



## FOXEARTH & LISTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk / RFO: Kevin B. Money  
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### Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup>. May 2022 at 10.30am in Foxearth Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs T. Clayton (Chairman), M. Posen (Vice-Chairman), F. Binks, S. Ham, K. Holmes, K. Robson, ECC Cllr P. Schwier, BDC Cllr I. Parker and Kevin B. Money (Parish Clerk).

There were also 3 members of the public present

**043/2022 Chairman welcome.** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

**044/2022 Apologies for Absence** – None received

**045/2022 Declaration of Interest**

To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or non-Pecuniary Interest relating to items on the agenda. None Declared

Cllr M. Posen declared an interest in item 055/2022 (d)

**046/2022 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 12<sup>th</sup>. March 2022. **All Agreed**

**047/2022 Chairman's report and any update since last meeting**

I can report that Braintree have decided that the decision to only cut the verges once in the autumn rather than spring and autumn has been a great success and have therefore announced that this experiment will be continued for a further three years. Biodiversity is at the forefront of every council in the country and certainly Braintree are making a positive contribution and saving money at the same time. Of course, where the increased growth creates a road safety hazard it can be reported on the BDC website and they will send out a team to deal with the situation.

Foxearth and Liston are blessed with two wonderful churches but both are under threat due to the financial situation of the Diocese, along with Borley church and the pressures placed upon local Vicars who have to take responsibility for an ever-increasing number of Parishes. Liston is now down to one service per month and although I must admit I am not a regular churchgoer myself, I did attend the communion service last Sunday as I was asked to carry out a reading. I was expecting to see only a small handful of people, but to my pleasant surprise the attendance was exceptional, with attendees from not only Liston but also Borley and Foxearth. Long may this continue because it really is a case of use it or lose it.

Speeding is a problem in both Foxearth and Liston but although nothing at the moment can be done about Liston due to the lack of an enforceable speed limit, we can address the problem in Foxearth. The Parish Council with the assistance of Iona Parker has managed to secure some funding to enable a vehicle activated sign to be installed which should have the desired effect of compelling drivers to reduce their speed through the village. It has been proven to have a positive effect in many other villages so let's hope it has the same here.

Anyone using Liston Lane cannot help but notice the poor and dangerous state of the railings along the boardwalk and this has been an ongoing saga between Essex and Suffolk Councils as to whose responsibility it is to carry out maintenance. Their legal departments have now become involved so hopefully we should have a decision very soon.

**048/2022 Essex County Councillors report – ECC Cllr P. Schwier**

Cllr P. Schwier 2021/22 Annual report, which have been sent to Councillors, can be found at <https://e-voice.org.uk/foxearthandliston-pc/minutes/2022/>

Cllr F. Binks asked if Cllr P. Schwier has had a response from Essex Highways on the traffic issues. Cllr K. Robson ask about funding for footpath and signage issues. Cllr P. Schwier responded by asking K. Robson to submit an email to him with pictures etc.

Cllr P. Schwier left the meeting

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>. May 2022 in the Village Hall

**049/2022 District Councillors report – BDC Cllr I. Parker**

Cllr I. Parker 2021/22 Annual report, which have been sent to Councillors, can be found at <https://e-voice.org.uk/foxearthandliston-pc/minutes/2022/>

- Gates at School Lane has been decided by BDC Enforcement officers it is a planning breach but no enforcement action will be taken as it is a minor breach. For further advice contact ECC Cllr P. Schwier to report to Essex Highways as accidents happen in the area. Cllr I. Parker stated that a request be made to LHP for a sign in the road and she will send an application form to LHP
- Local Plan – still waiting for the inspector to make his decision
- Planning scheme of delegation has changed
- Planning meetings happen every 2 weeks
- Enforcement department is employing new staff
- Climate Change strategy is still ongoing
- Last 2 years BDC has been administering Government grants which has taken up their time
- New employment site at Great Notley
- Government looking again at the new proposed A120 route to include the new A12 and A120 at the same time
- 450 affordable houses have been developed
- Councillor's Community scheme is continuing for 2022-23. Cllr I. Parker allocation is £1250

You will have seen from the email from BDC that the verge cutting trial is being extended for a further 3 years. This means the verges will only be cut once a year in the autumn.

The Council will however cut the verges near junctions where grass and other vegetation impedes visibility if they receive a request. Last year only 3 safety cuts were requested across the whole of my ward even though the grass was very tall. I shall be reporting any junctions I come across where I cannot see but I would urge councillors and residents to request safety cuts at any problematic junctions on their villages, or elsewhere.

The email to use is [verges@braintree.gov.uk](mailto:verges@braintree.gov.uk) or you can call the switchboard on 01376 552525.

Cllr I. Parker left the meeting

**050/2022 Public Participation Session**

The Chairman will invite questions and observations from members of the public present.

A maximum time of 15 minutes will be allowed

A resident asked to Change of meeting day to weekday evening as few residents attend the Parish Council meetings. Councillors agreed to look at this suggestion and decide at the next Full Council meeting in July.

**051/2022 Footpath update – Cllr K. Robson**

Councillors agreed to funding some new marker posts. Cllr K. Robson to contact ECC to enquire about local contractors to undertake strimming and cutting issues.

**052/2022 Highways and Transport issues – Cllr F. Binks****a) Councillors to discuss the purchase of a new VAS or SID**

Cllr F. Binks informed the meeting of the quotations she has submitted to Councillors.

Councillors agreed to a site visit to ascertain the best places for where to place the sign.

Councillors looked at both quotations and Cllr M. Posen proposed accepting the quotation from Westcotec with the data collection totalling £3045.00p + £379.00p Plus VAT. Subject to ECC and the site visit allocating suitable sites. Cllr K. Holmes seconded. **All Agreed**

**053/2022 Planning Applications**

**22/00612/TPOCON** - Magnolia House, The Street, Foxearth

Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area - Tree 1 - Norway Maple re-pollard the tree to the previous points, Tree 2 - Norway Maple - reduce by approximately 2m from the height and shape to leave a smaller more balanced crown and Tree 3 - Birch - coppice - this tree is suppressed and growing too close to the Maple tree -

**RESOLVED: F&LPC Supports this application subject to the Tree and Conservation Officer Approval. This application on 4<sup>th</sup>. May 2022 was GRANTED**

**054/2022 Decisions made by BDC affecting Foxearth and Liston**

**22/00073/LBC** - Weston Hall, Weston End, Foxearth  
Removal of part of barn – **Application GRANTED**

**22/00431/HH** - Foxearth Fishery Lodge, Foxearth Fisheries, Glemsford Road  
Erection of detached garage with entrance lobby, wet room and staircase to first floor home office.  
**Application WITHDRAWN**

**22/00263/HH & 22/00264/LBC** - The Old Rectory, Foxearth Road, Liston  
Replace and extend conservatory with a zinc flat roof with 1no. glazed lantern. Minor internal alterations.  
**Application GRANTED**

**22/00960/TPOCON** - Foxearth House, The Street, Foxearth  
Notice of intent to carry out works to tree in a Conservation Area - Have been advised by a tree surgeon That this sycamore tree has a number of dead boughs overhanging the road (School Street/The Street) and that the majority of the tree has died so should be clear felled. **Application GRANTED**

**055/2022 Finance**

- a) To receive the Bank balances as at 30<sup>th</sup>. April 2022  
Councillors noted the Bank balances as at 30<sup>th</sup>. April 2022
- b) To receive the comparison of Actual against Budget 2022/23  
Councillors noted the comparison of Actual against Budget 2022/23
- c) Councillors to agree payments of April and May 2022 finances  
Cllr T. Clayton proposed and Cllr M. Posen seconded to authorise the April and May 2022 payments.  
**All Agreed**
- d) To receive a quotation from Zurich Municipal Insurance for 2022/23 of £257.60p  
Cllr T. Clayton proposed and Cllr S. Ham seconded to accept the Zurich Municipal Insurance for 2022/23 of £257.60p. **All Agreed**
- e) F&LPC Gmail account - Google Switch over to the new paid Google account  
2 Options - Find an alternate (cheaper) email provider which will a bit of a headache to set up the new system and – importantly – to transfer all the old email across without losing anything. Or The Google alternative is simple and straightforward, as nothing would change, but comes at an annual cost of between £250 and £500. – Cllr M. Posen  
Cllr M. Posen proposed to change the Gmail account from £250 - £500. Cllr T. Clayton seconded.  
**All Agreed**

**056/2022 Annual Return**

- 1) To receive the 2021/22 signed Internal Audit Report**  
Councillors noted the 2021/22 signed Internal Audit Report
- 2) To receive and sign the Certificate of Exemption – AGAR 2021/22 part 2**  
Cllr M. Posen proposed to sign the Certificate of Exemption – AGAR 2021/22 part 2.  
Cllr K. Holmes seconded. **All Agreed.** The Chairman and Parish Clerk then signed the Certificate of Exemption AGAR 2021/22 part 2 form.
- 3) To receive and sign the Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement 2021/22**  
Cllr K. Robson proposed to sign Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement 2021/22  
Cllr F. Binks seconded. **All Agreed.** The Chairman and Parish Clerk then signed Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement 2021/22
- 4) To receive and sign the Section 2 - Accounting Statements 2021/22**  
Cllr T. Clayton proposed to sign Section 2 - Accounting Statements 2021/22  
Cllr F. Binks seconded. **All Agreed.** The Chairman and RFO then signed Section 2 - Accounting Statements 2021/22

**057/2022 Items for Next Agenda**

F&LPC to discuss changing meeting date to weekend evening.

**058/2022 Date of Next Full Council meetings – 16.07.22: 17.09.22: 19.11.22**

**059/2022 Closure of the Meeting**

To Close the meeting having considered and determined all items of business  
There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 11.30am and thanked everyone for attending.

Signed

*T. Clayton*  
**Tony Clayton**

16<sup>th</sup>. July 2022