan, the housing needs survey results would be used as evidence for the residents needs regarding housing in the village
Funding and support is currently available for completing a Neighbourhood Plan.
The Neighbourhood Planning officer is to contact the Clerk and meet with the leader of the group to have a discussion.
Cllr Arnold and Cllr Wescomb-Cross are interested in being involved in the Neighbourhood Plan and are to arrange a meeting with the resident's group.

10. Highways

- a. Colchester Borough Council have taken over the Highways Rangers work
Cllr Arnold is to ask Essex County Council to look at the footway on the A134 that needs clearing and to investigate when the work is to be completed.
Cllr Arnold reported he had reminded the Local Highways Panel that the work to the signage on the Blackbrook Road and the Tile House Lane roundabouts had not been completed. An ECC officer is to have a site meeting with Cllr Arnold.
- b. There was a report that part of the speed watch group did a vehicle speed check.
Cllr Baker observed that 73% were observed exceeding the 30mph limit with 12% driving over the 40mph, Cllr Wescomb-Cross suggested a speed vehicle activation sign could assist in slowing down vehicles.
The parish council did not request, or have prior notice that the speed check was being completed.
The police allow up to 36mph, we would need to gather evidence that at least 15% of the vehicles are travelling at speeds over 36mph through the village for action to be taken.
Cllr Arnold is to request that the pneumatic line is to be put in place across the road to check vehicle speeds, numbers and the type of vehicles using the road.

11. Reports and updates from parish council members and officers of other authorities:

CBC Rural North: Cllr **Arnold**.

We have been looking at Government the large housing and planning targets MPs have indicated the changes may take place once the government reshuffle happens, in the New Year.

Local government have gone very quiet at present results from the promised reshuffle predict the locality budget is going to be halved next year down to £1000.

Cllr Arnold has a locality budget of £2000 this year.

- a. Cllr Duckworth did not have a report regarding the Sustainable Community talk
That she Attended with the National Association of Local Councils.

12. S106 monies.

- a. The matters were discussed Cllr Arnold suggested we prioritise on which projects require the S106 monies as the funds would not cover every suggestion.
- b. Cllrs Duckworth and Wescomb-Cross reported that they are looking at costs and grants regarding the revamping of the current play area.
Colchester Borough Council will remain responsible for the play area.
- c. Cllr Ewing reported that the cheapest quotation was not of the quality required but the two further quotes were very professional and both similar in the work required

to be completed.
Cllr Arnold is to source possible funding opportunities.

13. Village Hall

- a. The financial and the safety implications, while adhering to the latest government guidelines regarding the reopening of the village hall and agree any necessary action was discussed and a review of government safety guidelines will be completed in January 2021.
- b. It was agreed that a prospective hire for Public health England for a period of 6 – 8 weeks, 7 days a week could take place.
- c. The council agreed a deep clean was not required and the hirer should clean the hall. The Clerk is to contact the prospective hirer for further details regarding cleaning. Cllr Arnold commented that the Clerk can make decisions under delegated powers in consultation with the Chairman in the first instance, and cascade down the agreed list of Councillors as required.
- d. It was agreed the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman will negotiate the hall hire charge rate.

14. Clerk's Report.

The report was noted (available to view or download from the GHPC website)

15. Village Warden's Report.

The report was noted (available to view or download from the GHPC website)

16. Financial Matters

- a. The parish council noted the payments authorised at the last meeting, those made under the Clerk's delegated powers since the last meeting and any receipts, as set out in **Appendix B**.
- b. The Clerk informed the meeting there were no payment of invoices in respect of goods or services not covered under delegated powers:
- c. The Village hall financial payments and receipts as set out in **Appendix C** (available for download from GHPC website) was noted by the council.
- d. It was agreed to approve the 1st Quarter Accounts 1 April – 30 June 20 the Chairman and Clerk signed the document.
- e. It was agreed to approve the 2nd Quarter Accounts (Half Year) 1 July 20 – 30 September 20 the Chairman and the Clerk signed the document.

17. Anti-Social Behaviour

- a. Cllr Taverner reported that anti-social behaviour in the village was on the increase and wanted to discuss any action that could be taken. It was agreed that more police presence in the village would help.
There had been a number of reported incidents of graffiti in the village.
If this happens on private property a disclaimer by the owner needs to be signed before the graffiti can be removed.

18. Future meetings and business.

- a. The date and time of the next parish council meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 16 December 2020 at 7:30pm on Zoom.
To join the meeting please provide the Clerk in advance of the meeting date with email details for joining.
A Finance Working Party is to be arranged to discuss the grants, budget, and precept for the next financial year.

Appendix A: Planning Applications (No applications received at time of agenda being sent out to members)

Application No:	Details	Consultation Expiry Date
202632	Brook Cottage, 2 Holly Lane, Great Horkesley Colchester CO6 4AW Proposed extensions and alterations and detached garage/cart lodge for private use	16/12/20

Appendix B: Financial Payments & Receipts

Accounting Dates: 18 September 2020 – 10 November 2020				
ID	TO/FROM	DETAILS	REF:	PAYMENTS
56	EE	Mobile Phone	DD	£14.18
57	Contractor	Village Warden	Bacs	£657.00
58	Rialtas Business Solutions Ltd	Accounting System	Bacs	£772.80
59	Clerk	Salary & Expenses	Bacs	Left Blank
60	Essex Pension Fund	Contributions	Bacs	£495.39
61	HP Inc Ltd	Printing	CP	£7.99
62	HMRC	Tax & NI Contributions	Bacs	£343.45
63	Contractor	Village Warden	Bacs	£288.00
64	Salary	Salary & Expenses	Bacs	Left Blank
65	EE Ltd	Mobile Phone	DD	£14.18
66	Contractor	Cable Ties	Bacs	£9.48
67	Objenix	Domain name	Bacs	£60.00
68	VCS Website	GHPC Website Hosting	Bacs	£67.50
69	Colchester Borough Council	Lights power	Bacs	£153.32
70	HMRC	Tax & NI Contributions	Bacs	£343.45
71	PKF Accountants	External Audit 2019-20	Bacs	£360.00
72	Essex Pension Fund	Contributions	Bacs	£495.39
73	HP Inc Ltd	Printing	CP	£7.99

Duly signed at the meeting of the Parish Council held on the 16 December 2020

Chairman's signature.....