

MINUTES

of the Parish Council Meeting held by Zoom
Wednesday 20th January 2021 at 8.00 pm.

Present virtually

Councillors: Mr B Stratton (Chairman)
Mr A Parmenter (Vice-Chairman)
Mrs P Lawrance – part meeting
Mr C Markey
Mr C Metson
Mr I Milligan

Parish Clerk Karen Weare

No members of the public

1/21 Chairman's Welcome

2/21 Apologies for absence
Cllr D Mapes – no internet.
Cllr Lawrance joined after another meeting.

3/21 Approval of Minutes
Cllrs resolved to agree minutes of the meeting October 7th 2020 as a correct record. The Chairman will sign his copy for the records.

4/21 Declarations of interest in Agenda Items
None.

5/21 Public Representation
None.

6/21 Cllr Mrs M McEwen EFDC & ECC
No report.

7/21 Clerk's Report
1. Current information is that the Parish Council election will go ahead on 6th May 2021. The Annual Parish Council Meeting must take place within 14 days of the election.

(7.21 continued)

2. Reported Issues

- a. 2670070 trees, etc Abbess Road – black poplars. Again 2684196
- b. 2689807 potholes & road surface Green Hill Road (south of Berwick Lane)
- c. 2693762 potholes & road surface Dunmow Road (south of Coopers)
- d. 2695092 flooding/blocked drains Dunmow Road (north of Frayes Chase)
- e. 2689816 potholes & road surface Abbess Road (2 & 3 Horsecroft)
- f. 2696364 highway drainage Abbess Road (Falkiners)

3. Update on reported issues

None.

4. VAT claim p/e 31/12/20 £703.25 made

8/21 Annual Parish Meeting

The position on the legal requirement to hold an APM has not been finalised. In “normal” times the APM must be held between 1st March and 1st June.

Discussion on APM to be carried forward to the March meeting. There will be no photographic competition in advance of that meeting.

9/21 Highways

Highways Rangers Anchor Lane/Snows Hill – signs re-erected. Cllrs impressed with quick response. Requests for further “minor works” to be requested through the Parish Clerk.

10/21 Heritage Finger Posts

Cllr Stratton reported all the materials have been purchased and that the contractor is waiting for the letters to be delivered to complete the posts. Essex Farms will re-erect the vandalised post at Poplars Hill/Dukes Lane.

11/21 Defibrillator

The defibrillator fully operational. Cllr Markey to fit one more pane of glass to kiosk.

12/21 Planning

EPF/2463/20 Dacre Cottages, Berners Roding CM5 0SY
Addition storey to create new workspace over existing outbuilding
Refuse permission.

EPF/1722/20 (now EPF/0102/21) Sparrows, Abbess Roding CM5 0JL
Removal of existing garage and erection of new garage.

Cllrs considered there should be a Listed Building application as the work is clearly within the curtilage of the listed building. Comments are that replacing a flat roof is good -difficult to see from plan how high the new building will be. Clerk to submit “no objections but...” comments.

(12/21 continued)

EPF/3074/20 2 Rectory Cottages, Beauchamp Roding CM5 0PH
Two storey side extension and single storey side and rear extensions with internal alterations to suit.

Cllrs considered the plot was large enough to support the extensions but would upset the balance with the adjoining cottage.

Clerk to submit "no objections but..." comments.

13/21 Grants and Donations

Dr Walkers School, Fyfield has not responded to offer of donation. Clerk to phone Head (or assistant).

14/21 Finances

1. The Clerk reports the total bank balances December 31st 2020 £15,110.63
Lloyds Treasurers £420.81
Lloyds Savings £14,689.82

2. Income received and payments made since September 1st 2020
Small amount of interest on savings account.

3. Payments authorised

Clerk salary August	£194.80	HMRC PAYE M5	£15.20
Clerk salary September	£194.60	HMRC PAYE M6	£15.40
Friends of Rodings School	£500.00		
Clerk salary October	£194.60	HMRC PAYE M7	£15.40
J Kenney verges	£997.92		
J Kenney verges final	£180.18		
Clerk salary November	£194.60	HMRC PAYE M8	£15.40
S H Somerscales	£1,351.60		
Arro Signs	£1,128.74		
Brewers Paint	£90.12		
Clerk salary December	£194.80		

15/21 Precept Demand

Cllrs considered the budget requirements and requested an amount for a specific "Parish Project" reserve to incorporate the Heritage Fingerpost Project.

Cllrs resolved the amount of £5,610 (2%). Chairman and Clerk to sign and Clerk to submit by 31st January.

16/21 Correspondence

The 2021 Census will be taken on 21st March.

17/21

Information exchange/next agenda items

Cllr Stratton requested that the Parish Council fund a long litter pick stick to enable him to deal with the rubbish in the Berners Roding ditches. Mr Brill organises local litter picks and both Leaden Roding and Aythorpe Roding Parish Councils are happy to lend their equipment.

Cllr Stratton reported that Jaymey McIvor, who lives in the Parish, has been elected as the Conservative candidate for Ongar and Rural Division.

Cllrs expressed their concern at the recent flooding and the following points were made,

- Gables/Frayes Chase and at Coopers the water was coming up through the road drains. At the former the verge was preventing the water getting away. At Coopers the route to the brook is blocked;
- School Lane, Abbess blocked culverts and kerb had collapsed into the ditch leaving the road in danger of collapse;
- Properties at Longbarns had been flooded and the Environment Agency said it was the responsibility of Essex County Council Highways;
- As the road to White Roding was still closed, the diversion signs were sending traffic to roads closed by flooding;

The only solution appeared to be a joint effort between the EA and ECC to identify and solve the issues.

Cllr Milligan was keeping a watching brief on the caravan which had appeared on the hardstanding near the Airfield Memorial.

Cllr Markey would send photos of 3 potholes in School Lane, Abbess to be reported by Clerk.

18/21

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

March 17th 2021 (Zoom TBC)

MEETING closed 9.20

Signed Presiding Chairman

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