

# Pentlow Parish Council

Parish Clerk / RFO: Kevin B. Money  
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## Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>. October 2023 at 7pm in the Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs J. Calver (Chairman), R. Simnett (Vice-Chairman), D. Wright, T. Bartlett, M. Stuchfield, ECC Cllr P. Schwier, BDC Cllr I. Parker and Kevin B. Money (Parish Clerk).

There were also 3 members of the public present

**054/2023 Chairman welcome** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

**055/2023 Apologies for Absence** None received

**056/2023 Declaration of Interest**

To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or non-Pecuniary Interest relating to items on the agenda  
**None Declared**

**057/2023 To confirm the appointment of Mr. Kevin B. Money as Parish Clerk / RFO to Pentlow Parish Council as from 1<sup>st</sup>. September 2023. All Agreed**

**058/2023 To approve the Minutes of the last meeting of Penlow Parish Council**

To receive and agree the minutes of the last PPC meetings held on 9<sup>th</sup>. May, 27<sup>th</sup>. June & 1<sup>st</sup>. August 2023  
**All Agreed**

**059/2023 Matters arising**

1) Pinkuah Arms Assets of Community Values

A case officer has been assigned to this application. No further update received.

A planning application is being submitted for a change of use. Following any enforcement issue.

2) Twenty's Plenty Campaign update

Nothing further to report. As Pentlow is not a populated area there is little chance of having a 20mph in the village.

3) Community Speedwatch update

A speed survey will cost £350. To be discussed at another meeting

4) School Road Planning Issues update

Clare Cottage, School Road planning issues update. The property was only of residential use prior to the current owner using part of the garden and garage for business purposes. A Freedom of Information request (FOI) was put in by local residents to BDC to see what enforcement officer's notes exist and it was seen there was no mention of the new access that has been created on this very narrow stretch of road close to a bend and junction. It is believed that Highways consent should have been sought. Near residents are considering querying BDC on the newly formed access but have noted that deliveries related to the business appear to have ceased. Environmental health department has been involved to stop burning of commercial waste.

5) Councillors to confirm NEW PPC website address and PPC email address.

The new email [pentlowparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:pentlowparishcouncil@gmail.com)

The new website address is www. <https://e-voice.org.uk/pentlowparishcouncil> **All Agreed**

6) Clerk Handover. The handover went smoothly with some items still to be handed to the new Clerk. More items were handed to the Clerk at this meeting.

**060/2023 Essex County Councillor report – ECC Cllr P. Schwier**

- Updates sent out on a regular basis
- Essex schools have been affected by RACK with little loss of school time
- Essex Park & Ride - the costs are being capped at 2023 levels for 2024
- Highway Highlights bulletin has been circulated

Signed

*J. Calver*  
J. Calver - Chairman

23<sup>rd</sup>. January 2024

- £14.2m spent on highway issues. Providing weather is good a vast number of Highways issues will be resolved.
- Potholes are being repaired at an alarming pace. It has been noted that there have been road repairs between Foxearth and Rodbridge addressing some significant potholes but there are still further road repairs required in both Foxearth and Pentlow which have been highlighted by council inspectors.
- Outstanding rating from Ofsted
- Waste Recycling centre survey has started
- Waste Strategy for Essex survey continues until 21<sup>st</sup>. November 2023
- Both surveys are available in all Essex libraries

Councillors asked questions on reporting potholes but should there be a need for emergency workers to repair dangerous potholes quickly? When reporting any issues to ECC please use "What 3 Words"

Cllr P. Schwier left the meeting

#### **061/2023 District Councillor report – BDC Cllr I. Parker**

- Garden waste collection is now a subscription service. This is to fill the budget gap
- BDC cannot raise Council Tax by more than 3%
- 30<sup>th</sup>. November is the latest to sign up for a discount to the subscription fee
- Verge cutting – Trialling to cut just once a year. With the lack of verge cutting motorists are forced into the middle of the road
- Level up fund has opened – Rural prosperity fund. Capital projects only between £10,000 and £50,000
- Halstead Town centre is being refurbished
- BDC Cllr. I. Parker took Dan Gascoyne CEO of BDC around her ward

Cllr I. Parker left the meeting

#### **062/2023 Public Participation Session**

The Chairman will invite questions and observations from members of the public present.

Nothing from the public

#### **063/2023 Footpath Maintenance and cutting update**

Verbal and email complaints about footpath maintenance. Councillors decided to return to ECC for future cutting. The Clerk to contact Essex County Council to hand back the 2024/2025 season

#### **064/2023 Refuse vehicle – For information. The next visit to Pentlow has been arranged**

A leaflet will be produced for delivery to all households

#### **065/2023 Planning Applications**

##### **23/02033/LBC - Peartree Cottage Belchamp Road Pentlow Essex CO10 7JS**

Proposed replacement of existing timbers, replacement of existing plinth flashings, Increase height of door to barn and minor internal works.

Due to planning response constraints Pentlow Parish Council submitted the following response before the deadline.

**Pentlow Parish Council has no objections to this planning application but it is worth noting that ECC has commented but it is not clear whether these comments have been addressed.**

##### **23/02169/HH - Bellsden Lodge Belchamp Road Pentlow Essex CO10 7JS**

Single storey rear and side extensions, removal of a chimney stack and changes to existing window

**RESOLVED:** It was reported that the new application was now only for the single storey rear extension as well as the removal of chimney and changes to an existing window. The roof of the rear extension has now been changed to a slightly sloping design. **The Parish Council response was agreed as 'No comment'**

#### **066/2023 Planning Decisions made by BDC affecting Pentlow**

Councillors noted the Planning Decisions made by BDC affecting Pentlow

##### **23/01475/HH - Pannells Ash Farm West Belchamp Road Pentlow Essex CO10 7JT**

Retention of outbuilding, proposed shed and installation of EV charger and oak mounting post

**Application WITHDRAWN**

##### **23/01484/LBC – Willow Barn Bower Hall Lane Pentlow Essex CO10 7FY**

Retention of Addition of two windows to porch enclosure and replace roof from felt to slate. External flue to the East elevation gable wall including moving adjacent doorway. **Pending Decision**

Signed

*J. Calver*

J. Calver - Chairman

23<sup>rd</sup>. January 2024

**23/01615/HH – Bellsden Lodge Belchamp Road Pentlow Essex CO10 7JS**

Single storey rear and side extensions, removal of a chimney stack and changes to existing window

**Application REFUSED****067/2023 Solar farm construction – update on development**

A check on the planning conditions should be looked at. A check on the planning conditions should be looked at. Works are being undertaken at night. Replace with: There was concern expressed that works might be taking place after dark. No floodlighting of the area is permitted. Hedging should be erected ASAP. All planning conditions must be adhered to and there was some feeling that not all construction vehicles had been using the 'defined route' of the traffic management plan. IE coming from Foxearth direction rather than via Cavendish.

**068/2023 Finance**

a) To receive the Bank balance as at 30<sup>th</sup>. September 2023

Councillors noted the Bank balance as at 30<sup>th</sup>. September 2023

b) To receive the comparison of Actual against Budget 2023/24

Councillors noted the comparison of Actual against Budget 2023/24

c) Councillors to agree the September and October 2023 finances and to agree a transfer of any funds to meet the Parish Council's financial requirements. **All Agreed**

d) Councillors to sign the "Account application submission" form from Unity Trust Bank

Councillors signed the "Account application submission" form from Unity Trust Bank. This will now be sent electronically to Unity Trust Bank.

**069/2023 Budget 2024/2025**

Councillors discussed the projected budget expenditure for 2024/2025

Cllr J. Calver proposed the budget of £7775.00p for 2024/2025. Cllr R. Simnett seconded. **All Agreed.**

This resulted in a Precept demand from Braintree District Council of £7000.00p for 2024/2025. No increase from 2023/2024 year. The 2024/2025 Band D figure will be supplied to the Clerk in January '24 from BDC

**070/2023 Village Hall Lease – update**

No update on the village hall lease

Councillors to discuss at a future meeting whether the village hall is needed in the village. A resident consultation will be required before any final decision is made. To renew the lease will cost money.

**071/2023 Items for Next Agenda**

Items for the January '24 agenda to be supplied to the Clerk by 12<sup>th</sup>. January 2024 at the latest.

**072/2023 Date of Next Full Council meetings – Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup>. January 2024 at 7pm**

**073/2023 Councillors to agree the 2024 meeting dates.** This item was deferred to the next meeting

**074/2023 Closure of the Meeting**

To Close the meeting having considered and determined all items of business

The Chairman then closed the meeting at 9pm and thanked everyone for attending

Signed

*J. Calver*

J. Calver - Chairman

23<sup>rd</sup>. January 2024