

## FOXEARTH & LISTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>. May 2016 at Foxearth Village Hall at 10.30am

Present: Cllrs C. Cox (Chairman), K. Robson, M. Posen, P. Cox, T. Clayton, W. Binks & Kevin Money (Clerk to the Council).

There were also 16 members of the public in attendance

**16/041: The Chairman welcomed** everyone to the meeting

**16/042: Apologies for Absence:** No apologies were received

**16/043: Election of Chairman for the 2016/17 year**

Cllr T. Clayton was proposed by Cllr M. Posen and seconded by Cllr P. Cox

**This appointment was agreed unanimously.** Cllr T. Clayton then signed the "Declaration of Acceptance of Office" form

**16/044: Election of Vice-Chairman for the 2016/17 year**

Cllr M. Posen was proposed by Cllr K. Robson and seconded by Cllr P. Cox

**This appointment was agreed unanimously.** Cllr M. Posen then signed the "Declaration of Acceptance of Office" form

At this stage Cllr K. Robson proposed and Cllr W. Binks seconded that standing orders 7 & 9 be suspended so that after new information being received a discussion takes place regarding the Call for sites from BDC. **This appointment was agreed unanimously.**

This discussion was then agreed at item 16/056(a) on the agenda

**16/045: Election of Appointments and Employment committee**

Cllrs T. Clayton, M. Posen and W. Binks were proposed by Cllr C. Cox and seconded by Cllr K. Robson to serve on the Employment committee. **This was agreed unanimously**

**16/046: Declaration of Interest:**

Cllr C. Cox and Cllr P. Cox declared an interest in the Street Cleaning and Foxearth PCC

Cllr K. Robson declared an interest in item 16/057a as the site being considered is adjacent to his property

**16/047: To Approve the Minutes of the last meeting of Foxearth & Liston Parish Council**

To receive and agree the minutes of the last meeting held on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>. March 2016

Cllr M. Posen, having requested prior to the meeting an insertion to the minutes 16/033, the Clerk was in a position to insert this item into the minutes. **The Councillors agreed unanimously.** The Chairman then signed the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

**16/048: Chairman's report and update**

Cllr T. Clayton expressed a sincere thanks to Cllr C. Cox for her Chairmanship throughout her year in office. He then asked Cllr C. Cox to give the Chairman's report.

- 1. Flooding/Highways.** The new drainage scheme for Foxearth produced by ECC Highways is still out to tender but it is hoped that work could begin next month. Mr D Chapman (ECC Highways) will inform us as soon as a start date is agreed and will send a large format paper copy of the scheme for public display. It is understood that the existing culvert & its local connections to properties will remain and a new piped system to deal with the discharge of surface water will run along the north side of the highway on Mill Road and then along the north side of School Street & Glebeside towards the water treatment facility.
- 2. Street Lighting:** Despite the removal of branches from a tree which was preventing maintenance & repair of a lamp, the light was still not functioning. It is hoped that the Clerk can pursue this as a matter of some urgency.
- 3. Local Plan:** Officers at BDC Planning have made their recommendations to Members who will consider the draft proposals at their Committee meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> May. Following our last Parish Council meeting, I have been in discussion with Cllr I. Parker & discovered that there have been changes to the situation regarding Rural Exception Sites which may have influenced our discussions at our last meeting, had we been aware. It appears that BDC have not yet received a formal response from Foxearth & Liston Parish Council, but we have been allowed to send such to BDC immediately following our meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> May. Members have been advised that this will be forwarded to them from BDC Planning Officers as a memo.
- 4. Website:** The dedicated Parish Council website is now operational and residents have been accessing this.

5. **Speedwatch:** There is now a new co-ordinator and Speedwatch monitoring activities have recommenced in Foxearth village.
6. **Defibrillator:** The possibility of locating a P.A.D. on the exterior wall of the Village Hall has been raised with their Chairman. This will be discussed at their next meeting. If approval is given, we can then consider a means of funding this project.
7. **Resident's Complaint:** Following the last meeting, a complaint was received from a resident regarding certain actions of the Clerk. This was dealt with a letter of apology sent to the resident by myself, as Chairman on behalf of the Parish Council, and subsequently by the Clerk to the complainant. It is hoped that the matter is now resolved.

At this stage of the meeting Cllr K. Robson asked the Chairman to suspend standing order 7 & 9 So that a discussion can take place following on from the meeting where the response to BDC from the Parish Council was not submitted by the clerk.

The item was on the March meeting at item **16/032: F&L PC response to BDC Local Plan submissions which read: -**

Foxearth & Liston Councillors agreed to maintain the village envelope

Cllr M. Posen stated that developing the site would affect him personally. F&L PC looks to balance and have an impact on the village. There is a lack of amenities in the village with no shop / school. The Councillors would wait for the detailed planning application.

Cllr K. Robson has looked at the site with a possible 24 properties. He thought that the Parish Council needs to preserve the village as it stands. On a visual effect, the field affects a third of the field and if all of the field is developed then it would be a large housing estate. What size of community can survive without amenities? The PC is not inclined to object in principle but requirements must be put down. When the school was open it brought in villagers but since its closure the village may be left to die.

Cllr W. Binks (being the first time of seeing site plan) asked whether there was any large affordable housing to be allocated for disabled / retirement home. A single storey building was not in the plan.

Cllr C. Cox warned the meeting that residents wanting to downsize means residents have to move away from the area. Small developments should be affordable to remain in location.

**Foxearth & Liston Parish Council Decision.** Happy for that site to go forward taking into account affordable facilities and mobility needs / local residents.

Proposed by Cllr C. Cox and seconded by Cllr K. Robson **This was carried unanimously**

**F&L In response to the local plan request** the F&L PC would accept an extension to the current village envelope to incorporate the site FOXE236 subject to any potential future development addressing the needs of the local communities regarding affordable housing and disability requirement

**This was agreed F3 Ab1**

The above decision was not submitted to BDC

The Councillors then discussed and agreed the following decision to be sent to

**F&L In response to the local plan request** the F&L Parish Council would accept an extension to the current village envelope to incorporate the site FOXE236 subject to any potential future development addressing the needs of the local communities regarding affordable housing and disability requirement

Cllr K. Robson proposed to rescind the decision made at the last meeting and the Parish Council to vote on a new proposal which states: -

Foxearth & Liston Parish council to retain the status quo regarding the village envelope as per the 2011 PC submission.

This was seconded by Cllr C. Cox **F4 Ab1**

Cllr T. Clayton then spoke about Liston as being unsuitable and proposed that the Parish Council would not support the inclusion in the call for sites LIST339. This was seconded Cllr K. Robson **F4 Ab1**

**16/049: Clerks report**

The Clerk started by apologising to a resident for his remarks in an email. There was nothing intentional and undermining to the resident. The resident has accepted the Clerks apology.

**16/050: Public Participation Session:**

A resident informed the Councillors that a new Speedwatch co-ordinator had come forward to organise the team. A resident also informed Councillors that the triangle grass area had not been cut and also the village sign needs attention. The Councillors agreed to address both situations.

Cllr C. Cox then introduced John LeFerve from Hastoe Housing Association who at the Annual Electors meeting will be giving a short presentation.

**16/051: Essex County Councillors report.** There was no report given

**16/052: District Councillors report.**

Cllr I. Parker informed the meeting that BDC officers recommended no sites should be allocated in Foxearth & Liston and Stafford Park planning application should continue through the planning system. The Local Plan process - 25 May is when BDC Local Plan committee considers sites put forward in Foxearth & Liston. The 20<sup>th</sup>. June is when the Full Council meets to discuss the Local Plan (sites and policies). There is then a 6 week period for public consultation on the draft plan, amendments to draft plan will be presented at the November Full Council meeting to approve any amendments. In early 2017 the plan will be submitted to inspector.

BDC will also be looking at new settlements near Marks Tey and at Andrews airfield for between 10,000 - 13,000 homes. A new bus service has been introduced for rural areas. This can be found on the Parish Council website.

BDC Councillor Grant Scheme is to replace the "Mi Community". Each Councillor will have £1500 pa for 2 years to invest in local community schemes in their ward. This is being launched in September 2016. A new map for Essex superfast - fibre is planned for Foxearth & Liston but no indication of dates as of yet. A discussion is still ongoing with the Government about devolution for Essex. This could lead to a combined authority consisting of leaders of those councils which wish to take part plus an elected Mayor.

The Chairman thanked Cllr I. Parker for her report and then Cllr I. Parker leaves the meeting

**16/053: Review of current F&L email and IT policy**

Cllr M. Posen stated the he had nothing to report at this meeting except that the hearing loop in the village hall has been turned on and the PA system is now working

**16/054: Review of improving telecommunications and broadband in F&L –**

Cllr M. Posen is to undertake a resident's survey on telecommunication and broadband in both villages and all responses are greatly appreciated. He had placed on the residents chair a small survey form to be completed and returned to him ASAP. The survey asks How does the broadband affects residents / businesses? Who is the provider and speed of broadband?

The local Member of Parliament has communicated with County broadband which leads Cllr M. Posen to believe that the upgrade could be happening imminently. Another suggestion of Cllr M. Posen was to move the entire village of Foxearth onto the NGA scheme – 32mb up and down for homes.

The updated usage caps are to be removed and the MP is to monitor the upgrades. Cllr M. Posen informed the meeting that the fibre broadband into Foxearth will be in the 2017/18 time span.

Cllr T. Clayton asks Cllr M. Posen about using the Church mast at Liston, as the Church has not had any communication from County broadband. Cllr C. Cox also stated that the Church mast at Foxearth may not be suitable because of the close proximity of the trees.

**16/055: Update of LHP Quiet Lane at Liston Lane**

Cllr T. Clayton had attended a meeting at BDC and informed the meeting that the Quiet Lane scheme had been pushed back to next year. Cllr T. Clayton also informed the meeting that some children had become ill after swimming in the river Liston. He warned everyone of the dangers.

**16/056: Review of the complaints procedure**

Cllr M. Posen agreed that the Complaint procedure should be reviewed and suggested that this is discussed and agreed at the July meeting. This was agreed by Councillors

**16/057: Planning Applications**

**16/00591/FUL – Land North West of Constables Farm Glemsford Road Foxearth**

**Proposed improvements to existing access, resurfacing of parking area and siting of a storage container ancillary to the retention of land at Foxearth as a nature reserve.**

**Cllr K. Robson informed Councillors that this application is a few hundred yards from his house and he is supportive of the works in the area. His only concern was over access in the dark hours and litter being left in the area and becoming a playground. There had been a similar problem in the past. Another situation that could arise is how frequent will the gates be locked at night. The warden is there occasionally and is actively looking for volunteers to help him.**

**F&L DECISION: Support application with proviso concerns the security after darkness and locking of the site**

**16/00795/VAR - Liston Hall Foxearth Road Liston CO10 7HT**

**Application for variation of condition nos. 2 of approved application 09/00036/FUL (Erection of single storey extension, creation of two holiday lets and internal and external alterations) To allow use of the buildings for residential accommodation in connection with the occupation of the main dwelling.**

**F&L DECISION: To support the application**

**Decision on Planning Application/s**

There were no decisions by BDC affecting Foxearth or Liston

**16/058: To discuss any other planning applications received subsequent to the agenda being published and/or shown on the Braintree District Council website up until 5pm on the day prior to the meeting.**

There was no additional planning application to discuss

**16/059: Finance**

**Credit Received – BDC Precept and Localism fund £3677.00p**

**Payments to be made**

780 P. Cox Street Cleaning and removal of branches in Claypits £115.00p

781 Kevin Money Clerk salary Jan-Mar'16 £569.04 + April '16 £189.82 = £758.86 - CANCELLED

782 Zurich Insurance 2016/17 £251.85

783 Clerk expenses Dec '15 – April '16 £7.00

784 EALC/NALC 2016/17 Subscription £92.88

DD E. ON Electricity £48.02

785 Ladywell Accountancy Services for 2015/16 £36.00

786 HMRC Payment £269.62

Nov - Dec '15 £ 90.00 Jan – Mar '16 £134.82 + April '16 £44.80

787 Len Young Auditor £50.00

Cllr M. Posen proposed and Cllr W. Binks seconded that the above payments be made with the exception of Chq. 781 to Kevin B. Money. **This was agreed unanimously**

Cllr M. Posen then proposed that the Clerk salary should be paid on time by a Standing order on a regular basis. **This was agreed unanimously.** The Clerk was instructed to get a letter signed by two cheque signatories to authorise this standing order

**16/060: Annual Return for 2015/16**

Cllr K. Robson proposed and Cllr C. Cox seconded that the Chairman should sign Section 1 of the Annual Governance Statement for 2015/16. This was agreed unanimously

**16/061: Annual Return for 2015/16**

Cllr W. Binks proposed and Cllr M. Posen seconded that the Chairman should sign Section 2 of the Accountancy Statements for 2015/16. This was agreed unanimously

**16/062: Annual Return for 2015/16**

Councillors agreed unanimously to accept Internal Auditors report 2015/16

**16/063: Parish Tree Warden**

Alan Fitch informed Councillors that the Jubilee tree is looking better. Rag worm has been discovered in a couple of places. He requests that the Parish Council informs the landowners of the rag worm. Tree work has been carried out at Redhouse farm. He went on site to find out why. The tree had been felled and the tree topped. The dangerous branches on the tree have been rectified. Alan Fitch is to contact BDC to see if any application was made for the tree works to be carried out. TPO order can be placed on any tree in the village.

**Date of next meeting/s**

**02.07.16: 17.09.16: 12.11.16: 28.01.17**

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 12.20pm and thanked everyone for attending the meeting

Signed.....2<sup>nd</sup>. July 2016  
**T. Clayton**