



FINCHINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Claire Waters, Parish Clerk & RFO
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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF FINCHINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL, HELD ON TUESDAY 22nd FEBRUARY 7.30PM AT FINCHINGFIELD VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllrs Collins, Denman, Duffin, Martin-Smith, A Stanger, R Stanger
In the Chair: Cllr Collins
Clerk: Absent due to illness. Notes were taken by Cllr Denman
Also Present: Cllr Butland ECC & Cllr Tattersley BDC
 3 parishioners

√ = A resolution to be made £ = Expenditure decision

21/158	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE √ Apologies were received from Cllrs Coverdale & Considine. No apologies were received from Cllr Debnam Sharp
21/159	MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING √ The minutes of the meeting of 25 th January 2022 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman Proposed: Cllr A Stanger Seconded: Cllr B Stanger Agreed unanimously
21/160	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Cllr Duffin declared an interest in item 21/168 d) as a member of WASC
21/161	GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE √ RESOLVED: With over 2/3 of Councillors elected (or elected unopposed) and a qualified clerk, Finchingfield Parish Council is eligible to use the General Power of Competence. This eligibility stands until the next May meeting after ordinary Parish Council elections (May 2023) Proposed: Cllr Duffin Seconded: Cllr Martin Smith Agreed unanimously
21/162	PUBLIC FORUM A resident requested an update on yellow lines. Cllr Denman confirmed the request had been processed by NEPP and that they needed to undertake a further survey to proceed. Update following meeting: Cllr Denman received this update from NEPP: <i>Site visit completed, plans and order devised over Winter months, advertising in the Spring and install, pending results of consultation, next Summer.</i>
21/163	PROGRESS CHECK Parish Maintenance issues to report and any updates on actions from last meeting a) <u>Drains and sewage update:</u> Cllr A Stanger reported Anglian Water has found 2 drain blockages, when the ground dries up they will power wash these. This should be done every 2 years and is a common issue with very old drains b) <u>Wethersfield Airfield Scrutiny Committee:</u> Cllr Duffin written report: SWAP held a demonstration at Gt Bardfield on Sunday 20th Feb and continue fundraising with donations from high-net-worth individuals already committed and more contacts planned. SWAP next meeting with Defence Infrastructure Organisation on 7 March to discuss ecology. WASC plan a leaflet drop to residents in all parishes currently signed up. Currently 10 Parish Councils: Finchingfield, Wethersfield, Gt Bardfield, Great Yeldham, Gosfield, Little Bardfield, Panfield, Salings, Shalford, Toppesfield. 5 further PCs have been approached to join WASC and the leaflet drop will be made in these parishes also.

	<p>WASC Technical sub-committee meeting took place on 16th February. WASC has responded to the Government White Paper on prisons drawing attention to the conflicts in the white paper with the proposed prisons at Wethersfield. Economic assessment - Wethersfield PC are requesting from Cllr Butland for more information on the statistics used for the Essex CC Levelling Up White Paper identifying deprivation in rural north Essex. Drone photography & digital imaging, traffic assessments, labour market impact including prisoner rehabilitation, strategic landscape and Heritage assessments are all being carried out. A “remoteness study” to demonstrate locational disadvantages of a prison at the site is underway. Alternative uses for the site are being considered as part of the Work Programme.</p> <p>WASC next Technical Sub Committee meeting 7th March. WASC next full meeting 28th March. Any residents wishing to get involved should contact Donna Roder the WASC Clerk deputyclerk@wethersfield-pc.gov.uk</p> <p>c) <u>Oil Spill update</u>: The oil line can be clipped on the hall and needs to be installed by an OFTEC registered contractor Action: Cllr A Stanger will obtain 3 quotes</p> <p>d) <u>Sluice Gate repair and insurance update</u>: Sluice gate repair will hopefully be in April but date not yet confirmed. The insurance company confirms a local resident can be added as a key holder but must have the same level of training as Parish Council volunteers - there needs to be an agreement and training provided. Action: Cllr Collins will follow up with Cllr Coverdale, and possibly get a new key. Cllr R Stanger will reply to the resident’s enquiry.</p> <p>e) <u>Platinum Jubilee update</u>: Cllr A Stanger reported: Friday fancy dress party, Saturday Mary Turley craft fair in Guildhall 10 - 4, Morris dances 5.30 - 7pm, Finchingfield Prom 7 - 9, face painter has been requested, Sunday - pop up theatre Much Ado About Nothing In War Time on centre green. Flyers will be distributed with all the details. Saturday dog training on the field. Village hall for Sat and Sunday (in case of rain) booked through Cllr Collins.</p>
21/164	<p>HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY Update on Highways and Footpath issues and any new problems to report</p> <p>a) Finchingfield Bridge repair – no update received since January meeting</p>
21/165	<p>DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS Cllr Butland ECC reported: 1100 trees fell across Essex through recent storms. <u>ECC budget</u>: 4.5% increase for council tax, 2.5% will be on adult social care. Net revenue budget next year is £1,083,000,000. 43% of the budget is spent on adult social care supporting 17000 vulnerable people in the county, £229 million of which supports people with learning disabilities. Highways maintenance is 11% of budget and includes a £2million pot hole fund for next year. <u>Local road closures</u> Councillors commented that these are having big impact on side roads and the edge of the road Action: via the clerk, Councillors and residents can send pictures to Cllr Butland of pinch areas which he will forward to Highways but he can’t guarantee changes. <u>Local Highways Panels</u> – a review is taking place as to whether these will continue. The 4 outstanding LHP requests from Finchingfield PC are now on the list and further discussions will take place on 31st March. Cllr Tattersley BDC reported: <u>Platinum Jubilee celebrations</u> – Parish Councils are sharing plans for local celebrations to publicise Essex wide – Action: Cllr A Stanger to update Clerk to inform Cherie Root for the clerk forum.</p>

	<p><u>BDC annual budget</u> has been agreed, including money to support affordable housing. Chapel Hill is now agreed for future housing site (housing association). Braintree centre has now been renovated which is helping improve footfall. BDC have helped to generate office space for new businesses and is supporting further broadband roll out. Planning enforcement officer numbers will be increased next year. BDC Councillor Community Grants will be available next year but the budget is reduced. Implementation of the climate strategy will start including air monitoring.</p>
21/166	<p>PLANNING: Applications received ✓</p> <p>22/00130/ELD Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for an Existing Use - Use of Benson's Barn as a single dwelling Benson's Barn Petches Bridge CM7 4AS <i>No comment</i></p> <p>22/00306/VAR Variation of Conditions 2 (Approved Plans) and 4 (External Materials) of approved planning application 21/02934/FUL granted 18.01.2022 for: Change of use of grazing land to equestrian use & construction of timber equestrian barn on a concrete base along with a manure clamp. Variation would allow for: Change of wall cladding from shiplap to featheredge weatherboards. Change of roof material from onduline to fibre cement sheets. Increase depth of building to increase depth of loose boxes by 1m Shillington Toppesfield Road CM7 4NY <i>No objections</i></p> <p>22/00265/DAC Application for approval of details as reserved by Condition 15 (archaeological survey) of application 19/00069/OUT (approved on appeal APP/Z1510/W/20/3251952). Land West Of Bardfield Road <i>Information only, comment not required</i></p> <p>22/00184/COUPA Prior approval for the change of use of agricultural building to a dwellinghouse (Class C3), and for associated operational development - Change of use to 1 no. residential dwelling Locksmiths Farm Robinhood End CO9 4NN <i>Information only, comment not required</i></p>
21/167	<p>PLANNING: Applications determined</p> <p>21/03661/TPOCON Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area - Lime (T1) - remove stem to south Cherry Plum (T2) - reduce to 3m Cherry Plum (T3) - reduce to 3m, Cherry Plum (T4) - reduce to 3m, Cherry Plum (T5) - reduce to 3m - Garages Behind 5 Kempe Road CM7 4LE <i>Application PERMITTED</i></p> <p>21/03626/HH & 21/03627/LBC Internal alterations, proposed single storey rear extension, part conversion of roof space to en-suite and alterations to opening and windows to annexe Bits And Pieces Church Hill CM7 4NP <i>Application PERMITTED</i></p> <p>21/03701/COUPA Prior approval for the change of use of agricultural building to a dwellinghouse (Class C3), and for associated operational development - Change of use to 5 No. residential dwellings Cottons Farm Sculpins Lane CM7 4AY <i>Planning permission required</i></p>
21/168	<p>FINANCE £ ✓</p> <p>a) The monthly payments were be approved for authorisation – see <i>Appendix 1</i> Proposed: Cllr Collins Seconded: Cllr R Stanger Agreed unanimously</p> <p>b) The new Unity Trust bank accounts, registration of signatories & key contact details were noted, the account switch should be completed during early March</p> <p>c) It was noted that BDC Collection Surplus will not be paid to Parish Councils 2022-23</p>

	<p>d) RESOLVED: 10% of the precept from the 2021-22 budget, totalling £4,474.20 to be donated to WASC to support campaigning against Wethersfield Prison proposals Proposed: Cllr A Stanger Seconded: Cllr Collins Agreed unanimously</p>
21/169	<p>VILLAGE GREEN BENCH REQUEST ✓ Request for a bench in memory of Anne Gibson, preferably opposite Hardy's near the pond. Due to bridge works it was agreed to move the existing bench from near the bridge to near the Three Tuns pub – When bridge work is completed a new bench can be positioned where the family is requesting it, they have agreed they are happy to wait.. Action: Clerk to ask family to keep in contact as bridge work progresses.</p>
21/170	<p>WAR MEMORIAL: BRITISH LEGION REQUEST TO INSTALL 4 "TOMMYS" ✓ A request from the British Legion for permission to install 4 Tommys on the four sides of the War Memorial. These would be paid for by the British Legion and bolted to the ground. Grass cutting around the Tommys needs to be considered as they are a permanent fixture Action: Ask Ivan from the British Legion to attend next meeting for more info on this</p>
21/171	<p>CORNISH HALL END PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE - Cllr J Martin-Smith The committee has not met recently. <u>Platinum Jubilee:</u> A request for CHE Village Hall to use the playing fields for events was approved. <u>Gate repair:</u> A third quote is still needed <u>Signs for play area and equipment:</u> still outstanding Action: Cllr Martin Smith – <i>agenda items for March meeting.</i></p>
21/172	<p>CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE: Boundaries Commission Review: Secondary public consultation from 22nd February to 4th April. Proposals would place Finchingfield in a new Haverhill & Halstead parliamentary constituency incorporating part of Braintree District and part West Suffolk Council. See full details and submit comments at https://boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk/2023-review/ Action: Cllrs Duffin & Martin Smith will draft an objection response. <i>Agenda item for March meeting.</i></p>
21/173	<p>Date of Next Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 29 March 2022 Cornish Hall End Village Hall • Tuesday 26 April 2022 Finchingfield Village Hall
21/174	<p>AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING: <u>Traffic calming</u> – a lot of work has been done over the last year in gathering info, now need to put into a plan and further discussion at future meeting. Agenda items to be submitted to the clerk by the end of Monday 21st March please</p>
	<p>CLOSE OF FINCHINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING</p>
	<p>FINCHINGFIELD TRUSTS – Sole Trustee meeting To confirm any Sole Trustee agenda items in advance of the Trust meeting to be held on Thursday March 3rd 2022 – No additional items raised.</p>
	<p>CLOSE OF SOLE TRUSTEE MEETING</p>

The meeting closed at 8.45pm



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Appendix 1: Financial Report 22nd February 2022

FINCHINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL PAYMENTS					
DATE	ITEM		NET	VAT	TOTAL
25 Jan 22	Travel Expenses	Claire Waters	£17.10		£17.10
25 Jan 22	Clerk Pre-Contract Payment	Claire Waters	£182.05		£182.05
27 Jan 22	Subscription Microsoft	Claire Waters	£66.66	£13.33	£79.99
03 Feb 22	Salary	Claire Waters	£622.49		£622.49
07 Feb 22	Lighting maintenance	A&J Lighting	£31.02	£6.20	£37.22
07 Feb 22	Retirement Gift	Claire Collins	£27.49	£5.50	£32.99
07 Feb 22	Toilets Water	Anglian Water	£513.10		£513.10
07 Feb 22	Retirement Gift	Claire Collins	£59.00		£59.00
07 Feb 22	Library Honorarium	L Turner	£650.00		£650.00
08 Feb 22	Toilets Electricity	British Gas Lite	£20.69	£1.03	£21.72
07 Feb 22	PAYE	HMRC	£179.63		£179.63
18-Feb-22	Clerk Pension	B&CE	£57.62		£57.62
18-Feb-22	Clerk Pension set up charge	B&CE	£300.00	£60.00	£360.00
18-Feb-22	Pavilion Water	Anglian Water	£1.00		£1.00
20-Feb-22	Toilets Caretaking	I Smith	£400.00		£400.00
20-Feb-22	Street Cleaning	I Smith	£380.00		£380.00
20-Feb-22	Pavilion Electricity	British Gas Lite	£10.04	£0.50	£10.54
		TOTAL	£3,517.89	£86.56	£3,604.45

FINCHINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL RECEIPTS			
DATE	ITEM		TOTAL
	None		
		TOTAL	£0.00