

EIGHT ASH GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held at the Eight Ash Green Village Hall, Spring Lane, Eight Ash Green on Wednesday 13th October 2021 at 7.30pm.

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

There were four members of the public in attendance.

CBC Ward Councillor Dennis Willetts also attended the meeting.

66-21/22 To receive Apologies for Absence and confirm acceptance of those apologies

There were no apologies to receive.

67-21/22 Declaration of Interests

There were no Declarations of Interest.

68-21/22 Public Participation

Mr Chambers referred to the six trees the Cricket Club had planned to plant on the heath prior to Covid to celebrate six decades of the club. He said he would be meeting with Mr Winterbourne to discuss where to put the trees and a professional would advise on the planting.

69-21/22 To agree as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 8th September 2021

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 8th September 2021 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

70-21/22 Report from the County and Borough Councillors

Cllr Dennis Willetts' report was given later in the meeting.

71-21/22 To review the Council's Action Tracker and to note any action necessary.

The following were noted:

Signed _____
Cllr A. Tolfrey, Chairman

- The Clerk to order two salt bins;
- The Clerk to ask ECC permission to site on the Walk and the Village Hall committee for permission to site at the Hall;
- Cllr Nokes was waiting for confirmation from the Festival Committee about their plans for 2022;
- Cllr Willetts said further information was being obtained on the PCSO scheme;
- The Clerk said she would contact PC Dex Adams about the possibility of attending a meeting'
- The non-emergency number of 101 was noted for residents to sue if they needed to contact the police.
- The possibility of enlarging the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme for the whole village was noted.
- The Clerk said the Highways Devolution Grant Scheme agreement had been signed and the grant was now awaited.
- The Community Garden was still an issue although there had been some response from publicity. The Clerk said she would write to local care homes asking if they were interested in involvement.
- No response had yet been received from Cllr Lewis Barber on bus stops in the vicinity of the new development.
- Letters would be written where appropriate to try to address the issue of overgrown vegetation.

a) To discuss the Eight Ash Green Welcome pack and note any action necessary.

It was noted this would be brought back to a future meeting.

72-21/22 To agree the Parish Council response to planning applications received from Colchester Borough Council and to note decisions made on previous applications

None received.

Planning Decisions

None received

73-21/22 Heaths and Greens

a) To receive a report on Heaths and Greens

Mr Winterbourne said an introductory film was being made for the proposed Welcome Pack.

Signed _____
Cllr A. Tolfrey, Chairman

He said the Council's contractor would be doing the hedges on the lower heath and the potholes in the Heath Road car park. He said there would be enough money left for the ditch along the allotments in Huxtables Lane to be cleared and investigations undertaken regarding drainage.

He said following the car park repairs, further supplies of planings would need to be sourced.

He said the pond at Chippetts had not been cleared on schedule because of Covid. He said this would be done now but would be a larger job because of the delay. He said he would suggest a budget for pond clearance of £1000 per year.

He said the next Volunteer Day would be a week on Saturday and all were welcome.

b) To receive an update on any outstanding issues affecting Parish Council land.

There were no issues to note.

74-21/22

Accounts & Payments:

- a) Statement of Accounts to be circulated prior to the meeting
- b) Approve cheques for signature in accordance with 2021/22 Budget (Invoices Sheet) – to be circulated at the meeting.

Cheques were approved for signature as listed below:

PKF Littlejohn	External audit	£240.00
Mr G. Tye	Expenses – hi-vis jacket	£34.80
Stour Valley Tree Services	Tree felling	£100.00
Stour Valley Tree Services	Play area	£150.00
Wave	Allotments – water	£88.05
Various	Staff costs	£682.87

75-21/22

To receive reports from Councillors

Cllr Willetts said the Shopper Bus had restarted and that as the passengers wanted to contribute to the costs she was charging £1. She said a fund was sitting with the Council and that Locality Fund money was still with C360 to pay ongoing invoices. She said there was the possibility of arranging extra outings in the future with these available funds.

Signed _____
Cllr A. Tolfrey, Chairman

She said it was important that all Shopper Bus transactions were open and transparent and to this end a separate account would be arranged for the monies.

Cllr Jardine said he would speak to the church regarding arrangements for Remembrance Sunday and a Council wreath, and also about this year's Christmas Tree.

Cllr Nokes referred to the information boards for bus stops and said the project had restarted. He said these should be investigated for Parish Council stops.

Ward Councillor Dennis Willetts said Essex County Councillor Lewsi Barber was still working on the issue of the proposed junction into the development on Halstead Road.

He said there was no news on whether the signals at J26 on the A12 would be activated 24 hours a day.

He said there was no news on the proposed protected right turn from the A1124 onto the link road.

He said there was no news on bus stops along the main road through the parish.

76-21/22 **Date of Next Planned Meeting:** Wednesday 10th November 2021 at 7.30pm at the Eight Ash Green Village Hall, Spring Lane, Colchester.

77-21/22 **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.

78-21/22 **Maintenance of Parish Council Land**

a) To consider responses received to the Council's invitation to tender for the maintenance contract.

Responses received to the Council's invitation to tender for the maintenance contract were considered.

b) To consider and possibly agree to accept one of the quotes received.

Signed _____
 Cllr A. Tolfrey, Chairman

It was **agreed** to accept the quote received from Mr Ralph.

Signed _____
Cllr A. Tolfrey, Chairman