

6.5 Monthly reports: Following the Parish Council's request for the clerk to send all outstanding Highways issues to Cllr P Schwier with each meeting agenda, the format of the monthly clerk's report has been changed to include screenshots of outstanding Highways reports from <https://www.essexhighways.org/track-it> This is sent to all Councillors with the meeting agenda.

7. REPORTS

7.1 Police/PCSO/Neighbourhood Watch: Weekly police reports have been forwarded to Councillors. Essex Police patrols have been stepped up in response to recent reports of crime and anti-social behaviour from residents and the Parish Council. An article in the August 7th Halstead Gazette <https://www.halsteadgazette.co.uk/news/19497633.castle-hedingham-encouraged-report-anti-social-behaviour/> encourages Castle Hedingham residents to always report crimes to the police on 101 or on 999 if they feel their safety is threatened. Residents are also encouraged to send information about incidents reported to the police to the Parish Clerk at castlehedinghamparishclerk@gmail.com so that ongoing concerns can be followed up during our regular contact with local police officers.

7.2 Essex CC report: Cllr P Schwier arrived at item 8 and reported before item 9. His email updates have been forwarded to Councillors. He reported on:

- **ECC Localism Fund:** applications are now open for deserving projects of up to £10,000
- **Essex Energy Switch:** Residents can save on average £160 per year and there is no obligation to switch if you register. The electricity suppliers involved are 100% renewal energy
- **Climate Action Challenge:** Schools & community groups are encouraged to apply for grants of up to £20,000 for projects having a positive impact on the environment.

7.3 Braintree DC report: Cllr Beavis arrived at item 8 and reported before item 9.

- **Hedinghams Medical Centre:** Partnership meetings are to be held with BDC and Sible Hedingham Parish Council – Cllr Beavis suggest the Castle Hedingham PC clerk attends these meetings and is also asking for a public meeting to be held which residents can attend in person. She has written an information update which will be in the September issue of the Hedinghams Parish Magazine.
- **BDC Local plan Section 2** is now with awaiting a decision from the Planning Inspector. A 5-year supply needs to be demonstrated as well as a range of supply and buffers, so the Planning Inspector may have revisions to suggest. This is leaving the district vulnerable to speculative development as well as large developments being granted on appeal such as 150 homes recently at Rayne. A 73-home application at Prayors Hill in Sible Hedingham is going to planning appeal.
- **BDC Planning Enforcement Committee:** Cllr Beavis has been appointed to represent the north of the district on this committee, and will support the Parish Council with concerns over the site at the junction of Sudbury Rd/Maplestead Rd
- **BDC Budget** is under consideration and she hopes to make sure local services are maintained.
- **Green policies:** It is important to do whatever we can locally to help alleviate the climate crisis. A recent motion to plant more trees was raised by the Green & Independent group at BDC and was passed unanimously.

8. PLANNING

Applications received

Cllr Gransden declared an interest and left the meeting.

21/02110/FUL Erection of 1 No. two storey 5 bedroom dwelling house, detached double garage and gardens

Land Adjacent 13 Bayley Street Castle Hedingham

Objection comment:

Overdevelopment of visually important Conservation area site, Highway congestion and safety.

Cllr Gransden returned to the meeting

21/02261/FUL & 21/02262/LBC Conversion and change of use of a Grade II* listed property known as 'Castle Hedingham URC' to 1 private dwelling.

Castle Hedingham United Reformed Church 32 Queen Street CO9 3HA *No objections, preservation of the building and interior is important. Request to keep a close eye on heritage assets during construction.*

21/02318/HH & 21/02319/LBC Demolition of single- storey rear extension and replacement with two-storey rear and 2 No. single- storey lean to extensions. Demolition of garage and replacement with detached outbuilding. New dropped kerb
132 Nunnery Street CO9 3DR *No objections*

21/02343/FUL Demolition of garage and outhouse and the construction of a 4 bedroomed dwelling house
Barrells Meadow Kirby Hall Road CO9 3EA *Objection comment:*
Outside village development boundary. Larger footprint than existing buildings. Backfill development

Cllrs Toocaram and Westrop declared an interest and left the meeting

21/02347/HH Proposed oak framed Garage, cartlodge & cycle store with hobby room over and artists viewing platform.
Rushley Green Barn Rushley Green CO9 3AJ *Decision postponed:*
Councillors will visit the site to assess location of proposed building and impact on surroundings

Cllrs Toocaram and Westrop returned to the meeting.

21/02393/AGR Submission of details following Prior Approval Required (21/02004/AGR) - Alteration and extension to existing cart lodge to create additional store, new entrance, greenhouse with store to link to existing barn. Demolition of piggery. Extension of hardstanding and alterations to internal roads and access. | Rushley Green Farm Rushley Green CO9 3AH *Information only, no comment required*

Applications determined:

21/01653/LBC Repair and replacement of five rainwater downpipes and hoppers on North side of the Church. Replacement of cast iron downpipes and hoppers to match existing on South side of the Church
St Nicholas Church Castle Hedingham *Application PERMITTED*

21/01730/LBC Removal of paving bricks to facilitate new below-ground drainage across the North yard. Repairs to brickwork retaining wall around West lightwell.
The Old Vicarage 15 Queen Street CO9 3EZ *Application PERMITTED*

21/01589/HH & 21/01590/LBC Reinstatement of red brick North-East wing-wall following unauthorised demolition
The Old Vicarage 15 Queen Street CO9 3EZ *Application PERMITTED*

21/01592/HH
Erection of outbuilding for use as home gym and office.
32 Crouch Green CO9 3DY *Application PERMITTED*

21/01560/FUL Replacement of existing corrugated metal roof with a new plastisol-coated dark grey metal-sheet roof.
Castle Hedingham Bowls Club Sheepcot Road CO9 3HB *Application PERMITTED*

21/01231/LBC Change the colour of the render
Honeypot 7A Falcon Square CO9 3BY *Application PERMITTED*

9. FINANCE

9.1 The monthly payments were approved for authorisation. The monthly bank reconciliation was checked and signed by Cllr Gransden

Proposed: Cllr Veater

Seconded: Cllr Southgate

Agreed unanimously

Aug-21	Payments in Month	Details	Amount
DD	Eon	Electricity New Park	£31.23
DD	Bulb	Electricity Toilets	£11.52
DD	Invoco (GOCARDLESS)	Portable telephone number	£1.20
B/P	Braintree District Council	Rates, Pump House	£5.00
B/P	E C Waters	Home as Office August	£75.00

B/P	E C Waters	Clerk Expenses July 12th to August 9th	£42.05
B/P	A&J Lighting	Monthly Charge	£11.40
B/P	M D Landscapes	Grass cutting July	£1,202.40
B/P	Darkins Supply Stores	Village Maintenance - Public Toilets	£65.62
B/P	CH Club	Room Hire August	£20.00
TOTAL in month			£1,465.42

Aug-21	Receipts in Month	Details	Amount
	NONE		
TOTAL in month			£0.00

Jul-21	Payments in Month	Details	Amount
DD	Eon	Electricity New Park	£30.22
DD	Bulb	Electricity Toilets	£12.02
DD	Invoco (GOCARDLESS)	Portable telephone number	£1.25
DD	B&CE Holdings	Peoples Pension	£67.80
B/P	Braintree District Council	Rates, Pump House	£5.00
B/P	Staff	Salaries	£1,526.73
B/P	HMRC	Tax/NI June month 3	£95.33
B/P	E C Waters	Home as Office July	£75.00
B/P	E C Waters	Clerk Expenses June 14th to July 12th	£29.46
B/P	A&J Lighting	Monthly Charge	£11.40
B/P	M D Landscapes	Grass cutting June	£1,202.40
B/P	Darkins Supply Stores	Keys, Jerry Can/Weed control roll	£65.46
B/P	Ann Wood	Internal Audit	£140.00
B/P	RCCE	Annual Membership	£72.60
B/P	NBB Recycled Furniture	Ground Anchors, Picnic benches	£98.40
B/P	CH Club	Room Hire, June and July	£40.00
B/P	P M Smith	Payroll Apr May Jun	£48.00
B/P	Rentokil Initial	Sanitary Disposal Aug 20 -Oct 20	£12.90
B/P	Rentokil Initial	Sanitary Disposal Nov 20 -Jan 21	£12.90
B/P	Rentokil Initial	Sanitary Disposal Feb 21 - Apr 21	£12.90
B/P	Rentokil Initial	Sanitary Disposal May 21 - Jul 21	£12.90
B/P	EALC	New Councillor Day 1 & 2 WD	£216.00
B/P	EALC	Village Hall Training 1 & 2 CW	£168.00
B/P	SportsEquip	Cemetery Wire mesh bins x 2	£204.00
B/P	Jason Sneezum	Guttering, Memorial Hall	£130.00
B/P	Mr D Fisher	Village Park Picnic Giant Games	£95.00
B/P	James Hymas	Toilet door replacement x 2	£671.97
TOTAL in month			£5,057.64

Jul-21	Receipts in Month	Details	Amount
19-Jul	Harvey Darke	Purchase & Interment Grave 296	£374.00
26-Jul	Harvey Darke	Inscription Grave 198	£77.00
TOTAL in month			£451.00

Accounts balances at 9th August 2021

Unity Trust Current account	£17,990.60
Unity Trust Deposit account	£10,466.77
Cambridge & Counties 95 day	£34,915.63
	£63,373.00

9.2 St James Street noticeboard: Consideration of insurance claim and quotes for replacement.

A range of supplier quotes and designs were considered by Councillors. The driver of the vehicle which reversed into the noticeboard has not contacted the Parish Council, but Cllr Beavis may be able to contact them. An insurance claim on the Parish Council insurance is being investigated, if paid this would involve an excess of £400. Quotes for replacement ranged between £2,000 and £3,500

RESOLVED: To select Concept Signs as the preferred supplier as a local company and the lowest price, subject to detailed discussions about the design and the size of the noticeboard and a revised quote.

Proposed: Cllr Southgate

Seconded: Cllr Bayes

Agreed unanimously

10. CASTLE HEDINGHAM VILLAGE PARK

10.1 Village Park Picnic & BBQ: Saturday 21st August from 2pm to 5pm Invitations have been delivered to all homes in the village by volunteers, and posters have been put around the village. It will be publicised on the Castle Hedingham All village, street and community matters Facebook page this week. Grass cutting and grounds maintenance are scheduled to be ready for the event.

10.2 Next plans and actions: . Completed Village Park surveys have been compiled into a brief report and suggest that residents are generally very happy with the park. Councillors will be pleased to hear any further feedback at the Village Park picnic.

Action: On the advice of the Essex Playing Field Association, it was agreed to enter the Best Kept Playing Fields competition as the qualified judges will give feedback on safety issues as part of the judging process. A full RoSPA play inspection will be booked in 2022.

Action: The summer edition of the Essex Playing Fields Association newsletter will carry a specialist article on bike jumps, and the clerk will forward it to Councillors for information when it is published.

Action: Grant funding and S106 funding options to be considered by the Village Park group, including possible resurfacing of the approach to the park from Queen Street.

Action: Clerk to request Stewart Landscapes carry out a snagging visit to look at the Village Park path

11. BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL LAND AT NEW PARK

Consideration of a request made by Andrew Epsom, Asset Manager at BDC, to relinquish the Parish Council lease on the Pump House and associated land. Also taken into consideration was a previous offer of £25,000 towards play equipment on the sale of the BDC land, and correspondence from Cllr Butland, Leader of Braintree District Council in March 2021 suggesting that BDC is in negotiation with a housing association regarding development at the site. It was agreed that the Parish Council did not have sufficient information to make a clear decision, including whether accepting £25,000 on the sale of the land would require a declaration of interest preventing the Parish Council from commenting on plans for the site, or qualifying for S106 funding for parish open spaces and facilities. Cllr Beavis urged the Parish Council to request clarity about what is being planned by Braintree District Council and to ensure we are involved at the earliest stages of any firm plans to ensure the best outcome for residents of the whole village. She advised to request that a “members forum” is established in line with new BDC planning policy to bring all stakeholders together at the early stages of any plans for the site. The visual importance of the site to the village was agreed to be crucial, as well as historic associations. It was also noted that Castle Hedingham has a recorded deficit of open space compared with the district standards according to Braintree District Council’s own Open Spaces survey.

Action: The clerk will investigate concerns raised by Councillors and report back to the Parish Council.

12. CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

EALC: The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons information and guide on taking part in June 2022 can be found here: <https://www.queensjubileebeacons.com/>

Action: The clerk will look into purchase of a beacon, probably for an event at the Village Park

13. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- **The Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022:** consideration of events to celebrate
- **Website accessibility:** Progress report.
- **Pay Review:** deferred from April, if National pay recommendations have been published
- Agenda items for the next meeting to be notified to the clerk by 9am on Monday 6th September please

DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS:

Monday 13th September 2021	7.30pm	Ordinary Parish Council	Castle Hedingham Club
Monday 11th October 2021	7.30pm	Ordinary Parish Council	Castle Hedingham Club
Monday 8th November 2021	7.30pm	Ordinary Parish Council	Castle Hedingham Club

The meeting closed at 9.39pm

SIGNED
(CHAIRMAN)

DATE

DRAFT