



## FOXEARTH & LISTON PARISH COUNCIL

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### **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 30<sup>th</sup>. September 2024 at 7.30pm in Foxearth Village Hall.**

Present: Cllrs K. Holmes (Chair), K. Robson (Vice-Chair), S. Ham, M. Posen, ECC Cllr P. Schwier and Kevin B. Money (Parish Clerk). There were also 7 members of the public present

#### **075/2024 Chairman welcome and Announcements**

The Chair, Cllr K. Holmes, mentioned the sad passing of former Chairman Tony Clayton. Tony will be sadly missed. He played a large part in bringing the 2 villages of Liston and Foxearth together. Each Councillor spoke about Tony and their own memories.

- a) To accept the resignation of Maureen Clayton as a Parish Councillor
- b) To accept the resignation of Fiona Binks as a Parish Councillor

Councillors accepted, with reluctance, the resignations from Fiona Binks and Maureen Clayton

#### **076/2024 Apologies for Absence** were received from BDC Cllr I. Parker

#### **077/2024 Declaration of Interest To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or non-Pecuniary Interest relating to items on the agenda. None Declared**

#### **078/2024 To approve the Minutes of the last meeting of Foxearth & Liston Parish Council** To receive and agree the minutes of the last F&LPC meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup>. July 2024 **All Agreed**

#### **079/2024 Essex County Councillors report – ECC Cllr P. Schwier**

See items 081/2024 and 085/2024

Cllr P. Schwier, due to BDC meetings, may not be able to make future meetings.

- 3 New schools open +40 temp buildings replaced with permanent
- ECC - Essex Highways rolls out faster and greener way to repair roads using old lorry tyres
- Last chance to have your say on key principles of new transport strategy for Essex
- ECC Information re-ditches
- ECC - Funding helps Headway Essex change the lives of those with acquired brain injuries
- ECC- County helps Essex homeowners upgrade heating ahead of cold winter months

#### **080/2024 District Councillors report – BDC Cllr I. Parker**

No report was given but the Clerk read out her report which Iona sent prior to the meeting:

The Government has pushed back the deadline for submitting a new Local Plan. As a result the meetings of the Local Plan committee on the sites put forward for development under the call for sites has been postponed till May-June next year. There will also be a consultation in Jan - Feb called Issues and Options. BDC has formally responded to the Government's proposals to revise the NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework). The proposals include an increased housing target of 1098 homes for Braintree District, an increase of 35%. Please see the agenda of the Local Plan sub-committee on 16th September if you are interested to see BDC's response. BDC is not alone in robustly challenging the increase in housing targets in the south east rather than focusing on increasing housing supply in the cities.

There will be a jobs fair at Queens Hall in Halstead on 2<sup>nd</sup>. November from 0930 to 1230. Up to 30 local employers will attend. No pre booking is required.

BDC has written to the Chancellor urging her to reconsider the withdrawal of winter fuel payments for pensioners not on pension credit. BDC will also be helping those eligible to apply for pension credit.

#### **081/2024 Public Participation Session**

The Chairman invited questions and observations from members of the public present. Questions and comments raised related to the location of the SID and problems with potholes in the villages.

Cllr P. Schwier to have the "Whats3words" to prioritise the problem with pot holes.

Cllr P. Schwier undertook to respond to issues raised and left the meeting

**082/2024 Councillor vacancies – update from the Clerk.** The Parish Council can now start the co-option process of seeking 2 new Councillors. Advertisements are now on the noticeboard, Facebook and website

**083/2024 Flooding working group in Liston and Foxearth – update from the chair of the group:**  
We have had an encouraging and well attended start to the group.  
Our first meeting met here and walked a route around Foxearth and were grateful for the help in pointing out the problem areas in the past, putting together a list of locations, who might be responsible for each and possible improvements required.

By the time of our next meeting, we had approached 3 local landowners, Simon Dain, Colin Flux and David Fahie (who has contacted the managing land agent on our behalf). All are happy to help us if we ask. We prioritised the list and decided on one particular area to be the focus of our first working party.

We have been notified of an Essex flood committee who Stuart has agreed to contact.

We have requested a map of drain locations from highways with no response yet.

It was reported that drain jetting had taken place in Liston (not as a result of this group) which had resulted in road drains being uncovered and the discovery that the drain outside Church Cottages in Liston has collapsed.

The first working party on 8<sup>th</sup>. September was well attended and we made excellent progress clearing the ditch and the pipe under the road at the junction of Red House Farm Road and Halstead Road between Foxearth and Liston.

It has been decided that the next working party will attempt to clear the ditch between the Liston junction working towards Foxearth via Red Cottages. Now permission has been gained from Colin Flux who is happy for us to access via his field

The next date of working party is 20<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 10am

Cllr K. Holmes stated that the flood working party has made a tremendous difference to the roadway when the local rain storm happened and the culvert/drains worked well. The road did not flood. Having landowners support and help is truly appreciated.

**084/2024 Footpath update – Cllr K. Robson**

Footpath cutting this year was fairly successful. A second cut by BDC was mentioned. There are no footpaths overgrown at this time. Blocked footpath on the side of Oak House has been reported. Cllr K. Robson to contact the landowner. Next year to revise the cutting plan and be happy with the same contractor.

**085/2024 Highway issues update from Cllr M. Posen**

A number of LHP requests have been submitted and the PC are frustrated due to the lack of progress, particularly in relation to the traffic outside Red Cottages. The speed report stated that most drivers were observing the 60mph speed limit but this was not the issue raised which was that vehicles are travelling too fast for the conditions and residents' vehicles are being hit whilst waiting to turn into their driveways.

Something needs to be done to slow traffic coming round the bend.

General discussion of traffic issues:

Pot holes are a problem throughout Essex not only in Foxearth. Fiona Binks resigned as a Parish Councillor due to no action from ECC or LHP to resolve speeding issues. Cllr P. Schwier advised he has been trying to reduce the national speed limit to 50mph. Essex Highways is led by National strategy. In regard to Foxearth and Liston villages it is difficult to change speed limits. Cllr P. Schwir to contact the lead Councillor of Highways asking why the LHP applications are not being taken seriously. Strategy and policies must be adhered to when a LHP form is submitted. The panel must be far more flexible when allocating money on projects. The road a Red Cottage is a dangerous bend, it is not necessarily a speeding issue but the visibility is a problem.

There is a marked difference between Essex and Suffolk Counties regarding speed limit in their area. Why does this variance exist? The national policies are the same so is Essex adopting the policies on a more vagarious basis?

- **Speed indicator device update – Cllr K. Holmes**

Essex Highways have specific rules about where a SID can be situated which seem to be applied without consideration of individual circumstances. Other Counties don't seem to have the same rigid approach. Cllr Holmes to identify possible locations and raise again with Essex Highways. A resident agreed to have the SID erected on her property.

**086/2024 Planning Application/s**

**24/01898/HH** - Oak House Claypits Lane Foxearth  
Proposed freestanding EV charging point.

**RESOLVED:** Support this planning application

**087/2024 Planning Appeals****TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 APPEAL UNDER SECTION 78****Land South Of Foxearth Hall The Street Foxearth Essex**

Erection of 1no. dwelling and ancillary outbuilding.

Planning Application Ref: 24/00419/FUL Planning Inspectorate Ref: APP/Z1510/W/24/3347469

Appeal Start Date: 16<sup>th</sup>. August 2024

An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State following Braintree District Council's refusal of the above application/s.

**088/2024 Planning Decisions made by BDC affecting Foxearth and Liston. No decisions made****089/2024 Planning Appeals**

The Granary, Land Fronting Mill Road – **Appeal Dismissed**

**090/2024 Finance**

a) To receive the Bank balances as at 31<sup>st</sup>. August 2024

Councillors noted the Bank balances as at 31<sup>st</sup>. August 2024

b) To receive the comparison of Actual against Budget 2024/25

Councillors noted the comparison of Actual against Budget 2024/25

c) Councillors to agree the August and September 2024 finances and to agree a transfer of any funds to meet the Parish Council's financial requirements. **All Agreed**

**091/2024 Budget 2025/2026.** Councillors to discuss the provisional budget for 2025/2026.

Councillors discussed the 1<sup>st</sup>. draft of the 2025-2026 budget. This item to be finalised at the November meeting

**092/2024 Items for Next Agenda**

Budget 2025-2026: SID sign: Street Light in Claypits:

**093/2024 Date of Next Full Council meetings – Monday 18<sup>th</sup>. November at 7.30pm****094/2024 Councillors to discuss the proposed 2025 meeting dates.**

**20.01: 17.03: 19.05: 21.07: 15.09: 17.11.25**

**095/2024 Closure of the Meeting**

To Close the meeting having considered and determined all items of business

The Chair then closed the meeting at 9.30pm and thanked everyone for attending

Signed

*K Holmes*

**Keith Holmes  
Chair**

18<sup>th</sup>. November 2024