

## **EIGHT ASH GREEN PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting held at the Eight Ash Green Village Hall, Spring Lane, Eight Ash Green on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr Alan Bilby  
Cllr Lorraine Christie  
Cllr John Jardine (Chairman)  
Cllr Tina Morgan  
Cllr Dean Nokes  
Cllr Stephen Smith

There were four members of the public in attendance.

CBC Ward Councillor Dennis Willetts also attended the meeting.

**134-21/22 To receive Apologies for Absence and confirm acceptance of those apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Christine Willetts and acceptance of those apologies was confirmed.

**135-21/22 To consider and possibly agree to co-opt Lorraine Christie to fill one of the vacancies on the Parish Council and to receive her Declaration of Acceptance of Office**

It was **agreed** to co-opt Lorraine Christie on to the Council and her Declaration of Acceptance was received.

**136-21/22 Declaration of Interests**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

**137-21/22 Public Participation**

There were no comments.

**138-21/22 To agree as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 9 February 2022**

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 9 February 2022 were **agreed** as a true record.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Cllr J. Jardine, Chairman

**139-21/22 Report from the County and Borough Councillors:** Report from County Councillor and Ward Councillors, if present.

Cllr Dennis Willetts gave apologies from Cllr Barber, who was attending another Parish Council meeting, and Cllr Leatherdale, who was at the CBC Cabinet meeting.

He referred to Enforcement Officers and said Parish Councils could employ these to hand out Fixed Penalty Notices for certain offences once they were properly trained. He said this could not be a councillor but would need to be a volunteer and the Council could keep the income. He said once an Enforcement Officer was in place the authority to give FPNs for a wider range of offences could be delegated from the appropriate authority if they are agreeable. He said this was a possible way to address parking issues in the parish and was an issue the Council might wish to consider.

He referred to the issue of S106 money from the Bellway development and said some problems had arisen. He said he had asked a senior officer in the Planning department to intervene to address these issues.

He referred to the continuing discussions about a new community facility and said both CBC and ECC councillors would appreciate a review with the leader of the project to offer support and see what progress had been made.

He referred to the Spring Lane parking consultation results. He said only one scheme had received the required support, at the junction of Spring Lane and The Walk, and this would be moved forward.

He said the Argents Lane traffic count had been completed. He said he was surprised by the HGV movements and he said he accepted there was some room for error. He said the results strengthened the case for banning HGVs from the road. He said there was no reason to impose a weight limit although possibly in view of the narrowness of the road it could be done in environmental grounds. He said from Essex Highways point of view the issue was not clearcut.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Cllr J. Jardine, Chairman

He referred to the newsletter and said this would be delayed by a month so that Jubilee plans could be included.

He said there had been reported incidents of residents being approached and threatened in the Spring Lane area. He said the Council might consider introducing a Neighbourhood Watch scheme.

**140-21/22 To review the Council's Action Tracker and to note any action necessary.**

The Council's Action Tracker was reviewed.

**a) Village Hall update**

Cllr Jardine said he had met with the surveyor at the church site on the previous day. He said it had been an encouraging meeting with confirmation there was a covenant prohibiting commercial use for the land. He said the result of the survey was resulted.

**b) Village Newsletter**

Cllr Jardine said following this meeting he would circulate a report on Jubilee activities to all councillors for comments for inclusion in the newsletter.

**141-21/22 To agree the Parish Council response to planning applications received from Colchester Borough Council and to note decisions made on previous applications**

220575 - Hunters Lodge, Blind Lane, Eight Ash Green Colchester CO6 3QD - Proposed first floor extension over existing garage with a new two storey link to the existing dwelling. Proposed double garage and storage on ground floor, gym and shower room on the first floor linking to the existing first floor corridor.

It was **agreed** to comment as follows:

“The application includes a window at the rear of the proposed gym which will look directly into this neighbour's garden. This is contrary to the Eight Ash Green Village Design Guide DG5. The Council suggests this window is removed, or the applicant is obliged to fit a non-opening window in obscured glass.”

220476 - Bullbanks Farm, Halstead Road, Eight Ash Green Colchester CO6 3PT - Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed change

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Cllr J. Jardine, Chairman

of use of two agricultural buildings to a flexible use under Class R for B8 storage.

The increased detail since the previous application for this site was noted. It was **agreed** that there were still concerns about the potential for noise disruption to nearby neighbours.

### **Planning Decisions**

213516 - Swallow Field Glamping site, Heath Road, Fordham Heath Colchester - Erection of single dwellinghouse – *Permission refused, 3 reasons, 17 February 2022*

220065 - Abbots Dene, Abbots Lane, Eight Ash Green Colchester CO6 3QL - Single storey outbuilding – *Permission granted, 4 conditions, 18 February 2022*

### **142-21/22 Heaths and Greens**

#### **a) To receive a report on Heaths and Greens**

Mr Winterbourne said Chippetts Pond had been cleared. He said the spoil would be moved once the land was drier.

He said the willow at the pond on the corner of Daisy Green and Turkey Cock Lane had died. He referred to previous problems with this pond and asked the Clerk to go back to the Environment Agency.

He said the recent Volunteer Day on the heath had been well-attended with 6 people from Essex University and 20 local volunteers. He said he was grateful to the Cricketers pub for providing food.

He said he had spoken to Richard Fordham Tree Surgeons regarding the Scots Pine close to Seven Star House and was awaiting a report.

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

There were no outstanding issues.

### **143-21/22 Accounts & Payments:**

#### **a) Statement of Accounts to be circulated prior to the meeting**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Cllr J. Jardine, Chairman

- 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:

Beautiful Bunting	Jubilee Event	£50.00
EALC	Training	£180.00
Mr K Winterbourne	Expenses – tools	£132.36
21CC Group	Jubilee – Beacon	£588.00
Cllr D Nokes	Jubilee – Plaque	£139.50
Cllr D Nokes	Jubilee – Tree	£158.00
Open Spaces	Renewal	£45.00
Various	Staff costs	£669.92
HMRC	PAYE Q4	£388.00
The Cricketers	Volunteer Day	£138.00

**144-21/22 To receive an update on the Parish Council's plans to mark the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen and to note any action necessary**

An update on the Council's plans to mark the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen was received.

The following points were noted:

- Thursday 2 June 2022 – piper has been confirmed to play a specially composed piece;
- A band will play at the Cricketers in the evening;
- No licence is required for the beacon;
- A Risk Assessment will be needed for the beacon;
- The plaque will be unveiled on the Thursday evening;
- The Clerk will look for more details on the proposed oak tree to be provided by CBC;
- Friday 2 June 2022 – a street party to take place in Porters Cottages;
- Quiz will take place Friday night at the Cricketers – Cllr Bilby to sort prizes;
- Cllr Jardine will approach the person chosen to light the beacon;
- A 50s dance to take place Saturday 4 June at the Village Hall, with 120 tickets at £5 each, 2 per household;
- Afternoon Tea will be held at the Village Hall on the Saturday afternoon;
- Sunday 5 June – event on the heath including cricket, bouncy castle.
- Bunting – has been ordered.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Cllr J. Jardine, Chairman

**145-21/22 Highways**

- a) **To discuss parking and obstruction issues in Wood Lane and agree any action necessary**

Parking and obstruction issues in Wood Lane was discussed and the following was noted:

- Essex Highways are investigating the hole in Wood Lane;
- There is a risk of utilities pipes fracturing;
- Cllr Dennis Willetts said he would contact EH to ask them to look aty the issue again.

- b) **To discuss the safety of pedestrians along Spring Lane and agree any action necessary**

Cllr Bilby said he would investigate the possibility of a footway from Huxtables Lane towards the Cricketers and bring to a future meeting.

**146-21/22 Village Fete**

- a) **To consider and possibly agree to allow use of the football pitch side of the heath for a village event on Saturday 16 July 2022, including access for setting up and clearing away on Friday 15 July and Sunday 17 July 2022.**

It was **agreed** to allow use of the football pitch side of the heath for a village event on Saturday 16 July 2022, including access for setting up and clearing away on Friday 15 July and Sunday 17 July 2022.

- b) **To consider and possibly agree to contribute towards the cost of portable conveniences for this event up to a maximum of £1,500**

It was **agreed** to contribute towards the cost of portable conveniences for this event up to a maximum of £1,500.

**147-21/22 To receive reports from Councillors including any reportable incidents**

Cllr Nokes said he would bring the Welcome Pack for new homes and the Vehicle Activated Sign to address speeding in the parish to the next meeting.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Cllr J. Jardine, Chairman

Cllr Smith said he had attended the Walking Rugby Club Christmas Lunch where thanks had been extended to the Parish Council for allowing them to use the heath.

**148-21/22**     **Date of Next Planned Meeting:** Wednesday 13 April 2022 at 7.30pm at the Eight Ash Green Village Hall, Spring Lane, Colchester.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Cllr J. Jardine, Chairman