



**MINUTES OF NOAK BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD REMOTELY BY ZOOM DIGITAL PLATFORM
ON TUESDAY 21st JULY 2020 at 7.30pm**

CHAIRMAN: Cllr Terri Sargent

CLLR'S PRESENT: Cllr Jane Bunting; Cllr Mark Cottrell

ALSO PRESENT: Borough Cllr Stuart Allen, Essex County Cllr's Tony Ball and Malcolm Buckley
Neighbourhood Plan Committee representative, Paul Downes

226/2020 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:
None

227/2020 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:
To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests, other pecuniary interests
or non-pecuniary interests by Members relating to any agenda items
None declared

228/2020 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:
To receive and agree the minutes of Noak Bridge Parish Council which was held on
Tuesday 16th June 2020, proposed by Cllr Bunting, seconded by Cllr Cottrell that the
minutes are a true and accurate record of the meeting - **Agreed**

229/2020 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE:
The chairman reported there had been no progress on the Neighbourhood Plan over the
past month due to the AGAR process taking priority and the continuation of the Covid
pandemic. Plans would still go ahead with the Neighbourhood Plan consultation, short
video and publication of the newsletter but all will have to be delayed to a later date

230/2020 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT FOR 2019 - 2020:
The Council considered the Internal Auditors report for 2019-2020 and his
recommendations. Members remarked it was a good report

- 1) To accept the Internal Audit Report
- 2) To agree the adopt the reviewed Internal Controls
- 3) To appoint Cllr Sargent as the named Cllr for Clerk and RFO until May 2021
(standing order 15a and 16a)

Proposed by Cllr Bunting and seconded by Cllr Cottrell - **All Agreed**

231/2020 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN 2019 - 2020:

Members considered the 2019 - 2020 AGAR items:

- 1) Annual Internal Audit Report 2019 - 2020;
Proposed Cllr Bunting, seconded Cllr Sargent - **Agreed**
- 2) Annual Governance Statement 2019 - 2020;
Proposed Cllr Cottrell, seconded Cllr Bunting - **Agreed**
- 3) Accounting Statements 2019 - 2020;
Proposed Cllr Sargent, seconded Cllr Bunting - **Agreed**
- 4) Notice of Public Rights Year End March 2020;
Proposed Cllr Bunting, seconded Cllr Cottrell - **Agreed**
- 5) All AGAR documents will be submitted to External Auditor, PKF Littlejohn

232/2020 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION - MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT CONSULTATION:

Members considered the LGA model code of conduct and agreed the chairman would respond to the survey, proposed Cllr Bunting, seconded Cllr Cottrell - **Agreed**

233/2020 NEWSLETTER:

The chairman reported the newsletter was on track and asked for help with deliveries but warned it could be subject to delays due to the Covid pandemic

234/2020 FINANCE:

Members considered:

1. Monthly Bank Reconciliation
2. Monthly Budget Sheet
3. Noted June payments
4. July and August payments

July & August Payments	
Peter Thomas Outdoor Gym Removal - 943	£1,286.40
Neighbourhood Plan - 944	£ 400.00
Information Commissioner Card Payment	£ 40.00
Microsoft Office Card Payment	£79.99
British Telecommunications Card Payment	£227.28

Proposed by Cllr Bunting, seconded by Cllr Cottrell - **Agreed**

235/2020 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

20/00673/FULL Location: 37 Fore Street, Noak Bridge

Proposed two storey side extension and loft conversion incorporating the removal of the existing chimney and new velux windows

Noak Bridge Parish Council object for the reasons below:

Although there is plenty of space for the proposed extension, having it on the side of the building is not in keeping with the conservation area and will have a negative effect on the visual amenity and neighbouring properties. The distance between properties is limited and the extension will need additional parking. We believe the chimney has been removed

20/00662/S211 Location: 30 Durban Lane, Noak Bridge

S211 Notice to: remove T1 (Hawthorn), reduce height of T2, T4, T5. T6 (Hornbeams) by approximately 4 - 6 feet and reduce height of T3 (Silver Birch) by 4 - 6 feet in line with the Hornbeams - **No comment**

20/00621/FULL Location: 20 Waverley Road, Laindon

Two storey rear extension and single-storey side extension

Planning Application not in the Parish

20/00727/FULL Location: Oak Lodge, 6 Abbots Court, Laindon

Erection of two-storey front extension

Noak Bridge Parish Council objected for the reasons below:

The area is limited around Abbots Court and therefore a two story extension would negatively impact neighbouring properties and not in keeping with the area

20/00732/FULL Location: 1 Pond Cottage, Wash Road, Laindon

Retrospective application for the replacement of 'The Barn' a single-storey residence ancillary to the main house

Noak Bridge Parish Council object for the reasons below:

This retrospective planning application, works started in November 2019 but has not been completed. The building lies within the green belt, no special circumstances recorded

APPLICATIONS DECIDED:

20/00132/FULL Location: Watch House Farm, Wash Road

All weather surfacing over existing farmyard area - **Granted**

20/00263/S211 Location: Noak Bridge Village Hall, Coppice Lane

Section 211 Notice – Reduction in size of three oak trees which are between the hall and the Coppice Lane Road - **Closed**

20/0004/S211 Location: 140 Coppice Lane, Noak Bridge

Section 211 Notice regarding removal of 2 trees in rear garden - **Closed**

20/00003/S211 Location: 2 Tudor Court, Noak Bridge

S211 Notice to remove tree - **Closed**

20/00560/FULL Location: 300 Noak Hill Road, Laindon

Single storey rear extension, new first floor rear to replace existing, raise ridge with hipped sides with enlarged front dormer and new open porch – **Granted**

20/00732/FULL Location: 1 Pond Cottage, Wash Road, Laindon

The erection of an ancillary building - **Granted**

236/2020

PUBLIC QUESTIONS:

The Resident who asked the questions below was not in attendance, a response would be sent via email

Q. Would the Parish Council please clarify why one of the Councillors recently invited locals to get involved with the Parish Council via a local resident forum?

A. Cllr Bunting posted the local forum response after reading a negative article regarding the Parish Council. Her post pointed out Parish Council processes the Council are governed by and invited resident involvement

Q. The residents were denied any election this year, possibly due to Covid and I assume the Parish Council cannot follow the standard rules of offering an election before seeking candidates for co-optation?

A. Due to the Covid pandemic the Government cancelled all 2020 local elections which meant standard rules could not be followed. This has already been addressed in a previous public question Minute 207/2020

Q. However, the current Councillors have been allowed to continue until May 2021, so could they not co-opt for the same short period?

A. Yes, all local Councillors had to continue in their role, with no elections for co-option

237/2020 COMMUNITY PROJECTS:

A resident asked if the Parish Council would consider Durban Lane Pond as a community project. The chairman to organise a site visit with interested parties to consider funding some improvements needed to the pond and a site visit to the village green park to consider what could be added to enhance play equipment

238/2020 BOROUGH/COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORT:

Cllr Allen reported: Council owned car parks, free parking in Billericay and Wickford
The Town Centre master plan consultations were underway, many high-rise flats
Consultation underway on proposals for an Incinerator in Courtald Road, Pitsea

Cllr Buckley reported ECC had found the return to schools a challenge
Residents were urged to use buses as low usage could mean some services were at risk
The Council were invited to propose a community project funded from a £20k pot

Cllr Ball reported on the financial impact Covid had on Government Funding
Local/Precepted Authorities could suffer loss of income with a sharp decline of service
An agreement with Thurrock Council for a six month trial using Drones over areas, hidden hedges, to help resolve enforcement of planning disputes
The 20 is plenty project, waiting for the school to respond

239/2020 TO NOTE CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

Correspondence was noted

240/2020 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: TBC SEPTEMBER 2020 at 7.30pm

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15pm

Signed

Chairman.....

Date.....