

MINUTES OF GOSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL VIRTUAL MEETING

HELD ON

MONDAY 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021

(Due to the Coronavirus and Government advice this virtual meeting was held by Microsoft Teams)

Item 21/020 on the agenda - The Press and Public were invited to e-mail, 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 Carol Hough

Mrs Diane Jacob (Parish Clerk)

Cllr Sara Moutard

Cllr Maggie Pawsey

Cllr Peter Schwier

No members of the public

This meeting was audio recorded by Cllr Bloomfield.

**21/018 Welcome and Apologies for Absence.** Chairman welcomed everyone to this virtual meeting, no apologies received.

**21/019 Declaration of Interests.**

To receive any disclosable pecuniary interests or non-pecuniary interests, or interests relating to items on the agenda. Members of the council are subject to the Local Authorities Code of Conduct. Received from Cllr Colyer regarding item 21/025 item 5. Cllr Waters and Cllr Moutard regarding item 21/023 – ref 17/01066/OUT land to the west of Hedingham Road.

**21/020 Public Participation Session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.**

None.

**21/021 County and District Councillors to address the members if present.**

Report by Cllr Beavis as follows:

Cllr Beavis reported that the Braintree Local Highways Panel had met to consider the schemes on the Approved List. Cllr Beavis confirmed the Gosfield schemes as: New hard standing for the Halstead Road bus stop. A 20 is plenty speed reduction scheme for the primary school, Hall Drive. She confirmed that the following schemes were in validation: A salt bin at the Limes. 3 bus shelters in the area of Gosfield School, Cut Hedge. Speed road roundels for Braintree Road and Hedingham Road (up to date speed surveys would be required). Cllr Beavis reported that the footpath at Hedingham Road, from Halstead Corner is scheduled to be cleared by the Highways Rangers, traffic management to be organised. She confirmed that the drains in the street had been inspected and found to be damaged. These were scheduled for repairs and water jetting. She reported that the potholes in Braintree Road, from Petersfield Lane; The Street, around the water drains and the entrance into Hall Drive; Hedingham Road, in the area of Gosfield Airfield had all been processed, given reference numbers and were awaiting repairs. She said that areas such as school park (potholes) and Greenfields (kerb stones) had been processed but these were considered a lower priority by Essex County Highways. Cllr Beavis reported that Essex County Council is expected to vote in favour of a Council Tax freeze and would be intending to take advantage of a 1.5% social care increase to protect the most vulnerable. She said that the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commission was intending to make a 5 % increase to employ more community police officers. Cllr Beavis reported of her concerns that in Earls Colne and Gosfield new development sites could see construction traffic using estate roads with large vehicles passing the two primary schools on narrow roads. She reported that she is working with Essex County Council to find a solution to her concerns on the grounds of road safety.

Report by Cllr Schwier as follows: Good news that the recommendation is a no increase in council tax due to Covid 19, this is subject to full BDC council meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> February. He hopes to be in a position to use his Community Grant to grant a considerable amount towards the building of the community shop.

**21/022 Minutes.**

The minutes of the virtual Parish Council meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021, were amended the precept figure to read £35,877.00 no increase.

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

**21/023 Planning Matters.**

**Item 1. Planning updates.**

Outline Permission Ref 17/01066/OUT Land to The West Of Hedingham Road, Gosfield. S106 Schedule 3 Clause 2 S106 agreement is between the developers and BDC, however, the Parish Council and the developers are in the process of consultations on the S106 agreement - To confirm the following:

- Gosfield Parish Council would like to take on the responsibility of the land.

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

- Soil Mound to be removed, ground levelled and drainage installed to prevent any future flooding issues.

Proposed by Cllr Edwards, seconded by Cllr Beavis, Cllr Bloomfield, Cllr Colyer, Cllr Cowie, Cllr Hough, Cllr Pawsey, in favour, Cllr Moutard against (she would like the mound to remain), Cllr Waters abstained, resolution passed.

- One small area for wildflowers (where the soil mound is shown on the map), all other areas to be grass, to install a small post and rail fence to the east side along to the road, no new trees.

Proposed by Cllr Bloomfield, seconded by Cllr Colyer, Cllr Beavis, Cllr Edwards, Cllr Cowie, Cllr Moutard, in favour, Cllr Pawsey, Cllr Hough against (as they would like trees, Chairman explained trees could be considered once Parish Council owned the land, at a future date). Cllr Waters abstained; resolution passed.

- Public Footpath to be restored to present position 20mtrs into the field away from the boundary.

Proposed by Cllr Bloomfield, seconded by Cllr Beavis, all in favour, Cllr Moutard and Cllr Waters abstained, resolution passed.

- Dog litter bins (5 or 6) to be installed.

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

**Item 2. Planning applications and TPO.**

**Ref: 21/00088/TPOCON**

**Location:** Lornecroft 1 Halstead Road Gosfield Essex CO9 1PQ

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

Laurel - Reduce to 6ft as its too big for location.

Yew - Reduce to gutter height as its too big for location approx. 4 metres.

Cherry - Reduce past dead top to suitable points and reduce limb growing towards house (about 5m reduction).

Ash - Reduce away from the house and reshape to balance approx. 2 metres in height and 1 metre in width.

Multi stem Ash - Reduce height by 2m and width by 1m to reduce the risk of stems breaking off.

Hornbeam - Reduce by 1m to give clearance from other trees.

No objection

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

**Ref: 20/02160/FUL**

**Location:** Glen Cottage Park Lane Gosfield Essex CO9 1TU

**Description:** Construction of agricultural shed (12m x 8m) for general storage within arable field.

Objection

Overdevelopment, intrusion into the country side.

Proposed by Cllr Beavis, seconded by Cllr Moutard all in favour, resolution passed.

## 21/024 Financial Matters.

### Item 1. Approve accounts for payment.

Gosfield Parish Council						
Payment Approval & Reporting						
Council Meeting 15 February 2021						
Supplier	Invoice Date	Total Payable	VAT Input Tax Recoverable	Net Cost to GPC	Grant/ Amount Recoverable	Brief Description of Supply
<b>For approval and payment</b>						
A & J Lighting	05/02/2021	84.00	14.00	70.00		Call out charge, streetlight no 13
Colne Contracts Ltd	01/02/2021	1947.60	324.60	1623.00		Soakaway adj to pavilion
HandyKing	28/01/2021	75.00		75.00		Clearing HaHa ditch/old village sign
Jacksons Fencing	20/01/2021	3002.82	500.47	2502.35		Fencing around children's play area
HandyKing	08/02/2021	25.00		25.00		Clearing HaHa ditch
Rooster Building Services	15/02/2021	1150.00		1150.00		Erect fence around children's play area
Tesco	09/02/2021	31.68			31.68	NP - postage
<b>Total</b>		<b>6316.10</b>	<b>839.07</b>	<b>5445.35</b>	<b>31.68</b>	
<b>Reported under Financial Regulation 5.6</b>						
<b>Payments, which are approved annually, made during the period 18.1.2021 to 15.2.2021</b>						
e-on		131.34	0.52	10.49	120.33	Pavilion electricity
Payroll Costs inc PAYE & Pensions		1097.69		1097.69		Monthly Salaries & Employment costs
		1229.03	0.52	1108.18	120.33	
<b>Previously Approved payments paid during the month</b>						
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>7545.13</b>	<b>839.59</b>	<b>6553.53</b>	<b>152.01</b>	

Proposed by Cllr Bloomfield, seconded by Cllr Beavis, all in favour, resolution passed.

## 21/025 Matters Arising from previous minutes.

**Item 1.** Highways Issues update by Cllr Beavis, including the kerbs at Greenfields, see item 21/021.

Blocked drains through Gosfield, The Street Braintree Road reported on 2/9/20 to Highways ref 2678143.

**Item 2.** Bus Shelter request, little or no hardstanding, request passed onto Highways – see item 21/021.

**Item 3.** Previous minute no. 20/135 – Salt bin at the end of the Limes – see item 21/021.

**Item 4.** Special Constables – ongoing.

**Item 5.** The Gosfield Community Shop – Architects have re-drawn the plans to re-submit to BDC this week.

**Item 6.** Plans for extension onto the Pavilion – update/Building Regs, specification/schedule of works etc to consider who will be responsible for paying for this work and the overall cost of the extension.

**Item 7.** Fund Raising for the pavilion update by Cllr Bloomfield, to confirm that all fund raising should be arranged by the Parish Council. Cllr Bloomfield, Cllr Moutard and Cllr Waters to arrange a virtual meeting to discuss further.

**Item 8.** Local Pan – Section 1 to be approved in a few weeks, section 2 to go out to public consultation, no garden communities in the BDC area the whole process should take approximately a year.

**Item 9.** E-mail Address – Cllr Beavis to install dedicated e-mail address.

**Item 10.** Children's Play Area Fencing – Previous minute no. 20/216 the fencing has been installed, also the play area is temporarily closed due to the muddy conditions, will require grass seeding in the spring.

**Item 11.** Neighbourhood Plan – update.

- Approve Designated Neighbourhood Area

Proposed by Cllr Bloomfield, seconded by Cllr Colyer, all in favour, resolution passed.

- Consider final application for the Neighbourhood Plan – item deferred to be on the next agenda.
- Update on communications & the responses to the Business Survey - update on communications will be in the Grapevine etc and communicated to the village.

**Item 12.** Car Park – ongoing.

**Item 13.** Playing Field Management Committee. Previous minute No. 21/012 item 2

To confirm if the Playing field Management Committee are a Committee of Gosfield Parish Council or a separate organisation. They are a separate organisation therefore a formal legal licence agreement will be required and issued which will need to be reviewed regularly. To remain a separate organisation (Not part of the Parish Council) - Proposed by Cllr Pawsey, seconded by Cllr Edwards, Cllr Waters, Cllr Hough, Cllr Beavis, Cllr Cowie, in favour - Cllr Bloomfield, Cllr Moutard and Cllr Colyer abstained, resolution passed.

**Item 14.** Previous minute number 20/011 repairs to old village sign, not cost effective to get it repaired, to find out the cost of a new one, to be on the next agenda.

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Signed.....

**Chairman of the Parish Council**

**Date: 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

**Item 15.** Community Grant – to consider to apply for the Community Grant as suggested by Cllr Peter Schwier towards the building fund of the community shop. – see item 21/021

**21/026 Litter Pickers for Gosfield in Bloom.**

To purchase 4 litter picks at a cost of £15.49 each, to come out of the 2020/21 general maintenance budget. Proposed by Cllr Moutard, seconded by Cllr Edwards, all in favour, resolution passed.

**21/027 Hedging.**

To consider hedging the playing field, from the play area to Hall Drive, approximate cost of hedging only £1,000.00 to come out of the 2020/21 Pavilion and Playing Field repairs budget. Cllr Bloomfield requested further information and quotes this item to be on the next agenda.

**21/028 Playing Field Management Committee.**

No meetings have taken place so no report.

**21/029 VAT.**

The advice from the RFO is for the Parish Council to keep the status that it has and to remain non-VAT registered. Proposed by Cllr Bloomfield, seconded by Cllr Waters, all in favour, resolution passed.

**21/030 Council Documents.**

Financial regulations to remain adopted and to be reviewed in May 2021 at our Annual Parish Meeting – but to ensure that in future all expenditure is allocated to the correct budget headings, which will help budgeting for future years.

**21/031** To receive reports from outside bodies, training courses, village representatives, and Parish Council working groups. None.

**21/032 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.

No new items.

**21/033 Date of Next Meeting.**

Virtual Parish Council Meeting for 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

Meeting Closed at 9.07pm