

EIGHT ASH GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held at the Eight Ash Green Village Hall, Spring Lane, Eight Ash Green on Wednesday 11 May 2022 at 7.30pm.

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

There were four members of the public in attendance.

CBC Ward Councillor Dennis Willetts also attended the meeting.

1-22/23 Election of Chairman

Cllr John Jardine was elected Chairman unanimously and signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

2-22/23 Election of Vice-Chairman

This Item was withdrawn.

3-22/23 To receive Apologies for Absence and confirm acceptance of those apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllr Nokes (work commitments) and acceptance of those apologies was confirmed.

4-22/23 Declaration of Interests.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

5-22/23 Public Participation.

Mr Chambers from the Eight Ash Green Cricket Club said the Club were looking to apply for a grant for internal works to the pavilion which would not

Signed _____
Cllr J. Jardine, Chairman

affect the footprint of the building,. He said permission would be sought from the Parish Council but he was mentioning now so that the Council was aware.

6-22/23 To agree as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 13 April 2022

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 13 April 2022 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

7-22/23 Report from the County and Borough Councillors: Report from County Councillor and Ward Councillors, if present.

Cllr Dennis Willetts referred to National grid's consultation on the East Anglia Green Energy Enablement. He said this would clearly have an impact both visual and otherwise for those who lived close to the proposed route. He said he was in support of green energy but once it was generated it had to be moved to users and therefore a pylon route from Norwich to Tilbury had been proposed. He referred to the new Sizewell power station and said power from that building would be moved by undersea cable. He asked why this should be different. He said the undersea route was more expensive but that the environment should be protected. He said he hoped the Council would read the consultation document and respond. He also referred to the impact on the new development in the parish.

Cllr Jardine said they had received a communication from Cllr Lewis Barber about this consultation and that councillors supported his view. He said the Parish Council would respond.

8-22/23 To review and adopt the following:

- i) Standing Orders**
- ii) Financial Regulations**
- iii) Bullying and Harassment Policy**
- iv) Communications Policy**
- v) Complaints Procedure**
- vi) Disciplinary and Grievance Procedure**
- vii) Equal Opportunities Policy**
- viii) Expenses Policy**
- ix) Health and Safety Policy**
- x) Publications Policy**
- xi) Memorials Policy**

Signed _____
Cllr J. Jardine, Chairman

With the exception of the Complaints Procedure the policies above were reviewed and adopted. It was noted that the Clerk would review the Complaints Procedure and bring back to a future meeting.

9-22/23 To appoint three councillors to the Complaints Committee

This Item was withdrawn.

10-22/23 To review the inventory of land and assets of the Parish Council.

The inventory of land and assets of the Parish Council was reviewed.

11-22/23 To confirm arrangements for the Council's insurance cover in respect of all insured risks

Arrangements for the Council's insurance cover in respect of all insured risks were confirmed.

12-22/23 To review and confirm the Council's subscription to the following bodies:

- i) NALC/EALC
- ii) Open Spaces Society
- iii) RCCE
- iv) CALC

Subscriptions to the above bodies were reviewed and all were confirmed.

13-22/23 To review the Council's policies, procedures and practices in respect of its obligation under Freedom of Information and Data Protection legislation.

The Council's policies, procedures and practices in respect of its obligation under Freedom of Information and Data Protection legislation were reviewed.

14-22/23 To review the Council's employment policies and procedures.

The Council's employment policies and procedures were reviewed.

15-22/23 To agree the time, place and dates of ordinary meetings of the Council as follows:

Signed _____
Cllr J. Jardine, Chairman

8 June 2022, 13 July 2022, 14 September 2022, 12 October 2022, 9 November 2022, 14 December 2022, 11 January 2023, 8 February 2023, 8 March 2023, 12 April 2023, 10 May 2023 (Annual Meeting of the Council) at 7.30pm, at the Eight Ash Green Village Hall, Spring Lane, Eight Ash Green, Colchester CO6 3QF

The times, place and dates of ordinary meetings of the Council were agreed as listed above.

16-22/23 To agree the Parish Council response to planning applications received from Colchester Borough Council and to note decisions made on previous applications

It was noted that application 221150 had been received after the agenda had been sent out. The Clerk said she would request an extension so the application could be considered at the next meeting

Planning Decisions

220576 - Tara House, Huxtables Lane, Fordham Heath Colchester CO3 9TJ - Alterations and extensions to an existing 1 storey dwelling to create a 2 storey dwelling and addition of single storey side extension and porch (Revised Description) – *Permission granted, 5 conditions, 28 April 2022*

17-22/23 Heaths, Greens and Allotments

a) To receive a report on Heaths and Greens

Mr Winterbourne referred to the large number of new trees planted on the heath by the Cricket Club and in recognition of the Platinum Jubilee. He said a maintenance routine for these trees should be put in place otherwise the trees would be lost.

He said the grass-cutting was behind schedule as the grass had not yet grown. He said the cutting would begin the following week on the Parish Field followed by cutting the paths and verges.

He said nightingales had been heard again on the heath for the first time since the 1980s.

b) To consider and possibly agree to turn the Community Garden into two allotment plots

Signed _____
Cllr J. Jardine, Chairman

It was agreed to turn the Community Garden into two allotment plots.

18-22/23 To receive an update on the events for the Jubilee celebration and note any action necessary.

An update on the events for the Jubilee celebrations was received.

3 June – Quiz at Cricketers – the Council had been asked to nominate a charity for the proceeds. It was felt the foodbank at Stanway would be a worthy recipient.

4 June – Afternoon Tea at the Village Hall and Dance in the evening.

5 June – Fun afternoon organised by the Cricket Club.

It was noted that 20 litter-pickers would be purchased for use at Council events including the Jubilee celebrations.

19-22/23 To discuss the provision of a new community facility and note any action necessary.

The provision of a new community facility was discussed.

20-22/23 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	£684.40
A & J Lighting	Streetlight maintenance	£179.64
Beautiful Bunting	Jubilee celebration	£177.00
Colchester Borough Council	Streetlight electricity	£383.76
Atlas Signs	Jubilee Tickets	£60.00
Colchester Skip Hire	Skip Hire	£54.00
Whybrow	Survey	£1380.00

- c) To agree the purchase of a new Union Jack flag at a cost of £106.14.

The purchase of a new Union Flag at a cost of £106.14 was agreed.

Signed _____
Cllr J. Jardine, Chairman

- d) To agree to purchase a new inscription plate for the Jubilee Oak at a cost of £30 exclusive of VAT

The purchase of a new inscription plate for the Jubilee Oak at a cost of £30 exclusive of VAT was agreed.

21-22/23 To receive reports from Councillors

Cllr Smith asked Councillors to report any health & safety concerns to him. He said work on re-painting the bus-stops had begun.

Issues noted for addressing were:

- The pond on Daisy Green;
- Dust on the Bellway development;
- The easement on the Bridleway.

22-22/23 Date of Next Planned Meeting: Wednesday 8th June 2022 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Signed _____
Cllr J. Jardine, Chairman