



**MINUTES OF NOAK BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD REMOTELY IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE CORONAVIRUS ACT 2020
ON WEDNESDAY 20th JANUARY 2021 at 7.00pm**

CHAIRMAN: Cllr Terri Sargent

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

ALSO PRESENT: Nina Head, 2021 Census; Essex County Cllr Tony Ball; Project manager Paul Downes

283/2021 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Cllr Jane Bunting; Borough Cllr Stuart Allen; County Cllr Malcolm Buckley

284/2021 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
Cllr Sargent 291/2020 non-pecuniary interest

285/2021 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

To receive and agree the minutes of Noak Bridge Parish Council held on Tuesday 17th November 2020, proposed by Cllr Cottrell, seconded by Cllr Guthrie that the minutes are a true and accurate record of the meeting - **Agreed**

286/2021 CENSUS 2021:

Nina Head, Census Engagement Manager, South West Essex, Office for National Statistics gave a presentation to the Parish Council on the March 2021 Census. The message is to get as many residents as possible to complete the Census, the Parish Council to help to raise awareness to residents within the Parish through website and social media

287/2021 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE:

The chairman reported on the letter the Council had sent to John Baron asking for a response from the Minister, the RT HON Christopher Pincher MP regarding the consultation Planning for the Future White Paper and its effect Neighbourhood Plans. The Parish Council were assured that the Government remains committed to Neighbourhood Plans and how the White Paper sets out their intention to retain them as part of the planning system Further lock down measures as a result of increase in the Coronavirus have meant a delay with progressing the Neighbourhood Plan. Council to seek to appoint a new NP consultant

288/2021

REVIEW FINANCIAL REGULATIONS:

The chairman reported how the current 'financial regulation 6', instruction for making payments, restricted their internet banking arrangements and needed to be changed for the Council to make use of online banking facilities. Cllr Sargent had spoken to the bank and was informed the Council would have to complete a change of mandate details form to enable them internet banking facilities. The appropriate form would be completed, identification documents and the meeting minutes would be sent to Santander. Cllr Sargent proposed to adopt the necessary changes to financial regulation 6. seconded by Cllr Dowton - **Agreed**

289/2021

BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2021 – 2022:

The Council held a working party to discuss and set the Budget. Funding to community projects would increase to further the Councils aims to invest in the community and to continue to develop the Neighbourhood Plan in order to influence future development plans

- 1) Cllr Downton proposed the Budget for 2021 - 2022, seconded by Cllr Guthrie - **Agreed**
- 2) Cllr Sargent proposed the Precept for 2021 - 2022 of £43,566.19, a slight decrease on last year, seconded by Cllr Dowton - **Agreed**

290/2021

REVIEW OF BASILDON BOROUGH COUNCIL PLAY AREAS:

The Council considered the consultation on the play areas within the Parish:
The Parish Council felt the red ragging in the spreadsheet to 'remove' South Wash Road Playing Field was very misleading. They agreed the playing field should remain as Open Space but in Perpetuity and disagreed with Basildon Council that no further equipment be installed only to maintain the field. The Parish Council own the football posts and the fence around the dog agility course sited on the playing field and ask what Basildon Councils plans are if the equipment in the dog agility course wore out or broke and needed replacing?
New equipment is being introduced all the time for children, young people and adults and it would be ideal for options to be kept open to install new and innovative equipment on the playing field as space is very limited on the Village Green Park. Basildon Council should not be expected to be the sole funders of new equipment, alternative options should be sought with external funders to match fund new projects

The Parish Council are about to provide a new item of equipment on the Village Green Park. However, they agree with the proposed future investment by Basildon Council but feel the time scale of 5 years is too far ahead. The flooring in the park is considerably worn and could prove a hazard if it does not receive investment before then. The Parish Council would be willing to invest funding in park equipment providing the timescale is brought forward

291/2021

COMMUNITY PROJECTS:

Bridgecote Lane Sign

One quotation was received to restore the sign, Cllr Guthrie explained he was unable to obtain other quotes as the work was considered too small. Cllr Cottrell proposed to accept the quote, seconded by Cllr Guthrie - **Agreed**

Cllr Sargent and Paul Downes presented the replica version of the sign to the resident who had looked after the original sign, she was delighted

Durban Lane Pond

Cllr Dowton gave a brief feedback of a meeting that took place with herself, the contractor and Rob Baker to discuss the phase two works. The contractor provided a quotation on the phase two specialist works to the pond that were necessary and environmentally friendly but more expensive. The Council considered the quotation cost and Cllr Dowton proposed to invest a further £6,000.00, seconded by Cllr Guthrie - **Agreed**

Leaf Sweeping

The Leaf Sweeping took place during November 2020 and an excellent job was done

Equipment for Village Green Park

The Council are in the process of choosing an item of equipment for the park

VAS Bridge Street

Cllr Guthrie produced a short report, explaining reasons for changing or replacing the VAS with pictures to evidence the speeding problems in Bridge Street. The Council accepted the report and would send it to Cllr's Ball and Buckley for the Local Highways Panel consideration in January 2021

292/2021

LOAL COUNCIL LIAISON MEETING 24th NOVEMBER 2020:

The topics raised at the meeting, Census 2021; Air Pollution; Parks/Play Areas Review; Waste Management Changes; Local Plan Update; Delegation of Planning Applications and Process in Place to Appoint Parish Cllr's to Local Authority meetings. Cllr Sargent reported she had brought this item to the meeting as appointments to outside bodies were decided by the Parish/Town Councils group, ABLC. Noak Bridge had chosen not to be members of the ABLC and therefore were not being considered for appointment on, Basildon Standards committee x two seats, Basildon's Planning committee x one seat and ECC Local Highways Panel x one seat. The Council felt it was unfair to exclude Noak Bridge because they were not members of the ABLC. It was included in the LCLC minutes, the Chairman, Cllr Callaghan could raise at a relevant service committee. Cllr Sargent has since had an exchange of emails with Basildon Council and raised the process as unfair and non-inclusive. The Parish Council agreed to put forward to the Basildon Council Monitoring Officer a more inclusive process

293/2021

BANK SIGNATORIES:

The Council had received a letter from Santander to inform them Cllr Cottrell was added as a signatory and that former Cllr Vicki Jarvis had been removed

294/2021

FINANCE:

1. Noted November payments
2. Monthly Budget Sheet
3. Monthly Bank Reconciliation
4. January payments

Cllr Sargent proposed agreement of the budget sheet, bank reconciliation and January payments, seconded by Cllr Guthrie - **Agreed**

January Payments	Cost
Basildon Council Leaf Sweeping -	£949.72 cheque no 951
Clearview Annual Maintenance -	£ 298.80 cheque no 952
Post Office Stamps Card Payment -	£30.57

295/2021

PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

20/01556/FULL Location: 28 Thistle Close, Noak Bridge

Single storey rear extension – **Already Granted**

21/00022/FULL Location: 2 Littlehurst Lane, Noak Bridge

Proposed dwelling house on front/side garden of 2 Littlehurst Lane

*** The Parish Council object to the planning application. It appears to be on an existing plot and at first glance looked in line with the existing character and street scene of the conservation area. However, the roof line is higher than existing properties, the brick**

colour is different and it's a three storey building therefore not in keeping with the conservation area. The parking appears insufficient, has the Essex parking standard been taken into consideration?

TO NOTE APPLICATIONS DECIDED:

20/01165/FULL Location: 5 Gate Lodge Way, Noak Bridge

Single storey rear extension - Granted

20/01173/FULL Location: 63 Bridgecote Lane, Noak Bridge

Replacement windows to front, rear and side elevation - Granted

20/01470/S211 Location: 71 New Waverley Road, Noak Bridge

Section 211 - T1 and T2 (Oaks) Crown Reduction by 1.5 metres - Closed

20/01337/FULL Location: 72 Durban Lane, Noak Bridge

Replace existing timber framed windows and doors - Refused

20/01196/FULL Location: Land To The West of Noak Hill Road

Change of use of agricultural land to an enclosed field for dog walking - Granted

20/01389/FULL Location: Braeside, 14 Wash Road, Noak Bridge

Loft conversion with front dormer windows including roof alteration and addition of front bay windows - Granted

20/01442/FULL Location: Watch House Farm, 1 Wash Road

Proposed two-storey rear extension with side dormers (Revised scheme) - Granted

296/2021

PUBLIC QUESTIONS:

Q. Play Area Review. There are two entries under Billericay, one for investment simply as Noak Bridge and one for removal as Wash Road Open Space. Can you please clarify?

A. The play areas within the Noak Bridge Parish Council are:

The Village Green play park, it is recommended for investment in 5 years

The Wash Road 'open space' we call it the 'playing field' will not be in line for investment

It is classed as an 'open space' by Basildon Council and that is how it will be maintained

297/2021

BOROUGH/COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORT:

Cllr Ball reported Coronavirus positive infection rates in Basildon were down but to keep vigilant with the Government message. ECC cabinet had agreed a no increase in Council Tax and a 1.5% budget towards Health & Social Care, to be agreed at Full Council. Government had increased funding to Adult Social Care, and investment in Council Economic recovery. Cllr's Ball & Buckley had a grant of £2k each for vulnerable people who are struggling

298/2021

TO NOTE CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

Correspondence was noted

299/2021

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: FEBRUARY 2021 DAY TBA

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.55pm

Signed

Chairman.....

Date.....