



**MINUTES OF NOAK BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT NOAK BRIDGE VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY 20th JULY 2021 at 7.00pm**

CHAIRMAN: Cllr Terri Sargent

CLLR'S PRESENT: Cllr Mark Cottrell; Cllr James Guthrie

ALSO PRESENT: Essex County Cllrs' Malcolm Buckley; Tony Ball

378/2021 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:
Cllr Jacqui Dowton; Cllr Stuart Allen

379/2021 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

380/2021 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:
To receive and agree the minutes of Noak Bridge Parish Council held on Tuesday 15th JUNE 2021, proposed by Cllr Guthrie, seconded by Cllr Cottrell that the minutes are a true and accurate record of the meeting - **Agreed**

381/2021 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AND WALKING WORKSHOP
The chairman reported Bluestone Consultants had met with the Parish Council to discuss the Neighbourhood Plan work streams, they were agreed and costed in readiness for a grant application to Locality the Neighbourhood Plan support organisation.
The Summer newsletter was delivered by Cllr's in time to advertise the forthcoming resident consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan, the Walking Workshop on 14th July taking a route around the parish. A middle page spread of the Neighbourhood Plan was included in the newsletter to inform residents of planned events and surveys seeking their involvement. Cllr's, residents, and consultants set off on a two-hour tour of the parish taking in many areas of the parish, looking at the theme items for inclusion in the plan. Pictures were taken, residents pointed out specific areas of concern, unique characteristics of the conservation area and their future aspirations for Noak Bridge
The Council joined Parish Online and received a licence for maps which will be a great asset when writing the plan and illustrating specific locations
The consultants sent the Council the first survey analysis data. The Council remarked how good it was to have residents working with them on the Neighbourhood Plan and for the Plan to be up and running again after the long delay

382/2021 LOCALITY GRANT APPLICATION - NOAK BRIDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN:
The Council when costing out the future Neighbourhood Plan work decided to apply for a grant of £10,000 to Locality to cover the costs of the works. The chairman completed the application form which was sent to Groundwork who manage the applications for Locality.

The application was granted in a short space of time. Terms and conditions of the grant were duly signed by the chairman and the works have begun for which the grant was awarded

383/2021 COUNCILLOR TRAINING:

The training events from EALC have been circulated to members to request which sessions they choose to attend

384/2021 ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL SALT BAG SCHEME:

The Council discussed the pros and cons of applying for the ECC salt bag scheme. In previous years they had decided against it because of the work involved and the legalities the scheme involved

385/2021 COMMUNITY PROJECTS AND GRANT FUNDING:

Projects update

Durban Lane Pond, final desilting works will take place in September

Little Libraries have been painted and will be taken to the school in September for them to decorate before installation

Village Green Park had been jet washed by Basildon Council at the request of the Council

New Safety Surface in the specific areas Park are awaiting quotations

Bridge Street Speeding the newsletter consultation received a very poor response, however Cllr Buckley informed the meeting that the Highways Panel were considering replacing the existing VAS sign and relocating in elsewhere in Bridge Street at a cost of £5,500

Litter Pick Cllr Guthrie reported on the proposed litter pick, Sunday 8th August at 10.30am Cllr Guthrie would plan a route around the parish, Cllr Sargent to advertise and pick up and return the equipment from Basildon Council

Grant Applications

The Council had received four requests for grant funding:

Hardstanding Area in Kenilworth Place housing scheme

Free Cakes for Kids

Picnic Benches

Dog Walking Area

The grants were discussed, but as none were supported, they could not be agreed

386/2021 FINANCE

1. Monthly Bank Reconciliation
2. Monthly Budget Sheet
3. Note Groundwork Grant for Neighbourhood Plan - £10,000.00
- 4.

July Payments Cheque / BACS
P Thomas Landscapes – Bridgecote Lane Sign Installation £240.00
Solopress – Summer Newsletter £189.64
Little Libraries Paint B&Q - £30.00

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

387/2021 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

21/00996/FULL, Location: Barleylands Farm, Barleylands Road

Change of use of land and storage building to E(f) children's day nursery

*The Parish Council object to the planning application for the following reasons:

The proposed building lies within the green belt although Barleylands Farm has in total a planning history of 60

There is already sufficient nursery provision in neighbouring nurseries located in Noak Bridge Village, Steepleview Community Centre and Burstead Bears

Barleylands Farm Park, the area where the nursery is proposed already has extensive activities operating daily and at weekends. In addition to the multi farm activities is an Equestrian Centre, 42 Football pitches, American Football and the Council waste and recycling depot.

These activities and facilities are used by Basildon residents and beyond and are very popular. Visitors to the farm park alone, according to the design statement attracts 146,000 visits each year, however they bring a huge amount of traffic using the local road network causing high congestion on what was once classed as farm roads

All these activities have a huge impact on Barleylands Road and Wash Road which greatly affect the residents of Noak Bridge Parish. The application design statement says 'that it does not consider the proposal has any impact on the residential amenity given the proximity of the visitor attraction'. Considering the facilities are such a short distance away, there is no footpath along Barleylands Road which has a huge impact on residents because they are unable to walk or cycle there. The road is used by many HGV vehicles, pictures are attached of the road network in action which demonstrates the size of the vehicles using the road and how buses are constricted at the junction and road bend with cars having to sit back to let them through. A traffic study is needed to clarify the frequency of vehicles using the road daily and at weekends as residents of Noak Bridge regularly queue to exit and enter their homes

Had Barleylands Farm been developed as one comprehensive scheme it would have had to provide S106 improvements for infrastructure, possibly a footpath. Instead in over 20 years Barleylands Farm has increased development gaining piecemeal planning permission each time without giving any improvements to the local infrastructure. Those living nearest are disadvantaged because they cannot safely access the facilities and forced to walk along a dangerous highly congested road. The NPPF 9 'promoting sustainable transport' paragraph 106. d) *provide for attractive and well-designed walking and cycling networks with supporting facilities such as secure cycle parking (drawing on Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans)*; Whilst the NPPF may claim commitment to sustainable economic growth and support for rural businesses it cannot be at the behest of local communities which has been allowed to happen in this case

If planning permission is going to be continually granted to developments in Wash Road and Barleylands Road classed as a semi-rural area, then sufficient infrastructure by means of a footpath should be considered to ensure sustainability of the proposal

TO NOTE APPLICATIONS DECIDED

21/01487/FULL, Location: 49 New Waverley Road, Noak Bridge

To replace wooden windows with double glazed UPVC windows - **Granted**

21/00222/FULL, Location: 71 Bridgecote Lane, Noak Bridge.

Single Storey rear extension with pitched roof - **Refused**

388/2021

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION 15 MINUTES:

There were no questions given prior to the meeting

389/2021

BOROUGH/COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORT:

Cllr Buckley reported of ECC commitment to climate change and reducing emissions
A fund of £.05m had been made available for projects that would benefit the environment
Constituted groups could apply for up to £20k in funding, the project would need to
evidence environmental benefits. A Covid summer key essentials fund was available to
supplement basic needs of heating and food

Cllr Ball reported on ECC three themes

Renewing Economy - because prosperity is the best pathway to a good life

Equality because everyone should have the chance to fulfil their potential
and pursue their dreams

Ambition because the people of Essex are for themselves and
their families, and we believe their county council should match that ambition

Building on these themes, ECC have set out 20 commitments in our draft Plan which, taken
together, will deliver renewal, equality and ambition.

390/2021 TO NOTE CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

Correspondence was noted

391/2021 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

SEPTEMBER 21st 2021

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.20pm

Signed

Chairman.....

Date.....