



FOXEARTH & LISTON PARISH COUNCIL
NOTICE OF

ANNUAL MEETING OF ELECTORS

To be held in the Village Hall on

MONDAY 20th. MAY at 7.30pm

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. To approve the minutes of the last Annual Electors meeting held on 18th. May 2023
3. Report from ECC Councillor – Cllr Peter Schwier
4. Report from BDC Councillor - Cllr Iona Parker
5. Report of the Chairman of the Council
6. Public Forum

M Posen

Mark Posen
Chairman
Foxearth and Liston Parish Council

14th. May 2024



FOXEARTH & LISTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk / RFO: Kevin B. Money

7 Roach Vale, Colchester, Essex. CO4 3YN

Tel: 07810781509 – Email: theclerk@foxearthandliston-pc.org

Website: <https://www.foxearthandliston-pc.org> <https://e-voice.org.uk/foxearthandliston-pc>

Minutes of the Annual Electors Meeting held on 18th. May 2023 at 7pm in Foxearth Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs M. Posen (Vice-Chairman), F. Binks, S. Ham, K. Robson, ECC Cllr P. Schwier, BDC Cllr I. Parker and Kevin B. Money (Parish Clerk). There were also 5 members of the public present

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr K. Holmes
2. To approve the minutes of the last Annual Electors meeting held on 21st. May 2022. **All Agreed**
3. Report from ECC Councillor – Cllr Peter Schwier

Essex Highways has flicked the switch on a significant milestone in the streetlight upgrade programme after 100,000 new LED streetlights were installed across the county.

The upgrades are happening mostly in residential roads, with older lamps being replaced with LED ('light-emitting diode') technology, in the fourth and final phase of the street lighting upgrade project.

Essex Highways' crews have been upgrading around 1,000 lights a week and are currently finishing the upgrades in Braintree and Epping Forest before moving to Castle Point and Harlow.

The upgraded LED lights save around 75% of energy compared to the older bulbs that are being replaced and are more efficient as they are expected to last up to 20 years, saving taxpayers' money being spent on regularly replacing the bulbs.

Councillor Lee Scott, Essex County Council Cabinet Member for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport, said: "The streetlight upgrade programme is a significant project and the progress made so far in bringing more efficient and environmentally friendly lighting across Essex has been impressive.

"Despite a number of global issues affecting the supply of LEDs, the team have worked hard to secure stock and continue the rollout, and I am confident every residential streetlight across Essex will benefit from new, more efficient lighting by next year."

Phase four of the upgrade programme was significantly impacted by the global shortage of components for the telecells that are used to control the streetlights. This was due to major events such as the effects of the pandemic lockdowns and the war in Ukraine.

Essex Highways was able to secure additional stock before the shortage hit but the programme was still impacted significantly. Despite this, working with installation contractor Electrical Testing Ltd, Essex Highways was able to ensure delays were minimised and work is now on track to be completed by March 2024.

In areas where it appears that older streetlights have yet to be replaced or may have been missed, it is the intention that crews will return to them. There are several factors that may have prevented them being replaced initially, such as operatives unable to safely gain access to equipment due to foliage or parked cars, or concerns about the column structure.

For more information about Essex's LED replacement programme visit the [Replacement by LED programme webpage](#).

Essex Highways has now launched its 2023/24 programme to upgrade the condition of many roads across the county repairing some of the damage caused by the cold and wet winter conditions.

Essex Highways' 2023/24 budget for maintaining and repairing the carriageway across Essex over the next year is over £35 million. This does not include the £9 million additional investment announced as part of the Essex Highways budget in February, which has now been allocated to the following works:

£3.46 million for road resurfacing

£4 million for two member led footways schemes, where members will prioritise funding across their districts.

£1.54 million for carriageway patching.

An extra £1.2 million has also been allocated to Local Highway Panels for resurfacing and Members will work with the panels in their districts to allocate funding to the defects they prioritise. Additional crews have also been put in place to support Essex Highways teams deliver maintenance and repairs across Essex.

Councillor Lee Scott, Essex County Council Cabinet Member for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport, said: "The additional investment allocated to fixing Essex's roads is a clear commitment from Essex County Council to ensuring damage caused by the winter is repaired and roads are maintained. "It's exciting the resurfacing programme is now underway and is being supported by additional crews secured to help with the volume of work required to repair roads the width and breadth of the county and increase the visibility of the service as these repairs are carried out."

Essex Highways' engineers routinely and carefully inspect and record the condition of all roads on the network, to ensure the highest risk jobs are prioritised for the safety of the public.

There are five main resurfacing methods that are used across Essex:

Surface dressing is used where the surface is in reasonably good condition but needs sealing to stop water damage. A large area can be covered very quickly and once completed it can last up to ten years.

Micro surfacing is a more durable process which places a thin layer of a completely new surface on the road. It takes longer to cover a given area than surface dressing but is used where roads are busier and the surface needs levelling off.

Machine resurfacing involves removing the existing surface, and a completely new surface is laid. It is a slower process but is very effective in places where the road is badly worn and is required to take heavy traffic.

Recycling is used in limited areas where the condition of the road is only slightly less than desired and a very durable new surface can be laid. It is easier to re-use existing materials rather than bring in new stone for this method.

Joint and crack sealing is necessary to stop water damage to the underlying surface. The road surface type will determine which method will be used.

Inspections and technical scans provide information on when it is more economical and efficient to renew the entire surface. By resurfacing the road by any of these means, it ensures that the road becomes more water-resistant, potholes are repaired and the road benefits from improved paint work and skid-resistance for many years.

Resurfacing works are different from makes safe works that take place during the winter months to repair dangerous potholes. Makes safes are temporary repairs that are made to high-risk damage while a permanent repair is scheduled, which sometimes could be the resurfacing works.

Resurfacing works can be disruptive and need road closures, but the work to the road will last for many years. To make it easier for the work to take place, residents and visitors are asked not to park on the area of road that is to be resurfaced, as that can cause costly re-visits or even prevent the work being done at all.

On the busiest routes, surfacing works are often carried out at night, which allows longer working sessions than during the day and enables works to be completed more quickly, reducing the impacts on road users and nearby residents.

For more information about resurfacing works and to find out where they will be taking place, please visit [our website](#).

It is now almost two years since I was elected to Essex County Council; serving the residents of all the villages – and 33 parish councils - that make up the Hedingham division has been a real privilege. The year that has passed since your last annual meeting has gone very quickly but has proved extremely busy and filled with activity and achievement.

The passing of those two years also means we are half-way through the current four-year term, and we are starting to see many positive outcomes from the ambitious work the county council set in train back in May 2021.

The following is a small sample of the key numbers, landmarks and achievements from a busy year – many are necessarily Essex-wide but, where possible, I have tried to focus purely on issues relevant to our local communities.

Budget / Council Tax 23/24

In the toughest and most uncertain and inflationary financial climate the county has known for many years, ECC agreed a budget which prioritised support for adults' and children's social care, road maintenance, improving infrastructure and helping people with the cost of living.

Over the course of the next year, the county council will spend a total of £2,281m (gross) and £1,164m (net) through its revenue budget – 7% higher than had been planned last year, as a result of inflationary pressures

There will also be £275m of capital spending in 23/24.

Budget points of note include:

- £58m increase in the adult social care budget
- £7.5m extra to deliver 340 additional school places
- 9% increase in fees for foster carers

- Community supermarkets to be rolled-out – providing essential household goods at lower cost for hard-pressed families
- £200m spending on climate change remains in place, with new and existing cycle routes and active travel schemes are also being built and maintained to enable people to walk and cycle.

Highways

The council will be spending nearly £145m on highways maintenance and sustainable transport over the coming year and, as ever, will prioritise the areas by severity of need.

By way of context, the county looks after:

- 5,100 miles of carriageway;
- 4,000 miles of footways / cyclepaths;
- 130 miles of safety barriers;
- 131,000 street lights;
- 14,000 illuminated highway signs;
- 80,000 non-illuminated signs;
- 36,000 items of Public Rights of Way infrastructure.
- **7,002 – the number of potholes repaired in Essex over the course of 22/23 so far.**

Over the last year, in terms of calls to our contact centre around highways issues, we received the following numbers:

- 1,899 – average daily number of calls to the Contact Centre in January 2023;
- 432,711 - total calls to Contact Centre;
- 47,904 - total calls to Highways (new faults and general) service.

Meanwhile, the average answer waiting time for highways calls was 03:10.

Levelling Up

In late 2021, ECC launched its own Levelling Up White Paper, aimed at raising living standards for people in particular cohorts and locations. One year on, a great deal has already been achieved. This includes:

- 12,000 more homes and businesses connect to Superfast Broadband
- Over 6,600 devices donated to schools across Essex, to support students with getting online and enhancing their learning.
- 250 new entry level jobs created through our social value scheme.
- The Essex Opportunities website launched to provide access to more flexible job roles. In its first year the website has had more than 90,000 visits and 6,500 clicks to apply for jobs
- The Essex Apprenticeship Levy Transfer Service supported creating 240 new apprenticeships across Essex Businesses. Expanded our completely free holiday activity and food programme, ActivAte, which over the last two years has provided over 500,000 free meals and supported over 30,000 young people
- An almost £2million boost provided to social care in Essex under our Nightingale Care Bursary, which will support people from the most deprived communities in Essex to achieve social care qualifications or support existing care workers to achieve further qualifications.
- Our working families programme has been in contact with 960 families to provide support to those seeking information on upskilling or retraining for a new career
- Parkplay has now been launched in 16 areas across Essex and had over 2,000 unique people attend, with 16,000 attendances in total so far! Parkplay will be launched in more areas throughout 2023.
- The physical and mental wellbeing of 130,000 school children and young people supported at Essex Outdoors sites, where they learn a range of skills through outdoor pursuits.
- 60,000 new library members have signed up since Jan 2022
- 150,000 new recyclable library cards distributed to every primary school child in the county as part of the 'Essex Year of Reading' celebration. 74 new literacy areas have been created across Essex (one in every library).
- Almost 24,000 children took part in this year's Summer Reading Challenge. This is an increase of 36.4% on 2021.
- 'Multiply' launched - a new initiative that will offer over 14,000 Essex residents free access to maths and finance training

The environment and climate action

As the county council's Climate Czar, I've been front and centre with much of the work around our support for the environment and the drive towards net zero. I am delighted that it remains a central ambition of the council's work, despite the financial pressure. Progress has been made, along with our partners, over the last year, and key achievements include:

- 138,349 trees planted across Essex on our way to target of 375,000 by 2025. This amounts to 52.73 hectares of trees, and 16,492m of hedgerows

- 36,681 LED streetlamps now installed across the county.
- 1,222 fuel-poor households receiving support, helping them claim an additional £2.4 million in benefits via our Warm Homes Essex project
- £100,000 awarded in the last 12 months to local cycling groups and charities
- SuDS advice provided on 850 major planning applications a year
- 62,500 new properties receiving flood reduction expertise
- Green Flag award status retained across seven country parks welcoming one million visitors during the year
- £500,000 awarded from the Climate Action Challenge Fund to more than 30 local organisations and schools taking action on key climate change issues
- Several retrofit projects completed on the ECC estate
- £17.2m secured jointly with partners to provide fuel-poor households with grant funding of up to £10,000 to improve energy efficiency and heating systems in their homes
- A new North Essex Farming Cluster supported, which will help with information-sharing across the farming community, helping farmers move to more sustainable farming methods and protect sustainable agriculture
- Through Solar Together Essex, we have led a scheme enabling Essex residents to benefit from a significant discount on solar panels and battery storage from a reliable supplier. The scheme in Essex has now delivered over 1,300 installations and enabled over 1,100 tonnes of avoided carbon emissions annually. There have been 6,600 registrations over this year, more than any other year. The deadline to apply has been extended so people can register until 21/4/23.

Waste and recycling

We continue to work closely with district councils to promote recycling and efficient waste management that minimises the harm to the environment:



52% of household waste in Essex was recycled in 2020/21 – higher than the national average of 44%



The household **recycling rate varies from 40% - 58%** across the different district, borough and city areas



On average, each resident in Essex produces around 463kg of waste per year, that's **16% more waste than the national average.**



Approx 700,000 tonnes of household waste are generated in Essex per year – with a recycling rate of 52%, that means **circa 330,000 tonnes of general rubbish to landfill each year**



Over £100m is spent each year on the cost of collecting, treating and disposing of household waste in Essex



There are around **1.5 million visits to our 21 Recycling Centres each year**

Locality Fund

Once again, it has been a pleasure to support local communities through my Locality Fund. The details of schemes supported are as follows:

Organisation	Amount
The Birdbrook & District Community House	£310
Steeple Bumpstead Parish Council	£600
Mens Shed Great Yeldham	£1,000
Sturmer Parish Council	£700
Gestingtorpe Parish Council	£825
Birdbrook Bowls Club	£800
Helions Bumpstead Community Benefit Society	£803
Belchamp Otten & Belchamp St Paul Parish Council - Belchamp St Paul Community House	£300

I hope the above gives you an idea of the work that has gone in over the last year to develop our plans and deliver on them for the people of Essex.

Meanwhile, my work as Climate Czar has been extremely rewarding: meeting people across Essex and beyond; championing the work and achievements of people throughout our county; lobbying government on environmental causes – including the East Anglian Green proposals which I and colleagues across the region are steadfastly opposing.

On top of the above, I have also continued my busy work as a Braintree District Councillor, including membership of various bodies, such as the Planning Committee.

Most of all, it has been my pleasure and privilege to serve the residents of all the villages, both large and small, within the Heddingham division. I look forward to continuing to do so in the next year and beyond.

Cllr P. Schwier left the meeting

4. Report from BDC Councillor - Cllr Iona Parker

If the verges in the parish are cut by BDC, do request cutting of any junctions and corners/bends which need cutting for highway safety reasons.

I am finding that potholes that I report are being repaired within a matter of days. Do encourage residents to report potholes on the Essex Highways website, preferably with a photo and a what 3 words location, but I appreciate this is not always easy when driving!

Under the new scheme of delegation, planning applications for 1 or 2 new dwellings are automatically dealt with by officers but there is a provision that applications can still be determined by committee if deemed significant by the development control manager. If there are any planning applications which are causing significant concern, do raise these with me.

Please be aware that the Ride London Classique, a women's cycle race, will be taking place on Friday 26th May and will be passing along the A1017 near Baythorne End and along the A1017 through Sible Heddingham to Halstead and along the A1124 to Chappel as well as via Finchingfield and Wethersfield. There will be road closures associated with this though only for a short period.

See <https://www.ridelondon.co.uk/the-classique/the-stages/stage-one>

At the May Elections the Conservatives had 22 a majority of 3: 5 Ind: 4 Green: 7 Labour:
3 Halstead Residents

- Council Tax rose by 2.5% plus £25 rebate to all residents making the Council tax into negative territory
- Budget gap into 2023/2024
- Financial challenges
- £1m set aside from new home bonus to help cost of living pressures
- £1250 Councillor grant for 2023/2024
- No reduction in Street Cleaning Grant for 2023/2024
- Recycling calendars are being withdrawn
- Garden waste charge to come in 2023/2024
- Adopted New local plan for District
- 5 year housing supply has not been met
- Braintree Town Centre has been pedestrianised
- New all-weather sports pitches have been provided
- Rural Prosperity fund for supporting rural businesses
- 4 new Enforcement officers in planning but a numerous vacancies still exists

Cllr I. Parker left the meeting

5. Report of the Chairman of the Council

As Vice-Chair of the Parish Council, I'd like to thank those local electors who have come along this evening to participate in the Annual Meeting of Electors of Foxearth and Liston Parish Council. This is not a meeting of the Parish Council. Instead, it is an opportunity for the local electors to hear what the Parish Council has been doing for the past year and to have their say on any topics or issues that they think the local community or the Parish Council should be thinking about.

You have already heard reports from our County Councillor and District Councillor. I will now provide a report regarding the Parish Council's activities in the past year.

I'd like to start by acknowledging the contribution that Tony Clayton has made to our parishes. Tony has been a long-time member of the Council and has been our Chairman (I believe) since 2017. However, Tony decided to stand down from the Council at the elections held on May 4th this year, and unfortunately, he is not able to be with us tonight. On behalf of the Parish Council and the electors, I'd like to thank Tony for his work on the Parish Council, and for being an excellent Chairman, over the past years.

I'd also like to thank our Parish Clerk, Kevin Money, for all his work and support on our behalf during the past year.

As a small rural Parish Council, the scope of our activities is somewhat limited, but I'd like to give you a brief overview of the Council's activities over the past year.

Probably the main issue which residents have brought to the Council is the ongoing traffic problems that we all continue to experience. The Council has prepared a number of requests for traffic schemes, which have kindly been supported and forwarded to the local highways panel by our County Councillor. We have requested a review of the issues with single-direction driving at the bridge at Rodbridge and excessive traffic speeds near Red Cottages. Although nothing has been done yet, we continue to monitor the process, and we are waiting for a traffic speed survey to be conducted at Red Cottages. There has also been considerable concern raised regarding traffic speeds in Foxearth village. In an effort to try to combat this, the Council has purchased a Speed Indicator Device, which has now been delivered. Our Clerk is in the process of applying to Essex Highways for the licence, which we need to place the sign on the public Highway. We'll talk about this a bit more in the main PC meeting.

As a statutory consultee, the Council continues to review and comment on planning applications that affect our communities. Although we are not the final decision-maker for planning applications, the views of the local community, as represented by the Council, are an important part of the planning process. We continue to use a significant part of our Council budget to provide donations to local organisations. In the last year, we provided a grant to Foxearth Church for the maintenance of the church clock and the graveyard, we provided funding for the cutting of the village green at Liston, and we supported the work of the Local History Society.

The Council continues to fund the support and maintenance of the defibrillator outside Foxearth Village Hall. We hope that it never needs to be used, but it is good to know that it is there "just in case."

We also monitor the local footpath network and try to report problems to Essex Highways before they become serious issues. For the coming year, we are hoping to employ a contractor and thus take over the responsibility for cutting the footpaths from Highways. For the coming year, we are employing a contractor and thus take over the responsibility for cutting the footpaths from Highways. We hope that this will allow us to keep footpaths open more effectively. Following a request made at last year's Electors meeting, we have moved our Parish Council meetings from Saturday mornings to Thursday evenings. We hope that this change has made it easier for people to participate in our meetings, and we'd welcome any comments about this from members of the public.

I'd like to end by mentioning that at the parish elections on May 4th, only five of the six councillor seats were filled, and in the main PC meeting, we'll be discussing the process to co-opt someone to fill the vacant seat. I hope that one or more members of the community are willing to put themselves forward for this vacancy. I also hope that more members of the public will attend and participate in the PC meetings in the coming year. The Council is here to support the communities in the parishes of Liston and Foxearth, but it can't do that without members of the community also being ready to put themselves forward to support the work of the Council.

6. Public Forum

No questions from the public

The Vice-Chairman then closed the meeting at 7.35pm and thanked everyone for attending

Signed

20th. July 2023

M. Posen
Chairman



FOXEARTH & LISTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk / RFO: Kevin B. Money
 7 Roach Vale, Colchester, Essex. CO4 3YN
 Tel: 07810781509 – Email: theclerk@foxearthandliston-pc.org
 Website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/foxearthandliston-pc>

Dear Councillor

You are requested to attend the forthcoming meeting of Foxearth & Liston Parish Council to be held in the

Village Hall on **THURSDAY 20th. MAY 2024 immediately**

after the Annual Meeting of Electors for the purpose of transacting the business ONLY shown on the agenda

KBMoney Kevin B. Money - Clerk to the Council – 14th. May 2024

Tel: 07810781509: email theclerk@foxearthandliston-pc.org

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

- 038/2024** **2023/24 Chairman Welcome**
- 039/2024** **Apologies for Absence**
- 040/2024** **Election of Chairman for the 2024/25 year**
 The Chairman to sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form
- 041/2024** **Election of Vice-Chairman for the 2024/25 year**
 The Vice-Chairman to sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form
- 042/2024** **Election of Appointments and Employment committee for 2024/2025**
 2023-24 Appointments and Employment committee can be found at
<https://e-voice.org.uk/foxearthandliston-pc/parish-councillors/2023-24/>
- 043/2024** **To re-adopt all Council policies**
 2024-25 Council policies and procedures can be found at
<https://e-voice.org.uk/foxearthandliston-pc/policies-procedures/>
- 044/2024** **Closure of the Meeting**
 To Close the meeting having considered and determined all items of business

Foxearth & Liston Parish Council

Home (/foxearthandliston-pc/)

/ PARISH COUNCILLORS (/foxearthandliston-pc/parish-councillors/) / 2023/24

2023/24

MARK POSEN: CHAIRMAN - mark.posen@foxearthandliston-pc.org

EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE: PLANNING: PARISH MAGAZINE

KEITH ROBSON: VICE-CHAIRMAN

- keith.robson@foxearthandliston-pc.org EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE: PLANNING

FOOTPATHS & BRIDLEWAYS: HIGHWAYS CONTACT

KEITH HOLMES: - keith.holmes@foxearthandliston-pc.org

EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE: PLANNING

SALLY HAM: sally.ham@foxearthandliston-pc.org

PLANNING

FIONA BINKS: fiona.binks@foxearthandliston-pc.org

PLANNING

MAUREEN CLAYTON: lystonmill@gmail.com

Foxearth & Liston Parish Council

[Home \(/foxearthandliston-pc/\)](#) / [POLICIES & PROCEDURES](#)

POLICIES & PROCEDURES

POLICIES AND PUBLICATIONS FOR 2022-2023

Below are the policies and publications which the Parish Council is obliged to make publicly available. Click on the relevant file link below for details:

[Standing Orders \(/foxearthandliston-pc/assets/documents/information-83\)](#) - The rules under which the Council operates

[Financial Regulations \(/foxearthandliston-pc/assets/documents/information-71\)](#) - setting out how the Council manages its financial affairs

[Code of Conduct \(/foxearthandliston-pc/assets/documents/policy-3\)](#) - The Council's Code of Conduct

[Compliment & Complaints Procedure \(/foxearthandliston-pc/assets/documents/policy-9\)](#)

[Co-Option policy \(/foxearthandliston-pc/assets/documents/information-18\)](#)

[Data Protection Policy \(/foxearthandliston-pc/assets/documents/policy-6\)](#)

[Freedom Of Information Scheme \(/foxearthandliston-pc/assets/documents/policy-8\)](#) - The Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires all Parish Councils to adopt a Publication Scheme which is approved by the Information Commissioner.

[Recording and Use of Social Media at Council Meeting \(/foxearthandliston-pc/assets/documents/policy\)](#)

[Equal Opportunity Policy \(/foxearthandliston-pc/assets/documents/policy-12\)](#)

[Grant Application Form \(/foxearthandliston-pc/assets/documents/information-49\)](#) - This application must be with the Parish Clerk by 1st. September to be considered at the November Budget meeting

[Health & Safety Policy \(/foxearthandliston-pc/assets/documents/information-73\)](#)

[Internet Banking Policy \(/foxearthandliston-pc/assets/documents/information-74\)](#)

[Risk Assessment \(/foxearthandliston-pc/assets/documents/information-75\)](#)

[Training \(/foxearthandliston-pc/assets/documents/policy-15\)](#)

[Grievance Policy \(/foxearthandliston-pc/assets/documents/policy-13\)](#)

Social Media and Website Policy Communication (/foxearthandliston-pc/assets/documents/policy-14)

Statement of Internal Control (/foxearthandliston-pc/assets/documents/information-76)

Emergency Plan (/foxearthandliston-pc/assets/documents/information-80)

(/foxearthandliston-pc/assets/documents/information-14)

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Dear Councillor

You are requested to attend the forthcoming meeting of Foxearth & Liston Parish Council to be held in the

Village Hall on **MONDAY 20th. May 2024 immediatley after AGM**

for the purpose of transacting the business ONLY shown on the agenda

KBMoney Kevin B. Money - Clerk to the Council – 14th. May 2024

Tel: 07810781509: email theclerk@foxearthandliston-pc.org

FULL COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

- 045/2024** Chairman welcome
- 046/2024** Apologies for Absence
- 047/2024** Declaration of Interest To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or non-Pecuniary Interest relating to items on the agenda
- 048/2024** 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 25th. March 2024
- 049/2024** Flooding working group in Liston and Foxearth – update from Cllr M. Posen
- 050/2024** Footpath update – Cllr K. Robson
- 051/2024** Planning Application/s
24/00652/HH - Lyttle Hall The Street Foxearth
 Replacement windows and doors. Retain one window and install secondary glazing.
 Due to BDC planning response time-line the following response was sent on 18th. April 2024
 Foxearth & Liston Parish Council has No Objection to this application
- 24/00865/HH** - Peartree Cottage School Street Foxearth
 Proposed alterations to outbuilding
 Documents can be found at
<https://publicaccess.braintree.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=SCCMCKBFIAZ00>
- 24/00915/HH** - 4 Glebeside Foxearth Road Foxearth
 Single storey rear extension
 Documents can be found at
<https://publicaccess.braintree.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=SCPI8IBFIFR00>
- 052/2024** Decisions made by BDC affecting Foxearth and Liston
- 053/2024** Planning Appeals
- 054/2024** Finance
- To receive the Bank balances as at 30th. April 2024
 - To receive the comparison of Actual against Budget 2023/24
 - Councillors to agree the April & May 2024 finances and to agree a transfer of any funds to meet the Parish Council's financial requirements

055/2024 Annual Return for 2023/2024

- 1) To receive the 2023/24 signed Internal Audit Report
- 2) To receive and sign the Certificate of Exemption – AGAR 2023/24 part 2
- 3) To receive and sign the Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement 2023/24
- 4) To receive and sign the Section 2 - Accounting Statements 2023/24

056/2024 Items for Next Agenda

057/2024 Date of Next Full Council meetings – MONDAY 22nd. JULY 2024 at 7.30pm

Councillors to note NEW 2024 meeting dates 23.09.24: 25.11.24

058/2024 Closure of the Meeting

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



FOXEARTH & LISTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk / RFO: Kevin B. Money

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 25th. March 2024 at 7.30pm in Foxearth Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs M. Posen (Chairman), K. Robson (Vice-Chairman), F. Binks, S. Ham, BDC Cllr I. Parker and Kevin B. Money (Parish Clerk). There were also 6 members of the public present

019/2024 Chairman welcome. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

020/2024 Apologies for Absence were received from ECC Cllr P. Schwier and Cllr K. Holmes

021/2024 Declaration of Interest. To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or non-Pecuniary Interest relating to items on the agenda. None Declared

022/2024 Co-Option

The Candidate having completed a short application form and confirmed their eligibility for the position of Councillor within the statutory rules (Local Government Act 1972 section 79). Forms have been returned to the Parish Clerk. The eligible candidate has been invited to attend a meeting with Councillors and speak for a maximum of five minutes. The candidate was asked to introduce themselves, give a resume of their background and experience and explain why they wish to become a member of the Council.

Mrs Maureen Clayton addressed the meeting. Cllr M. Posen then proposed co-opted Maureen Clayton onto the Parish Council. Cllr F. Binks seconded. **All Agreed**

Cllr M. Clayton then signed the Declaration of Acceptance office, E-consent form and was asked to complete the Register of Interest form within 28 days.

Cllr M. Clayton then took her seat as a Parish Councillor.

023/2024 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 18th. January 2024. **All Agreed**

024/2024 Chairman's report and any update since last meeting

Once again, I don't have a lot to report on since our last meeting.

The Flooding Working Party is now up and running, and we'll discuss that work under the flooding agenda item later in the meeting, so I won't say more for now.

We continue to be plagued by potholes. I've myself lost 3 tyres since December, and I know that many other residents, as well as people just passing through Foxearth, have been impacted. The patching work in January did not live up to our expectations, I'm afraid. Some of the larger holes were patched, and the deep hole outside Foxearth Hall was also fixed, but the state of the roads remains pretty appalling, and there are still large potholes across roads over the parishes of Foxearth and Liston. I hope that our County Councillor will take note and will understand the concern of residents about the state of our roads. We hear of more money being made available to fix our roads. I hope that some of that will be spent in Foxearth and Liston. Residents may be aware that the planning application in Mill Road has gone to appeal to the Secretary of State, and this will be considered by the Planning Inspectorate. All comments submitted to Braintree District Council have been forwarded to the Planning Inspector, including those from residents and from the Parish Council. A date for consideration of the appeal under the written procedure has not yet been set, but the Parish Council will monitor the appeal and will inform residents of the outcome once it is known.

025/2024 Essex County Councillors report – ECC Cllr P. Schwier

No report was given

026/2024 District Councillors report – BDC Cllr I. Parker

1. The Council's budget for 2024/2025 of £19.6m was approved at the meeting of Full Council on 19th February. Despite ongoing cost pressures and increased demand for services, the Council remains in a sound financial position for the forthcoming year compared to other councils.
2. There remains a forecast deficit over the medium term to 2027/28 of £2.3m. The Council will be looking at ways to address this and will be developing a "Fit for the Future" transformation programme to look out how resources can be used more effectively and how we can work better with other partners. A sum of money has been set aside for this work from the New Homes Bonus

- the Council receives from the Government. A further sum has been set aside from the NHB to add to the risk reserves to recognise uncertainties over future costs and demand.
3. Full Council also passed a resolution on Council Tax for the forthcoming year. The Braintree District Council element of Council Tax will rise by 2.96% which represents an increase of 11p per week for a band D property.
 4. The main highlights from the Budget as far as my ward is concerned are:
 - Councillor Community Grants to continue – each Councillor to be allocated £1250 to award to community projects in their ward.
 - Street cleansing grants to Parish councils to continue.
 - The garden waste subscription service has proved more popular than anticipated with a take up of over 50% bringing in an income to the Council of around £900k.
 - The Council is looking to charge a Council Tax premium of 100% on second homes in the district with effect from 1st April 2025.
 5. The new business park near Gt Notley, Horizon 120, has proved a success. This was delivered by BDC who secured over 50% match funding from the South East Local Enterprise Board. There is now nearly 90% occupancy and as well as providing jobs, is providing an income to the Council. BDC is also undertaking a review of the way in which it manages its asset to improve efficiency and income.
 6. The Council has updated its Livewell Health and Wellbeing strategy in conjunction with partners in the health services. The aim of the strategy is to focus on prevention and early intervention and to move beyond simply treating health conditions after they have arisen. The intention is to create an environment where everyone has the right facilities available to them to actively participate in improving their own health and wellbeing. The data shows a strong link between deprivation and poor health and we are particularly conscious that parts of Braintree and Halstead feature in the 20% most deprived areas in the country.
 7. The NHS was due to approve consider the final business case for the Sible Hedingham medical centre on 22nd March (this may now have happened). Once it is approved, the land can be transferred by BDC to One Medical who can then start construction. This is in addition to the new Community Diagnostic Centre due to open shortly in Braintree and the ward space that has opened at Halstead hospital for patients who are medically fit to be discharged from hospital but not ready to go home.
 8. We have delivered 1064 new homes in the District in 2021/22, the highest in Essex. For this year, we have delivered 329 affordable homes against a target of 250. So that we keep an up to date Local Plan (important for avoiding speculative planning applications on unallocated sites), we will shortly be undertaking a call for sites for the next iteration of the Local Plan.
 9. We are trying to address the increasing demand for affordable (social) housing which has been exacerbated by the reduction in private lets. As part of this we have produced an empty homes strategy to bring empty properties back into the market. There are over 3000 empty homes in the District. Our housing team prevented 50 cases of homelessness in the third quarter of this year.
 10. The Council has launched a small grants scheme providing funding of up to £10,000 to start or enhance existing community projects that support local residents with the cost of living. See <https://www.braintree.gov.uk/news/article/630/braintree-district-council-launch-cost-of-living-grant-scheme>. The Council has also launched a £100,000 fund to support community groups and parish councils who wish to reduce their carbon footprint. Grants are available for up to £10,000 and monies for the fund have come from the Government's Shared Prosperity Fund. See <https://www.braintree.gov.uk/braintree-district/climate-change-1/7>.
 11. The Government has secured a Special Development Order for the use of Wethersfield airfield for a further 3 years but the maximum number of asylum seekers will be reduced from 1700 to 800. The Council receives funding from the Home Office for the asylum centre but this is per bed not per person and is solely to cover the cost of our statutory duties eg waste collection. For the latest updates regarding Wethersfield, please see the Council's website.
 12. Finally, the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner elections for Essex are taking place on 2nd May. This is an important election which affects how the police and fire services are run in the County. The deadline for applying for a postal vote is 17th April. For further information see <https://www.braintree.gov.uk/elections2024>.

BDC Cllr I. Parker left the meeting

027/2024 Public Participation Session

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

028/2024 Flooding working group in Liston and Foxearth – update from Cllr M. Posen

The Flooding Working Party is now up and running. As well as the 5 Councillors, we have 9 resident volunteers.

We have held two meetings so far, in January and March, and we have done the following:

We have compiled a list of flooding 'hot-spots' where the most serious issues are arising across the parishes. We are going to finalise this list and then seek to discuss it with Highways, the Local Flood Authority, and other relevant agencies.

We have discussed the provision of a stock of sandbags but concluded that we would not recommend the purchase of sandbags to the Parish Council. The working party was not convinced that sandbags would be an effective use of funds, since they would be difficult to deploy, likely could not be reused, and would be of limited value in preventing wider flooding across the parishes. It was felt that properties at most risk of flooding would likely have their own sandbags in readiness, so that they could use them easily and quickly if floodwater started to rise.

The working party decided that purchasing dirty-water pumps was a more sensible suggestion, since these would be easier to deploy and use quickly and could be of direct help in moving water away from properties. Several pumps are under consideration and the group aims to come to the May Parish Council meeting with a purchasing recommendation. The working party would need to work out a set of 'rules' to determine how, and to whom, the pumps would be made available.

Finally, the working party has noted that community action, both in preventing flooding and responding to it when it happens, is also important. The group is looking into establishing a 'flood warden' scheme to coordinate volunteers and activities.

If anybody who's not on the Working Party list would like to make any comments or suggestions, or would like to be involved in our work, please do feel very free to email me. Our next meeting is on Monday 13th May 2024 at 7pm.

029/2024 Footpath update – Cllr K. Robson

No footpath contractor has not come forward. Essex Highways have been contacted without success. If no contractor can be found then this will be reverted back to BDC to maintain.

030/2024 Highways and Transport issues

LHP projects to be chased up.

SID – Olive Porter – Complete licence application.

031/2024 Planning Application/s

24/00134/TPOCON - Foxearth House The Street Foxearth

Notice of intent to carry out works to trees protected by The Conservation Area:

T1 Sycamore- Dead tree. Fell to ground level. T2 Yew- Crown raised to 4.5m and clear power lines by 3m.

T3 Sycamore- significant deadwood in upper crown. Fell to ground level.

With the time constraints set by BDC F&LPC sent the following planning response to BDC before their deadline. ***Foxearth & Liston Parish Council Supports this planning application subject to the tree and conservation officer's approval***

24/00163/HH - 10 The Chase, Foxearth, Essex

Proposed conversion of existing gazebo to garden room

Due to BDC time constraint the following response was sent to BDC on 14.02.24

F&LPC Supports this planning application

24/00206/HH - 1 Orchard Cottages The Street Foxearth

Excavation of kerosene contaminated soils following a split to the oil tank and reinstatement of new soil

Due to BDC time constraint the following response was sent to BDC on 04.03.24

F&LPC Supports this planning application

24/00419/FUL - Land South Of Foxearth Hall, The Street, Foxearth

Erection of 1no. dwelling and ancillary outbuilding.

RESOLVED: F&LPC Object to this application on the following reason on the basis it is outside the village envelope. Similar to the proposed development in Mill Lane this would extend the village into the open countryside beyond and set a precedent for expansion of the village.

24/00414/TPOCON - Pipers Cottage The Street Foxearth

Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area:

T1 + Carpinus japonica - Reduce canopy by 3-4metres and to reduce overbearing branches and shade onto property, thin and remove minor/major dead wood and chip up all arisings and remove from site.

RESOLVED: F&LPC Support this application subject to the tree and conservation officer's approval

032/2024 Decisions made by BDC affecting Foxearth and Liston. No decisions have been made

033/2024 Planning Appeals

Planning Application Ref: 23/01881/OUT - Land Fronting Mill Road Foxearth Essex

Outline planning application with all matters reserved for the construction of 4 No. dwellings & garages.

Planning Inspectorate Ref: APP/Z1510/W/23/3334175

Appeal Start Date: 14th. February 2024. The appeal will be determined at written representations

034/2024 Finance

a) To receive the Bank balances as at 29th. February 2024

Councillors noted the Bank balances as at 29th. February 2024

b) To receive the comparison of Actual against Budget 2023/24

Councillors noted the comparison of Actual against Budget 2023/24

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

d) To receive and consider a grant application from Liston Church for £500.00p. **All Agreed**

e) Cllr M. Posen proposed accepting moving the emails over to .gov.uk. Cllr K. Robson seconded.

All Agreed

035/2024 Items for Next Agenda

036/2024 Date of Next Full Council meetings – MONDAY 20th. MAY 2024 at 7.30pm

Councillors to note NEW 2024 meeting dates 22.07.24: 23.09.24: 25.11.24

037/2024 Closure of the Meeting

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

The Chairman then closed the meeting at 8.30pm and thanked everyone for attending

Signed

20th. May 2024

BANK RECONCILIATION				
Financial year ending 31.03.25				
Bank Balance as at	30.04.24	31.05.24	30.06.24	31.07.24
Unity Trust Bank - Current a/c	£ 12,174.31			
Unity Trust Bank - EMR a/c	£ 4,367.69			
Total:	£ 16,542.00			
Less Unpresented cheques				
Total of unpresented cheques	£ -			
Net Bank Balances as at	£ 16,542.00			
CASH BOOK				
Balance as at 01.04.24	£ 10,513.08			
Plus Receipts	£ 6,289.16			
Total	£ 16,802.24			
Less Payments	£ 260.24			
Grand Total	£ 16,542.00			
Difference	£ 0.00			
Bank Balance as at	31.08.24	30.09.24	31.10.24	30.11.24
Unity Trust Bank - Current account				
Unity Trust Bank - EMR account				
Less Unpresented cheques				
Total of unpresented cheques				
Net Bank Balances as at				
CASH BOOK				
Balance as at 01.04.24				
Plus Receipts				
Total				
Less Payments				
Grand Total				
Difference				
Bank Balance as at	31.12.24	31.01.25	28.02.25	31.03.25
Unity Trust Bank - Current account				
Unity Trust Bank - EMR account				
Less Unpresented cheques				
Total of unpresented cheques				
Net Bank Balances as at				
CASH BOOK				
Balance as at 01.04.24				
Plus Receipts				
Total				
Less Payments				
Grand Total				
Difference				

Your Account Statement



For Businesses. For Communities. For Good.

Unity Trust Bank plc
PO Box 7193
Planetary Road
Willenhall
WV1 9DG

Mr Kevin Money
Foxearth Liston Parish Council
7 Roach Vale
Colchester
CO4 3YN

Date: 30/04/2024

Account Name: Foxearth Liston Parish Council

Swift Code (BIC): NWBKGB2L

IBAN Number: GB93NWBK60023571418024

Sort Code: 608301

Account Number: 20429580

Your arranged overdraft limit is £0.00

Our unauthorised overdraft charges are changing from tracked rate of 25% above base rate to a fixed Nominal rate 25% EAR (Equivalent Annual Rate 28.39%). To find out more read our Overdrafts Key Features document and our Standard Service Tariff available at www.unity.co.uk



For eligible organisations, your deposits held with Unity Trust Bank are protected up to £85,000 under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). For more information about eligibility and compensation provided by the FSCS, please visit: FSCS.org.uk or refer to our FSCS Information Sheet and Exclusions List at unity.co.uk/fscs

Contact Us

Call us: **0345 140 1000**

Email us: us@unity.co.uk

Visit us: unity.co.uk

Your Current T1 account transactions:

Date	Type	Details	Payments Out	Payments In	Balance
31/03/2024		Balance brought forward	£0.00	£0.00	£6,145.39
08/04/2024	Direct Debit	Direct Debit (GOOGLE CLOUD EMEA)	√ £46.87	£0.00	£6,098.52
18/04/2024	Direct Debit	Direct Debit (NPOWER)	√ £213.37	£0.00	£5,885.15
22/04/2024	Credit	PAYMENTS BTREE DC	£0.00	√ £476.52	£6,361.67

Page number 1 of 3

Statement number 058

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We invest in people Gold



Your Current T1 account transactions:					
Date	Type	Details	Payments Out	Payments In	Balance
23/04/2024	Credit	HMRC VTR	£0.00	✓ £134.64	£6,496.31
25/04/2024	Credit	PAYMENTS BTREE DC	£0.00	✓ £5,678.00	£12,174.31

H
 E 6289.16
 260.24

Your Account Statement



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Unity Trust Bank plc
PO Box 7193
Planetary Road
Willenhall
WV1 9DG

Mr Kevin Money
Foxearth Liston Parish Council
7 Roach Vale
Colchester
CO4 3YN

Date: 30/04/2024

Account Name: Foxearth Liston Parish Council

Swift Code (BIC): NWBKGB2L

IBAN Number: GB93NWBK60023571418024

Sort Code: 608301

Account Number: 20429593

Our unauthorised overdraft charges are changing from tracked rate of 25% above base rate to a fixed Nominal rate 25% EAR (Equivalent Annual Rate 28.39%). To find out more read our Overdrafts Key Features document and our Standard Service Tariff available at www.unity.co.uk

The credit interest rate is 2.75% AER as of your statement date.



For eligible organisations, your deposits held with Unity Trust Bank are protected up to £85,000 under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). For more information about eligibility and compensation provided by the FSCS, please visit: FSCS.org.uk or refer to our FSCS Information Sheet and Exclusions List at unity.co.uk/fscs

Contact Us

Call us: **0345 140 1000**

Email us: us@unity.co.uk

Visit us: unity.co.uk

Your Instant Access account transactions:

Date	Type	Details	Payments Out	Payments In	Balance
31/03/2024		Balance brought forward	£0.00	£0.00	£4,367.69

Page number 1 of 2

Statement number 044

**For Businesses.
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F&LPC ACTUAL AGAINST BUDGET REPORT				
		Budget 2024/25	Total Income / spend to May '24	Left in Budget as at May '24
Income	PRECEPT	11355	£ 5,678.00	
	OTHER INCOME / GRANT	0	£ -	
	STREET CLEANING	0	£ 476.52	
	VAT REFUND		£ 134.64	
	TOTAL	11355	£ 6,289.16	
Exp.				
Staff	Salary	5442	£ 897.00	£ 4,545.00
	Office Allowance	120	£ 20.00	£ 100.00
	TOTAL	5562	£ 917.00	£ 4,645.00
Adm.	Payroll	120	£ -	£ 120.00
	Office Expenses & Mileage	208	£ 99.65	£ 108.35
	Audit Fees	75	£ 75.00	£ -
	TOTAL	403	£ 174.65	£ 228.35
General	Footpath & Hedge cutting	50	£ -	£ 50.00
	Street Lighting	715	£ 203.21	£ 511.79
	Street Cleaning	180	£ -	£ 180.00
	Insurance	265	£ 241.00	£ 24.00
	PC Mag/EALC/NALC Subs	318	£ 168.36	£ 149.64
	Training	0	£ -	£ -
	Donations	1400	£ -	£ 1,400.00
	Poppy Wreath	25	£ -	£ 25.00
	Repairs inc. Tree works	0	£ -	£ -
	Bank Charges	72	£ -	£ 72.00
	Website	35	£ -	£ 35.00
	Defibrillator	150	£ -	£ 150.00
	Traffic Calming scheme	500	£ -	£ 500.00
	F&LPC Email account	610	£ 82.87	£ 527.13
	Election Costs	50	£ -	£ 50.00
	Meeting cost	20	£ -	£ 20.00
	Emergency Items	1000	£ -	£ 1,000.00
	TOTAL	5390	£ 695.44	£ 4,694.56
	GRAND TOTAL	11355	£ 1,787.09	£ 9,567.91
	VAT		£ 22.17	
	Total:		£ 1,809.26	

FINANCE APRIL & MAY 2024 PAYMENTS						
INCOME: BDC 1st. Instalment of Precept £5678.00p: HMRC VAT £134.64p:						
BDC Street Cleaning Grant £476.52p:						
Expenditure						
Chq No.	Invoice No.	Payee	Cost	VAT	Total	F&L Ref
DD		Npower - Street Lighting	£ 203.21	£ 10.16	£ 213.37	3
BACS	April '24	Kevin B. Money - Clerk Salary	£ 368.90	£ -	£ 368.90	4
BACS	April '24	HMRC - Tax on Salary	£ 89.60	£ -	£ 89.60	5
BACS	17433	EALC - Subscription 2024/2025	£ 120.36	£ -	£ 120.36	6
BACS		BALC - 2024/25 subscription	£ 48.00	£ -	£ 48.00	7
BACS		Zurich Insurance - 2024/2025	£ 241.00	£ -	£ 241.00	8
BACS		Kevin B. Money - Clerk expenses	£ 99.65	£ 12.01	£ 111.66	9
BACS		M. Lawson - 2023/24 Internal Audit	£ 75.00	£ -	£ 75.00	10
BACS	May '24	Kevin B. Money - Clerk Salary	£ 368.70	£ -	£ 368.70	11
BACS	May '24	HMRC - Tax on Salary	£ 89.80	£ -	£ 89.80	12
DD		Google mail	£ 36.00	£ -	£ 36.00	13
<u>TOTAL:</u>			£ 1,740.22	£ 22.17	£ 1,762.39	