

EIGHT ASH GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held at the Eight Ash Green Village Hall, Spring Lane, Eight Ash Green on Wednesday 9th February 2022 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr Alan Bilby
Cllr John Jardine
Cllr Dean Nokes
Cllr Stephen Smith
Cllr Christine Willetts

There were seven members of the public in attendance.

119-21/22 To receive Apologies for Absence and confirm acceptance of those apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Morgan (health) and acceptance of these apologies was confirmed.

Ward Councillors Dennis Willetts and Martin Leatherdale also sent their apologies.

120-21/22 Declaration of Interests

There were no Declarations of Interest.

121-21/22 Public Participation

Three residents said they were attending to find out more about the Council with a view to standing for co-option.

122-21/22 To agree as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 12 January 2022.

With the addition of "This site is outside the village envelope. The Eight Ash Green Neighbourhood Plan has specified one site only at Fiddlers Field to cater for housing needs in the village. The NP accepts that areas within the village could be used for the occasional dwelling house, but only as infill development within the village envelope. This proposal fails on both of these criteria, as it would be an extension of a ribbon development outside the village envelope." to the comments on application 213516 the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 12 January 2022 were **agreed** as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

123-21/22 Report from the County and Borough Councillors

Signed _____
Cllr J. Jardine, Chairman

There were no reports to receive.

The reply from Essex County Councillor Kevin Bentley to Cllr Dennis Willetts' email regarding reinstating the pavement on the bridge across the A12 at J26 was noted.

Cllr Smith said he would pursue the matter.

124-21/22 To review the Council's Action Tracker and to note any action necessary.

The Council's Action Tracker was reviewed and the following points noted:

- The Action Tracker is now available on the website
- Cllr Nokes will continue investigation into the VAS signs. A donation from Cllr Lewis Barber's Locality Fund has been received.
- Completion dates for projects should be added to the Tracker
- Cllr Jardine attended a meeting of the Village Hall trustees. The survey of the church land will be progressed following a Church meeting.
- Cllr Willetts is still waiting to hear from Cllr Barber about the bus-stops.

125-21/22 To agree the Parish Council response to planning applications received from Colchester Borough Council and to note decisions made on previous applications

220065 - Abbots Dene, Abbots Lane, Eight Ash Green Colchester CO6 3QL - Single storey outbuilding

It was **agreed** there was no objection to a hobbies room, but with the proviso that no future conversion to residential should be permitted as it is outside the village envelope and thus contrary to our Village Design Guide and Neighbourhood Plan. Any outbuilding of this size should only ever form part of the host dwelling and not to be sold off separately. The Parish Council also notes the Highways Authority's comments regarding FP22 and support this.

220116 - Land between 1-3 Halfmoon Farm & Byways Cottage, Huxtables Lane, Fordham Heath Colchester - Application to vary condition 2 (drawings) following grant of planning permission 182461

It was **agreed** to support this application as there was nothing contrary to the Village Design Guide.

220228 - 31 Spring Lane, Eight Ash Green CO6 3QF - Erection of a single-storey extension.

It was **agreed** the Council had no objection to this application.

Signed _____
Cllr J. Jardine, Chairman

Planning Decisions

213336 - Rowan, Brick Street, Fordham Heath Colchester CO3 9TQ - Remodel and extend the existing detached house to create an open plan kitchen, living, dining room to the rear. Utility room & games room to replace existing side extension. Side extension at first floor comprising 2 bedrooms, bathroom & en-suite – **Permission granted, 5 conditions, 25th January 2022**

213409 – East View, Seven Star Green, Eight Ash Green Colchester CO6 3QB - Proposed single storey extension to form dining area and single storey side extension to existing bedroom. – **Permission granted, 4 conditions, 17th January 2022**

126-21/22 Heaths and Greens

a) To receive a report on Heaths and Greens

Mr Winterbourne referred to the two new owl boxes. He said one had been donated and had already been installed and the other would be installed the following weekend. He said the next Volunteer Day would be Saturday 5 March 2022, starting at 10am at the Cricketers.

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

Cllr Nokes referred to vehicles parking on the verges by the Holiday Inn. He said he had emailed the North Essex Parking Partnership and the matter had been passed to the Enforcement Team.

127-21/22 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 follows:

Various	Staff Costs	
A & J Lighting	Streetlight Maintenance	£179.64
CBC	Streetlight Electricity	£390.73
Colchester Waste Collection	Waste collection	£290.00
Eight Ash Green Village Hall	Hall hire	£72.00
Cllr D. Nokes	Power tool	£229.99
Mrs K Kane	Website hosting	£36.00

Signed _____
Cllr J. Jardine, Chairman

Cllr D Nokes	Owl box	£135.00
RCCE	Renewal	£66.00
Mr W. Ralph	Heath maintenance	£9186.72
Mrs K Kane	Zoom	£14.39

128-21/22 To consider and possibly agree to remedial and maintenance work on the bus stops at Wood Corner and at the junction of Spring Lane with the A1124

It was **agreed** that remedial and maintenance work on the bus stops at Wood Lane and the junction of Spring Lane with the A1124 would take place.

Cllr Smith said he would seek quotes to be brought back to Council.

129-21/22 To discuss ways in which to mark the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen and to note any action necessary

The following points were noted:

- The proposed dance would cost too much money to justify the expenditure;
- Cllr Nokes said an established tree, possibly a rowan, would cost in the region of £150, with a plaque costing £140 from the Royal British Legion;
- A sum of around £2000-£2500 was envisaged for the beacon;
- Mr Chambers said a cricket match with associated entertainment was planned for the Sunday afternoon;
- There was a need to consider provision of additional toilet facilities. Cllr Bilby said he would look into costs for this.

130-21/22 To consider and possibly agree a Policy for considering requests for use of the heath.

A Policy for considering requests for use of the heath was **agreed** as circulated prior to the meeting.

131-21/22 To agree to pay the cost of the survey for a potential site for a community facility at a cost of £1150 + VAT

It was **agreed** to pay the cost of the survey for a potential site for a community facility at a cost of £1150 + VAT.

132-21/22 To receive reports from Councillors

Signed _____
Cllr J. Jardine, Chairman

Cllr Smith referred to the issue of the Parish Council's responsibility under health & Safety legislation.

Cllr Nokes said he would discuss this further with Cllr Smith. He said there were Risk Assessments for Volunteer Days and the allotments which could be considered further.

133-21/22 **Date of Next Planned Meeting:** Wednesday 9th March 2022 at 7.30pm at the Eight Ash Green Village Hall, Spring Lane, Colchester.

Signed _____
Cllr J. Jardine, Chairman