

## RETTENDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held remotely on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October  
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

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

Chelmsford City Councillor Paul Clark sent his apologies.

**92-20/21 To Receive Apologies and to approve Reasons for Absence**

There were no apologies to receive.

**93-20/21 Declarations of Interest on Items on the Agenda**

Cllr Wright declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 102-20/21 as compiler of the newsletter.

She declared an interest in planning application 20/01552/FUL due to the application site being close to a property in her ownership.

**94-20/21 Public Forum – strictly 5 minutes only per speaker**

A resident said he had asked Cllr Hart at previous meetings about a comment he had made about having proof that the Council planned to stop football being played on the Bell Fields. He said as no proof had been forthcoming, he assumed no such proof existed.

Cllr Hart said he had offered to ring the resident but as the resident had preferred to remain anonymous he had no comment to make.

The Chairman said the resident could contact the Clerk for further action.

**95-20/21 To agree the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2020 as a true record for signature by the Chairman at a later date**

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2020 were **agreed** to be a true record for signature by the Chairman at a later date.

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

**96-20/21 To agree the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020 as a true record for signature by the Chairman at a later date**

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020 were **agreed** as a true record for signature by the Chairman at a later date.

**97-20/21 To receive the Essex County Councillor and Ward Councillors' reports.**

The following report was received from Essex County Councillor Ian Grundy:

“The COVID virus has and is dominating the services that ECC provide. Last week saw the Council launch its Half Term Emergency Fund which is being run by the EALC. Working with our partners this will provide funding to food banks and similar organisations to help families support their children with meals. Organisations can apply through the EALC web site - we do not want to see any Essex family suffer.

Also we are we are running 33 programmes across the county giving children free activities and food during this half term week. This follows the successful programme run by the Active Essex Foundation during August and funded by ECC. I personally visited one of these programmes in Wickford and was very impressed by how it was organised and to see the children clearly enjoying themselves.

The other big issue we are working on is what Essex can do to reduce our carbon footprint. We have set up a Climate Change Commission which has been meeting throughout the summer and will be presenting an interim report to the Cabinet very shortly. The Commission is made up of experts from around the country and chaired by an independent chairman. As Chairman of a Scrutiny Committee I have been allowed to attend their meetings and it has been a fascinating experience. We will be hearing a lot more on this next year.

With winter approaching fast I have no doubt potholes will become a problem. Please report them using the Highways Report it Tool on the ECC web site, obtain a reference number and I can chase for you if necessary.”

**98-20/21 To receive a report from the Clerk on changes to legislation affecting Parish Councils since March 2020**

The Clerk said the following were the main points that had arisen from new legislation affecting Parish Councils during 2020:

- The requirement to hold the Annual Meeting of the Council and the Annual Parish Meeting in 2020 had been disapplied;

- Appointments, including the Chairman of the Council, that were in force in April 2020 would carry forward to May 2021;
- The number of meetings that a Parish Council was required to hold during the municipal year had not changed;
- Legislation had introduced remote attendance for Council meetings;
- Deadlines for the audit process had been extended;
- The requirement to post the agenda for a Council meeting in a prominent place in the parish was now held to be met by publishing the agenda on the parish council's website.

Cllr Hart asked about the possibility of holding physical meetings.

The Clerk said that even if a venue could be found, while it might be possible to hold a meeting of councillors alone that would follow guidelines and legislation, it would not be possible to do this for a public meeting without the possibility of having to exclude residents, which would be unacceptable. She said current guidance from NALC was to continue with remote meetings and this was unlikely to change in the foreseeable future.

**99-20/21 To receive reports from the following:**

**a) Village Hall Committee representative**

Cllr Cottee said there had been no change since the report given at the last meeting.

**b) Parish Survey Working Group**

Cllr Cottee said a planned meeting had been rescheduled.

**c) Bus Shelter Working Group**

The Clerk said she would ask Mr K. Hobson to board up the bus shelter with broken panes so that the shelter was weather-proof, while further investigations into quotes for a permanent repair were made.

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

Cllr Phillips said he would schedule a meeting with S-Type Security.

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

Cllr Phillips said that he had spoken to Chelmsford City Council regarding collection of rubbish from the Play Area. He said following this discussion CCC had agreed to revert to weekly collections. He said he was looking into provision of an outside table-tennis table.

**100-20/21 Finance**

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

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

Invoices were **agreed** for payment as follows:

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Reason for Payment</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>K. Kane</b>	<b>Salary October 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 – October</b>	<b>£525.00</b>
<b>Stanley Tee LLP</b>	<b>Legal fees</b>	<b>£1,290.00</b>
<b>A K Hobson</b>	<b>Bus shelter repair</b>	<b>£120.00</b>
<b>W &amp; H (Romac) Ltd</b>	<b>Streetlight Repair</b>	<b>£70.08</b>

Cllr Wright requested a recorded vote.

Cllr Phillips voted For.

Cllr Knight voted For.

Cllr Cottee voted For.

Cllr Ride voted For.

Cllr M Fleming voted For.

Cllr Wright voted against the payment to Stanley Tee LLP and For all others.

Cllr D Fleming voted For.

Cllr Hart abstained with regard to the payment to Stanley Tee LLP and For all others.

Cllr Dale Evans abstained with regard to the payment to Stanley Tee LLP and For all others.

**101-20/21 To agree the response to planning applications notified to the Parish Council as statutory consultee**

20/01609/CLEUD - New Barns House Woodham Road Battlesbridge Wickford - Lawful Development Certificate for non-compliance with an agricultural occupancy condition at New House Barns.

It was **agreed** that the Council did not dispute the evidence provided and had no comment on this application.

20/01303/FUL - Silverwood South Hanningfield Road Rettendon Common Chelmsford - Replacing the existing buildings currently in use as stables and stores etc, providing a new farm house on the site of an existing farm building, increasing the size of the all-weather riding area and providing a garage for the existing bungalow to be used by staff

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

It was **agreed** that the Council did not object to this application provided there was no net loss of Green Belt land.

20/01157/FUL - Kimblewick Tabrums Lane Wickford Essex - Extension and conversion of stable block to create habitable area ancillary to main dwelling.

It was **agreed** that the Council would support this application,

20/01552/FUL - Keyberry Marks Farm Lane Rettendon Common Chelmsford - Retrospective application for a menage and boundary fence

Cllr Wright had declared an interest in this application.

It was **agreed** that the Council would support this application.

20/00157/FUL Land East of Bradwell Power Station, Downhall Beach, Bradwell-on-Sea, Essex – Application to carry out ground investigations, load tests and associated works in connection with a proposed new nuclear power station at Bradwell-on-Sea, together with the creation of two site compound areas and associated parking areas (Appeal)

It was **agreed** that the Council was happy with their original response to this application and had no further comment to make.

- 102-20/21 To agree to the cost of up to one column of the newsletter to be invoiced per issue at a cost of £25 per issue for one column at 11 point arial font. Please note the newsletter organisation is willing to invoice per inch if the item is not a whole column at £2.50 per inch.**

Cllr Wright had declared an interest in this item due to her role as complier of the newsletter and abstained from the vote.

The cost of up to one column of the newsletter to be invoiced per issue at a cost of £25 per issue for one column at 11 point arial font was **agreed**.

- 103-20/21 To receive a report on the EALC Annual General Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

Cllr Phillips said the meeting had been interesting. He said new Vice-Presidents had been elected and the increased affiliation fees for 2021/22 had been agreed.

He said constitution changes due to Covid-19 had been proposed and had been voted down. He said the EALC had been asked to re-consider these changes. He said he had abstained from all voting at the meeting as he had no mandate from the Parish Council, had abstained from all voting in the meeting as no mandate from RPC on items, and that this should be considered for any similar future meetings.

- 104-20/21 Constitution changes in light of Covid 19 and any other pandemic etc.**  
**To agree that a working group to be set up to carry out a full review of the Parish Council's Standing Orders with any amendments to be presented to RPC for approval.**

It was **agreed** that a working group would be set up to carry out a full review of the Parish Council's Standing Orders with any amendments to be presented to the Council for approval.

- 105-20/21 To discuss the Local Council Award Scheme and agree any action necessary**

The Clerk said she would send the link to Councillors so that they consider whether to bring a resolution to apply to the next meeting.

- 106-20/21 To agree a response to the Bradwell B new nuclear power station – EIA Scoping Notification and Consultation (letter dated 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020)**

It was **agreed** that the Council's original comments to the previous Bradwell application would stand.

- 107-20/21 To consider the following from Chelmsford City Council and agree a response**

**a) South Woodham Ferrers Neighbourhood Plan**

It was **agreed** that the Council supported South Woodham Ferrers Neighbourhood Plan.

**b) Making Places Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)**

It was **agreed** that the Council had no comment on this document.

**c) Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)**

It was **agreed** that the Council had no comment on this document.

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

- 108-20/21 Budget/Precept 2021/2022**

**a) To receive an update from the Chairman on current progress**

The Chairman said a meeting had been held during the previous week for initial discussion of the 2021/22 budget. He said following that meeting an updated document had been circulated.

**b) To discuss the Parish Council's budget for 2021/2022**

The following points were raised:

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

- Figure for Hall Hire to be £750
- Noticeboards to go under Council Equipment rather than Parish Maintenance.
- £500 to be included for Health & Well-Being
- Possible budget figure for provision of additional bus service.

The Clerk said she would circulate further figures for consideration at the November meeting.

**109-20/12 To agree to move the Parish Council meetings to allow for input to be agreed for the Newsletter before the deadline for input for the next month.**

This Item was withdrawn.

**110-20/21 Reports from Councillors on Council activities since the last meeting**

Cllr Phillips said he had contacted Essex Highways regarding provision of a bus service from Hayes Country Park to Chelmsford, Basildon and possibly Southend.

Cllr Dale Evans referred to highways issues reported to Essex Highways and mentioned at the last meeting and said that only one issue had been resolved.

**111-20/21 Date of the next Parish Council Meeting: To be confirmed.**

It was **agreed** that the next meeting of the Council would be held online on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

**112-20/21 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.

**113-20/21 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** as circulated prior to the meeting.