

MINUTES OF GOSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 20th APRIL 2020 (Due to the Coronavirus and Government advice this meeting was not held in the usual way and Councillors voted by e-mail. Item 20/059 on the agenda - The Press and Public were invited to contact/send comments to the Parish Clerk)

Present:

Cllr Bob Waters (Chairman)
Cllr Tricia Edwards (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr Jo Beavis
Cllr Mark Bloomfield
Cllr Joanne Colyer
Cllr Sam Cowie
Cllr Carole Hough
Cllr Sara Moutard
Cllr Maggie Pawsey
Mrs Diane Jacob (Parish Clerk)
No members of the public.

20/057 Welcome – The Chairman’s welcome to the meeting would of course have been to thank everyone who has undergone this crisis and to thank the people of the village who have rallied in support of the NHS and the vulnerable in the village. In particular I would single out Sara Moutard and Jo Colyer for all the work they have done and thank Isla Gill and all the shop volunteers who have turned in such a sterling performance and put the Community Shop firmly on the map.

20/058 Declarations of interest – None.

20/059 Public Participation Session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest. No comments received.

20/060 County and District Councillors to address the members.

Report received from Cllr Beavis as follows: -The work of repairing pot holes and Highways defects in the village continues lately with the drain covers that sank and the bollards on the road island in the Street. Park Hall Road will be closed for 2 days, from today, for Highways improvements and drain jetting. Smaller defects on the estate roads particularly School Park and New Road are all reported but deemed minor roads and works will follow once the major winter pot hole work and defects are completed.

Essex County Council has established the Coronavirus Website and Action Group and the most vulnerable people are being picked up and supported. The Director Of Public Health Essex is employed by Essex County Council and updates and leads the action on the Coronavirus Pandemic particularly in regard to Essex County Council owned Care Homes and all care homes, where support is required.

Children at risk that cannot be transferred to a care homes or, in to Foster Care are also being placed with qualified Social Workers to ensure their safety.

Mental Health is a priority for Essex Council and here partnership working with the education Dept, Essex Police and Essex NHS is, vital to ensure Essex people are safe and heard.

Report received from Cllr Schwier as follows: - BDC is continuing to provide front line services to residents and businesses across the district. Many staff are working from home with around 25/30 staff in attendance, at Council Office’s on a daily basis, for the functionality and back-up of Council Services. The garden waste collection has been temporarily suspended. Waste and re-cycling services continue but with only two operatives per truck, reduced from three, continuing these vital services whilst complying with Government Covid19 guidelines.

On the 09/04/2020 BDC issued 4 e-newsletters, to residents, communities and businesses across the district and continue to frequently release up to date information, in all formats, to all sectors, across the district.

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Signed.....

Chairman of the Parish Council

Date: 18th May 2020

- 1 x Business news
- 1 x Environment, refuse etc news
- 1 x What's on
- 1 x Braintree District News

Braintree District Council have now received and processed over 1,700 application forms and paid out almost £20 million in small business grants and cash grants for the retail, hospitality and leisure sectors.

A total of 2,557 grant applications forms were sent out to eligible businesses that met the criteria from Central Government. Please note that these application forms were sent out via Royal Mail to the premises' address. We are encouraging businesses which are eligible, but haven't yet returned their form, please email it back to busrates@braintree.gov.uk as soon as they can.

Businesses who are unsure about their eligibility can contact the Economic Development team via ecodev@braintree.gov.uk for advice, help and support.

BDC have been looking at and trialling various videoconferencing apps/software during this difficult time - for remote engagement and meetings. BDC is likely to be making much greater use of and recommending the use of Microsoft 'Teams' App/software.

20/061 Minutes.

Item 1. To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th February 2020

Proposed by Cllr Waters, seconded by Cllr Edwards, Cllr Beavis, Cllr Colyer, Cllr Hough, Cllr Pawsey, Cllr Moutard, Cllr Cowie in favour, Cllr Bloomfield abstained as not present at the meeting, resolution passed.

Item 2. To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16th March 2020

Proposed by Cllr Waters, seconded by Cllr Edwards, all in favour, resolution passed.

20/062 Planning Matters.

Item 1. Planning Updates.

Item 2. New Planning applications

Ref: 20/00223/FUL

Location: Russells Corner Russells Road Gosfield Essex CO9 1SS

Description: Change of use from a residential annexe to create a separate holiday let.

No Objection

Proposed by Cllr Waters, seconded by Cllr Edwards, all in favour, resolution passed.

Ref: 19/01311/FUL

Location: 53 Halstead Road Gosfield Essex CO9 1PG

Description: Construction of new detached dwelling, site vehicular access alterations and associated development.

No Objection

Proposed by Cllr Waters, seconded by Cllr Edwards, Cllr Beavis, Cllr Bloomfield, Cllr Colyer, Cllr Hough, Cllr Pawsey, Cllr Moutard in favour, Cllr Cowie against, resolution passed

Ref: 20/00500/REM

Location: Land Rear Of 10 New Road Gosfield Essex

Description: Application for approval of Reserved Matters (appearance and landscaping) of outline planning consent 17/00119/OUT

Demolition of existing buildings and hardstanding and construction of 8 no. new dwellings together with new vehicular access onto New Road and associated development.

No Objection

Proposed by Cllr Waters, seconded by Cllr Edwards, all in favour, resolution passed.

Ref: 20/00611/OUT

Location: Woodstock Halstead Road Gosfield Essex CO9 1PE

Description: Outline planning permission with all matters reserved except for access - Erection of 1 no. new dwelling together with associated car parking, garden amenity space, and associated development.

No Objection

Proposed by Cllr Waters, seconded by Cllr Edwards, all in favour, resolution passed.

20/063 Financial Matters.

Gosfield Parish Council						
Payment Approval & Reporting						
Council Meeting 20 April 2020						
Supplier	Invoice Date	Total Payable	VAT Input Tax Recoverable	Net Cost to GPC	Grant/ Amount Recoverabl	Brief Description of Supply
For approval and payment						
MD Landscapes Ltd	20/03/2020	270.00	45.00	225.00		Grass cutting 18/3 all areas + play area & skate park
HandyKing	24/03/2020	180.00		180.00		Waste bin, footpath sign, remove picnic bench, play area signs
EALC	01/04/2020	399.33	0.00	399.33		EALC/NALC affiliation fees
e-on	02/04/2020	496.08	23.62	472.46		Streetlight electricity
Plunkett Foundation	13/04/2020	310.00	0.00	0.00	310.00	Model rules, Gosfield Community Shop Ltd
Total		1655.41	68.62	1276.79	310.00	
Reported under Financial Regulation 5.6						
Payments, which are approved annually, made during the period 17.3.20 to 20.4.20						
e-on	02/04/2020	284.17	3.33	16.67	264.17	Pavilion electricity
Payroll costs		1381.88	0.00	1381.88		
Previously Approved payments paid during the month						
Total Payments		4703.34	71.95	4057.22	574.17	

Approved accounts for payment.

Proposed by Cllr Waters, seconded by Cllr Edwards, all in favour, resolution passed.

20/064 CORONAVIRUS Covid-19 / SLCC guidance.

The delegation of power is in the LGA 1972 section 101, and is delegation to the Clerk.

To consider extending the delegation of Council decisions to the Clerk during any period of restricted activity declared by the Government in respect of the Covid-19 virus. Such delegation to enable the Council to fulfil its responsibilities to its residents. The Chairman agreed it was necessary to delegate some routine matters to the Clerk during this emergency, the chairman assured the Council that if anything controversial does turn up, all Councillors will be consulted on a decision.

Proposed by Cllr Waters, seconded by Cllr Edwards, all in favour, resolution passed.

20/065 Furlough.

It was confirmed that there will be no redundancies within the Parish Council staff and as all staff can continue to work, they will not be furloughed.

20/066 Annual Parish Assembly 2020.

Due to the latest advice received - This meeting to be cancelled therefore, there will be no Annual Parish Assembly for 2020.

20/067 Council Documents.

It was agreed to adopt the following:

Item 1. Accessibility statement

Item 2. Privacy statement

Proposed by Cllr Waters, seconded by Cllr Edwards, all in favour, resolution passed.

20/068 Matters Arising from previous minutes.

Item 1. Car Park – No update.

Item 2. Highways Issues update by Cllr Beavis see item 20/060.

Item 3. Bus Shelter request, little or no hardstanding, request passed onto Highways – update by Cllr Beavis.

Item 4. Special Constables – Still ongoing.

Item 5. Neighbourhood Plan Working Group – Still ongoing.

Item 6. VE Day -75 years anniversary on 8th May 2020 – To be cancelled – due to the Coronavirus no public gatherings/events to take place.

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Signed.....

Chairman of the Parish Council

Date: 18th May 2020

- Item 7.** Previous minute number 19/215 item 1 Twinning Association Donation – Received and banked.
- Item 8.** Plans for extension onto the Pavilion into BDC Planning – Due to the Coronavirus Planning Office closed so no update available.
- Item 9.** Fund Raising – No update by Cllr Bloomfield.
- Item 10.** The Gosfield Community Shop – No update.
- Item 11.** Local Pan – still ongoing.
- Item 12.** Green Waste - Previous minute number 20/028
Climate Emergency and Gosfield declaring as a Green Village, Cllr Beavis to be the Green Champion of Gosfield.
To be put to the Neighbourhood Plan working group.
Proposed by Cllr Waters, seconded by Cllr Edwards, all in favour, resolution passed.
- Item 13.** Gigaclear. Previous minute number 20/019 Green box at junction of Greenfields – Gigaclear will not be moving the green box so if you wish to make a complaint then contact Email: networkbuildcare@gigaclear.com
Phone: 01865 591137. Noted.

20/069 Gosfield In Bloom.

- Item 1.** To consider to purchase a bowser at a total cost of £780.00 Inc VAT.
Proposed by Cllr Waters, seconded by Cllr Edwards, all in favour, resolution passed.
- Item 2.** To consider to allow them to fill the bowser from the tap on the Pavilion for a trial period of a year.
Proposed by Cllr Waters, seconded by Cllr Edwards, all in favour, resolution passed.

20/070 Gosfield Nature Reserve.

- Item 1.** To consider to replace the damaged picnic table at a total cost of £700.74 Including fixing Bolts and Inc VAT. To be deferred.
- Item 2.** Fishing – To consider to allow fishing in the Gosfield Nature Reserve subject to having a fishing licence. To be deferred.

20/071 To receive reports from outside bodies, training courses, village representatives, and Parish Council working groups.
Received and noted the report from the RFO regarding the Internal Auditor training course.
It was noted that an inspection has been carried out to the footpath bridge in the Gosfield Nature Reserve.

20/072 Items for next agenda.

Please note that no decisions can be lawfully made under this item, LGA 12 10 (2) (b) states that business must be specified therefore the council cannot lawfully raise matters for decision.

20/073

To exclude the press and public.

Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960
‘That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of Agenda Item 20/074 and 20/075 on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business subject to the public bodies admission to meetings Act 1960 Section 1 Sub-section 2.
Resolution to exclude members of the press and public.
None present.

20/074 Gosfield Nature Reserve.

To consider and discuss the 5-year plan/project contract for the GNR with Westover Woodlands. To be deferred.

20/075 Personnel Matters.

To carry out staff appraisals. To be deferred.

20/076 Date of Next Meeting.

Date of Next Meeting.
Parish Council Meeting Monday 18th May 2020 (7.15pm). **To be confirmed.**
Meeting Closed at 8.45pm