

FOXEARTH & LISTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Saturday 17th. September 2016 at Foxearth Village Hall at 10.30am

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

There were also 7 members of the public in attendance and DC I. Parker

16/080: Chairman welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

16/081: Apologies for Absence were received from Cllr C. Cox

16/082: Declaration of Interest

To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests relating to items on the agenda

Cllr P. Cox declared an interest in Finance 16/092, Foxearth Church and Street Cleansing

Cllr K. Robson declared an interest in the Planning application on Glemsford Road

16/083: To approve the Minutes of the last meeting of Foxearth & Liston Parish Council.

To receive and agree the minutes held on Saturday 2nd. July 2016

Cllr M. Posen proposed and Cllr W. Binks seconded that the minutes represent a true and accurate record of the meeting. **This was agreed unanimously**

16/084: Chairman's report

Cllr T. Clayton informed the meeting that the long awaited flood relief scheme in School Street commenced on 12th. September and will take up to 3 months to complete. The new system will catch rainwater from the west of the village and divert it through pipes and manholes into existing ditch system that runs parallel with School Street. The ditch will undergo some clearance to enable the water to flow freely. The existing system will remain in place but due to the new works being carried out the water within the old system will be greatly reduced. The works will of course create some inconvenience due to the length of time envisaged to complete but for those affected by previous flooding it will be a price well worth paying and for those not affected I trust you will appreciate this and show patience.

The Chairman was contacted by a local resident in School Lane who had the misfortune of arriving home to find that yet another vehicle had left the road on the bend at the junction with Liston Road but instead of ending up in the field or ditch alongside the road the vehicle went through their fence and hit the house. At their request the Chairman has contacted Essex Highways and requested that signage be installed to warn drivers of this dangerous, unsighted bend in an attempt to reduce the number of incidents of which there have been 4 already this year. His request was met with positive results and is very hopeful that a solution be found for signs to be fixed in both directions (or at least road markings). The Chairman asked whether the District Councillor and Essex County Councillor will support this application to Essex Highways. Cllr I. Parker indicated that she would support this application. The Chairman requested that for the sake of good practice the Clerk should include an agenda item at the next meeting to enable full PC support.

The Chairman also mentioned about fly-tipping especially in Glemsford Road, School Lane and by Foxearth Hall. He asked residents to report any fly-tipping to BDC.

16/085: Clerks report

The Clerk informed the meeting of the upcoming EALC AGM at Foakes Hall Gt. Dunmow on Thursday 22nd. September. Doors opening at 11.30am. There is a special guest speaker, Tim Morris, giving a presentation on "A Working Life in Death".

16/086: Public Participation

Mrs M. Waite informed the meeting of the continued footpaths problem and finger posts still not up. Mrs M. Waite informed Councillors that she will be emailing a long list to Cllr K. Robson to investigate.

There is also some fencing which may not be placed in the correct line and numerous amounts of nettles need cutting back. Mrs M. Waite asked if a working party to trim the footpaths could be set-up? ECC David Finch has informed Mrs. M. Waite that ECC are looking at transferring the footpath cutting to Parish Councils to save money. Mrs M. Waite thought that a local contractor could undertake this work in the future and maybe the village can get 2 cuts per year. The hedges have been cut and now, being in September, avoids the disturbing of birds and nesting. Residents asked if this additional funding for the footpath and hedge clearing can be added to the precept for 2017/18

The Clerk was asked to get quotations for the footpath and hedge clearing.

16/087: Parish Council response to Hastoe presentation at previous meeting.

Councillors agreed unanimously to invite a representative from Hastoe to the next Annual Residents meeting in May 2017.

16/088: Essex County Councillor report. There was no report given

16/089: District County Council report

District Council I. Parker informed the meeting that

- The consultation stage of the new Local Plan has been completed. Officers and the Local Plan committee are now looking at the comments received and new sites submitted. So far, with the exception of Ridgewell, no sites have been allocated in her ward.
- BDC are investing £28m in a District Investment Fund. The aim of the fund is to invest in projects that will deliver benefits to residents of the District and will also offer a commercial return to the Council on the monies invested. The fund is derived from new homes bonus, reserves and borrowing. Announcements so far include purchase of a building in Braintree to be converted to a GP surgery and let to a practice in Braintree, an investment in additional car parking and business units at the Ignite Business Centre in Braintree and redevelopment of a site in Braintree town centre to provide another GP surgery, additional car parking, an improved bus station and restaurant units to improve the retail offering in Braintree town centre. BDC is also carrying out a feasibility study into a Housing Development Company to increase the supply of affordable housing.
- The Overview and Scrutiny committee at the Council are looking into the coverage of "Superfast" Broadband in the District. In her ward Ridgewell and the Belchamps already have fibre. Ovington and Tilbury are not covered by the existing plans. Borley apparently has broadband with County Broadband (she is not sure if this is correct). Little Yeldham, Ashen and Foxearth are in Phase 2b of the rollout and the cabinets that serve them are due to be upgraded between June 2017 and July 2018. However, these villages, along with Pentlow which is connected to a fibre enabled cabinet in Glemsford, are on "long lines" i.e. more than 1000m from the cabinet and the signal is likely to have degraded such that the villages will see no improvement when the cabinet is upgraded. Superfast Essex is aware of this and BT are looking at technical means of solving this including fibre to the node. Superfast Essex are also now looking at Phase 3 i.e. all those premises which are not receiving Superfast Broadband under the current programme and are investigating all means of reaching this final 5% including using providers other than BT and using technologies other than fibre. However additional public funding is likely to be required. The focus does however seem to be switching to how to provide broadband to these hard to reach rural areas.
- BDC has launched a new Councillor grant scheme. Each Councillor has been allocated £1500 in the financial year ending 31.3.17 and £1500 in the financial year ending 31.3.18 to donate to projects or initiatives in their ward. Grants can be for between £100 and £1500 and no match funding is required although if the project costs more than the grant available, it must be clear where the remaining money is coming from. The grants awarded must be spent within 6 months. Any formally governed organisation can apply including parish councils, village halls and recreation ground committees, voluntary groups and charities. If you would like to apply or know of an organisation that would like to apply, please contact her to discuss your proposal.
- As you will have seen from the Contact Magazine, garden waste (the large green bin) will no longer be collected in December, January and February. As very little waste was collected in these months, it was felt it was not cost effective to continue this service.
- People caught fly tipping will now be fined up to £400. Please report any people you see fly tipping to BDC on the main number. Please also continue to report any fly tipping you see round about.

District Councillor I. Parker leaves the meeting

16/090: Planning applications

16/01262/NMA – Tuckers Mill Road Foxearth CO10 7JF

Application for a non-material amendment following grant of planning permission 15/00766/FUL (Proposed demolition of existing bungalow and erection of a replacement dwelling) - replace window to doors on main bedroom and include Juliet balcony.

The Clerk informed Councillors that **BDC Granted this application on 08.09.16**

16/00230/TPO – 1 Orchard Cottages The Street Foxearth CO10 7JG

Notice of intent to carry out works to tree protected by TPO – Fell 1 Norway Spruce tree

Cllr M. Posen said that the Applicant and application makes a good case and he would support the application. Cllr P. Cox also agreed with Cllr M. Posen and went on to say that the trees leans towards the property which is a grade II listed building. Cllr T. Clayton said that the tree is a danger to the house. Alan Fitch (tree warden) advised Councillors that he did not support the felling of a mature tree, but could also understand the opposite point of view.

F&L Decision:

Cllr M. Posen propped and Cllr K. Robson seconded to Support the application

This was agreed unanimously

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

Additional information received

May 2016 F&L Decision

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

F&L Decision:

Cllr T. Clayton proposed and Cllr M. Posen seconded that the Council supports this application F3 Ab1

16/091: To discuss any other planning applications received subsequent to the agenda being published. There were no additional applications to discuss

16/092: Finance

- 28.07.16 s/o Kevin B. Money Clerk July salary £189.82
- 28.08.16 s/o Kevin B. Money Clerk August salary £189.82
- 28.09.16 s/o Kevin B. Money Clerk September salary £189.82
- 01.09.16 DD – E-on Street lighting electricity £83.46
- 0791 HMRC payment for July (£45) – August (£45) – September (£44.80) = £134.80
- 0792 Foxearth Church Grant £600.00
- 0793 Liston Church Grant £200.00
- 0794 P. Cox Street Cleaning £90.00

The above cheques were proposed for authorisation by Cllr M. Posen and seconded by Cllr K. Robson.

F3 Ab1

16/093: Parish Tree Warden

The Clerk was asked to contact BDC Tree warden regarding the Oak Tree outside the village hall on the village green. The tree warden recommended to Councillors that this tree be trimmed and shaped after the leaves had fallen. Mr. Crawford, once permission is granted, will undertake this work free of charge to the Council.

Date of next meeting/s

12.11.16 : 28.01.17: The clerk was asked to produce a list of meetings for the 2017 year.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 11.45am and thanked everyone for attending

Signed.....12th. November 2016

Anthony Clayton