

EIGHT ASH GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held online on Wednesday 10th February 2021 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr Alan Bilby
Cllr John Jardine
Cllr Tina Morgan
Cllr Dean Nokes (Chairman)
Cllr Christine Willetts

CBC Ward Councillor Dennis Willetts also attended.

There were two members of the public in attendance.

In the absence of the Chairman, and with no Vice-Chairman currently elected, it was agreed that Cllr Nokes would chair the meeting.

92-20/21 Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received and were accepted from Cllr Tolfrey (work commitments).

93-20/21 Declaration of Interests

There were no Declarations of Interest.

94-20/21 Public Participation

There were no comments.

95-20/21 To agree as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 13th January 2021

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 13th January 2021 were **agreed** as a true record for signature by the Chairman at a later date.

96-20/21 Report from the County and Borough Councillors: Report from County Councillor and Ward Councillors, if present.

Signed _____
Cllr A. Tolfrey, Chairman

Cllr Dennis Willetts referred to the salt bins in the parish. He said most of the bins would belong to Essex Highways but through the Salt Bag Partnership they would supply salt for use in bins owned by Parish Councils.

Councillors agreed that provision of salt bins could be investigated further and action agreed at a future meeting.

Cllr Willetts referred to the Bellway development on Halstead Road and the link road in particular. He said Martin Mason at ECC was dealing with this at County Hall. He said Essex Highways initial recommendations had been that traffic would be directed through the development by suitable signage as this was felt to be the most appropriate method.

He said County Councillor Anne Brown had set up a meeting with Martin Mason which would include ward councillors to discuss the Neighbourhood Plan stipulation. He said they hoped to reach a resolution before the reserved matters were approved.

He referred to the draft S106 agreement available on the CBC website which made reference to Fordham Heath. He said this was an early draft which was nowhere near being signed and that when this came back to the Planning Committee this issue would have been resolved.

He said the figure of £160,000 was an indicative amount and other contributions were involved including social housing and the link road. He said if the developers were generous in other areas it would be difficult to argue for increased contribution towards another facility.

97-20/21 To agree the Parish Council response to planning applications received from Colchester Borough Council and to note decisions made on previous applications

210308 - Eight Ash Green Dental Surgery, Halstead Road, Eight Ash Green Colchester CO6 3QA - Single storey rear extension to dental practice premises

It was **agreed** that the Council would comment as follows:

The Parish Council do not object to this application. However the Parish Council would ask CBC to consider a condition that the proposed extension should only be used as part of the dental surgery business and not sub-let to another organisation.

Signed _____
Cllr A. Tolfrey, Chairman

210219 - Apple Garth, Cooks Mill Lane, Fordham Heath CO3 9TE - Erection of Single dwelling

It was **agreed** to object to this application as follows:

This site is outside the village settlement boundary, and approval for a new build dwelling in the countryside would therefore be against planning policy. This policy is reiterated in the Village Design Guide DG2 which states that any new residential build should only take place within the current settlement boundary.

This application is also contrary to the EAG Neighbourhood Plan which clearly states that any new build should be in one determined area of the village rather than ad hoc building in other parts of the village. A site for such housing development, known as Fiddlers Field, has already been granted outline planning permission for 150 dwellings along with road layout and junctions with adjoining main roads.

This proposed new build is squashed onto a long narrow plot, completely at odds with the more spacious arrangement of the surrounding properties, giving a cramped appearance and so detrimental to the street scene

It would also block light from both Applegarth itself and the garden of Rickstones on the east side. This is contrary to the Village Design Guide DG5.

Decisions

202251 - Bronze House Farm, Turkey Cock Lane, Eight Ash Green Colchester CO3 8NE - Two storey rear extension – Permission granted, 3 conditions, 2nd February 2021

98-20/21 To review the Council's Action Tracker

It was agreed that review of current salt bins and any necessary action would be added to the Action Tracker.

CLlr Nokes said he would be taking action on the Play Area and would report back to Council at the March meeting.

He said the flag had been ordered and Mrs Louise Greenwold had offered to maintain it once received.

99-20/21 Plaque for the stone snake in the Community Garden
a) To consider and possibly agree to purchase a plaque for the stone snake in the Community Garden at a cost of £240 excluding VAT

Signed _____
 CLlr A. Tolfrey, Chairman

It was **agreed** to purchase a plaque for the stone snake in the Community Garden at a cost of £240 excluding VAT.

b) If a) above is agreed to agree the wording for the plaque.

The wording was **agreed** as follows:

“During the Covid-19 pandemic 2020-21 these stones were painted by the young people of our village to brighten our days”

100-20/21 To consider and possibly agree to appoint a Councillor as liaison point for residents regarding the Bellway development on land off Halstead Road.

It was **agreed** to appoint a councillor as liaison point for residents regarding the Bellway development on land off Halstead Road.

The Clerk said she would make enquiries about potential contacts.

101-20/21 Accounts & Payments:

- a) Statement of Accounts to be circulated prior to the meeting
- b) Approve cheques for signature in accordance with 2020/21 Budget (Invoices Sheet) – to be circulated at the meeting.
- c) To receive the December bank reconciliation and budget figures to date for 2020/21

Cheques for signature were approved as listed below:

A & J Lighting	Maintenance – streetlights	£179.64
EALC	Training	£36.00
Cllr Nokes	EAG Flag	£124.74
Various	Staff costs – February	£669.32
K.Kane	Expenses – Zoom	£14.39

102-20/21 Reports from Councillors

Cllr Jardine referred to Cllr Bilby’s drawing for a potential Village Hall and said the hall should be a standing item on the agenda.

Cllr Nokes said he would be attending a meeting of the Festival Committee and asked if he could assure the Committee that the Council would receive requests for support positively. The Council agreed this would be reasonable.

Signed _____
Cllr A. Tolfrey, Chairman

Cllr Dennis Willetts reminded Councillors of the deadline for the next issue of the newsletter.

103-20/21 **Date of Next Planned Meeting:** To be confirmed

It was confirmed that the next meeting of the Council would be held online on Wednesday 10th March 2021 at 7.30pm.

Signed _____
Cllr A. Tolfrey, Chairman