

## RETTENDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held remotely on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September  
2020.

Councillors attended the meeting through digital link.

**Present:** Cllr Mark Fleming (Chairman)  
Cllr Sandie Cottee  
Cllr Hazel Dale Evans  
Cllr Denise Fleming  
Cllr James Knight  
Cllr David Phillips  
Cllr Ray Ride  
Cllr Barbara Wright

Four members of the public attended through the digital link provided.

Chelmsford City Councillor Paul Clark sent his apologies.

**69-20/21 To Receive Apologies and to approve Reasons for Absence**

Apologies from Cllr Hart were approved.

The Chairman said Cllr D Fleming would join the meeting at some point if possible.

**70-20/21 Declarations of Interest on Items on the Agenda**

Cllr Ride declared a pecuniary interest in Item 83-20/21 due to his position as Governor of the school.

Cllr Cottee declared an interest due to involvement with the herb garden at the Village Hall.

Cllr Wright declared an interest in Item 80-20/21 due to her position as complier of the newsletter and Item 83-20/21 due to her involvement with the school.

**71-20/21 Public Forum – strictly 5 minutes only per speaker**

There were no comments.

**72-20/21 To agree the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2020 as a true record for signature by the Chairman at a later date**

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2020 were agreed as a true record for signature by the Chairman at a later date.

**73-20/21 To receive the Essex County Councillor and Ward Councillors' reports.**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor M. Fleming, Chairman

Chelmsford City Council Ward Councillor Paul Clark sent the following report which was read to the meeting:

*"I don't have much to report other than what was discussed last month. The Local Government Review (LGR) is about to be conducted. The White Paper has been delayed only for a few weeks, many would have seen the Minister responsible for this resigned from Government recently.*

*Chelmsford City Council (CCC), have engaged consultants to provide a report on LGR, and similar work is being conducted throughout Essex by other authorities.*

*I will be meeting the CEO of CCC and the other Group Leaders next week, and we will be meeting with the 3 MPs who cover the Chelmsford area early next month, again to discuss this matter.*

*If this gets the green light, I expect things to move very swiftly with elections for Unitary Authority members by 2023.*

*From a Parish perspective, I have been busy dealing with planning issues this month in Rettendon and across the Ward.*

*The Curry Hill footbridge matter is progressing, further work will most likely be determined by the completion of Phase 4 on St Luke's Park."*

**74-20/21 To receive reports from the following:**

**a) Village Hall Committee representative**

Cllr Cottee said the pre-school had commenced and she had been working in the herb garden. She said no committee meetings had been held.

**b) Parish Survey Working Group**

Cllr Cottee said further information had been gathered. She said a meeting was planned for the coming week to progress the survey. She said the group was looking at different ways to ask questions and the layout. She said she had had offers of help from a resident and Cllr D Fleming.

Cllr Phillips said he would undertake investigation into software to deliver the survey.

**c) Bus Shelter Working Group**

Cllr Cottee said the Hoe Lane stop had been cleaned recently. She said the turnpike stop had still not been repaired.

The Clerk said she would investigate this.

**d) S-Type Security Working Group**

Cllr Phillips said there had been no meeting. He said he would like to set up a Zoom meeting and the Group would report next month.

**e) Sonters Down Play Area Working Group**

Cllr Phillips said there was nothing to report.

Cllr D Fleming joined the meeting.

**75-20/21 Finance**

To agree to authorise invoices for payment, receive copy Bank statements and details of expenditure to date.

It was **agreed** to authorise invoices for payment as listed below.

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Reason for Payment</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>K. Kane</b>	<b>Salary September 2020</b>	<b>£730.16</b>
<b>K. Kane</b>	<b>Mileage</b>	<b>£31.50</b>
<b>S-Type Security Ltd</b>	<b>Patrols – September</b>	<b>£420.00</b>
<b>Stanley Tee LLP</b>	<b>Legal fees</b>	<b>£2,280.00</b>
<b>Stanley Tee LLP</b>	<b>Legal fees</b>	<b>£1,598.80</b>
<b>HMRC</b>	<b>PAYE Q2</b>	<b>£249.06</b>

Cllr Dale Evans abstained.

Cllr Wright said she did not approve the Tees payments.

**76-20/21 To agree the response to planning applications notified to the Parish Council as statutory consultee**

**20/01405/LBC - Pound Farm Main Road Rettendon Common Chelmsford - Two-storey rear extension and a single-storey link, with minor internal alterations.**

It was **agreed** to support this application.

**20/01404/FUL - Pound Farm Main Road Rettendon Common Chelmsford - Description of works: Two-storey rear extension and a single-storey link, with minor internal alterations.**

It was **agreed** to support this application.

**20/01394/FUL - Hunters Lodge Chalk Street Rettendon Common Chelmsford - Demolition of existing stables and structures, with the construction of a new dwelling and all associated works including parking.**

The Council noted that the application form was incorrect.

It was **agreed** that the Council had no objection to a new dwelling of an equivalent size to the existing footprint. The Council noted a central location on the plot of the new dwelling would be more aesthetically pleasing and would protect the neighbour's amenity. The Council noted the proposed demolition of existing structures.

**20/01363/SCOPE - Land North Of South Woodham Ferrers Burnham Road South Woodham Ferrers Chelmsford - Environmental impact assessment scoping opinion of up to 350 dwellings**

The Council **agreed** that the impact of the development on the Burnham and Woodham Roads should be noted.

**20/01258/FUL - Runningwell House Warren Road Rettendon Chelmsford CM3 8DG - Proposed Replacement Garage**

It was **agreed** to support this application.

**77-20/21 To confirm the ownership status of the triangular area of land to the north of the Upper Bell Field that has the building located on it**

The Chairman said that the triangle of land had been conveyed to the Parish Council when the adjacent road had been diverted. He said the conveyance had been conditional on the land being used for the same charitable purpose as the Upper Bell Field. He said he was not aware of any subsequent conveyance from the Parish Council to the Bell Fields charities and that the Land Registry entry was for the whole plot.

Subject to Parish Council approval, he said he believed that the Land Registry record should be broken up appropriately.

Cllr Dale Evans said that the land had been conveyed in exchange for a slice of the carriageway. She said the triangle should be included in the charity land. She said the hut had been built to make the playing field usable.

The Chairman said he would circulate the original conveyancing document and a future meeting should consider the title deeds and any action necessary.

The item was deferred.

**78-20/21 To agree to send a letter to RCCE requesting a refund of subscriptions (as per draft letter circulated to councillors prior to the meeting)**

It was **agreed** to send a letter to RCCE requesting a refund of subscriptions (as per draft letter circulated to councillors prior to the meeting)

**79-20/21 To agree the wording of a Parish Council statement regarding the recent judgment handed down following the Bell Fields dispute hearing (as per draft statement circulated to councillors prior to the meeting)**

The wording of a Parish Council statement regarding the recent judgment handed down following the Bell Fields dispute hearing (as per draft statement circulated to councillors prior to the meeting) was **agreed**.

**80-20/21 To discuss a regular Parish Council submission to the Rettendon & Battlesbridge newsletter**

A regular Parish Council submission to the Rettendon & Battlesbridge newsletter was discussed.

It was felt a regular submission would be a good idea with the Clerk providing a summary of the minutes and other councillors providing contributions through the Clerk.

It was agreed the matter should be brought back to the October meeting to consider the payment of £25 for the column space.

**81-20/21 To agree a response to the Chelmsford City Council Community Governance Review**

Cllr Knight said he had looked at the review and felt that a response from the Parish Council could not add anything to the City Council's deliberation. He said he felt the two questions asked could be answered by a simple "yes" and "no" respectively. He said this was still an important review and if councillors wished to respond individually they should do so.

It was **agreed** that the Parish Council response should be "Yes" to the question about perishing non-parished areas, and "No" to the question about any other changes.

**82-20/21 To receive an update from trustees of the Upper & Lower Bell Field charities**

Cllr Ride referred to the statement he had emailed to Councillors.

He said a meeting with the Football Club had been held and that with the drought the pitch had deteriorated to such an extent that they could no longer use it for matches.

He said the principle challenge was to produce a new governing document and work on this was ongoing.

**It was agreed unanimously to suspend Standing Order 3(x) at this point for the duration of the meeting.**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor M. Fleming, Chairman

**83-20/21 To agree a grant to Rettendon Primary School of £1,500 to support provision of swimming lessons**

Cllr Ride had declared a pecuniary interest in this item and took no part in the discussion or the vote.

It was **agreed unanimously** to give a grant to Rettendon Primary School of £1,500 to support provision of swimming lessons.

**84-20/21 Reports from Councillors on Council activities since the last meeting**

Cllr Phillips said he had met with Cllr Dale Evans and reported six items to Essex Highways. He said five were pending but that the cover near to the Le Benaix restaurant had been fixed.

Cllr Wright said she understood there were issues where items that had been reported were not updated on the Essex Highways site.

Cllr Phillips said he would look into the reported issues and investigate this.

Cllr Knight said he had sent photographs of the fallen sign at the staggered junction at Hayes to Essex Highways. He said the sign had been down for two years.

Cllr Knight referred to planning enforcement issues at Hayes.

Cllr Cottee said she had sent photograph of South View Road to Cllr D Fleming.

Cllr Fleming confirmed she had sent them to Essex County Councillor Ian Grundy.

**85-20/21 Date of the next Parish Council Meeting: To be confirmed.**

It was **agreed** that the next Parish Council meeting would be held on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2020 online.

**86-20/21 Exclusion of the Press and Public**

**Having regard to the confidential nature of the business proposed to be transacted, to agree to exclude the Press and Public pursuant to Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.**

Having regard to the confidential nature of the business proposed to be transacted, it was **agreed** to exclude the Press and Public pursuant to Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

**87-20/21 To agree the wording of a letter to a member of the public regarding a post on social media.**

The wording of a letter to a member of the public regarding a post on social media was **agreed**.