

COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY – VIDEO CONFERENCING MINUTES
Finchingfield Parish Council

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Minutes of the **COUNCIL MEETING** of Finchingfield Parish Council held via **VIDEO-CONFERENCE CALL** on **TUESDAY 26 JANUARY 2021 AT 7:00 PM**

Present: Cllr Coverdale Cllr Collins Cllr Considine Cllr Lawton Cllr Debnam-Sharp
 County Cllr Butland
 District Cllr Tattersley
 13 Members of the public

20/141 NOTE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
 None received

20/142 DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR JANUARY MEETING
 None declared

20/143 APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ONLINE 26 NOVEMBER AND EGM 10 DECEMBER 2020
RESOLUTION to Approve the minutes as a correct and appropriate record: Proposed Cllr Coverdale, Seconded Cllr Lawton

20/144 RECEIVE UPDATE FROM COUNTY BROADBAND ON THE ROLL-OUT OF FULL FIBRE
 Not in attendance

20/145 RECEIVE PRESENTATION FROM ARCHIE RUGGLES BRISE – CLIMATE FOCUS AREA
 Archie presented a fascinating presentation and slide show on the future plans for the Spains Hall Estate, more details available via a link on the parish council website Latest News – Flooding item

20/146 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION
 This provides an opportunity for members of the public to raise questions about and comment on items on the agenda or of import. Time for this session is limited to 15 minutes (03 minutes per person per item)
 October 2019, Item 19/101 – Request for clarification of ownership of buildings
 Request for additional sluice gate key for residents around the pond – Clerk to order one more key

20/147 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS
 Dist Cllr Tattersley – Covid remains the main topic of discussion.
 Still administering grants, if businesses or individuals in financial need they are urged to contact Braintree District Council reception to enquire of available grants.
 Cnty Cllr Butland – Vaccination progress far from satisfactory, Braintree district not being served overly well at present, Earls Colne surgery chosen as a main site for vaccination which is not proving overly accessible or central for many. More venues are opening, news soon of mass vaccination site on edge of Braintree and Halstead. NHS being pushed to improve the performance across the district.
 Cllr Considine – Request for additional Salt bins on Wethersfield road, Cllr Butland explained it requires to progress via LHP, Clerk to liaise with Cllr Butland, to progress additional bins and add existing bin in Stephen Marshall Avenue as broken.

	<p>Cllr Considine requested update on graffiti nuisance, Cllr Tattersley advised Braintree District Council are aware and dealing with any on council property but not that found on private property, which is the responsibility of the owner.</p>
20/148	<p>CLERKS REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>BRIDGE LAMP – Arranging lawful access to the building via the tenant.</p> <p>ENVIRONMENT AGENCY – Requested local flood incident information.</p> <p>ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL – Sent a useful link to their role as the Lead Local Flood Authority, which is now on the PC Latest News section of the website, if anyone wishes the links please ask the Clerk.</p> <p>SPAINS HALL ESTATE – Link to their Beavers and Natural Flood Management scheme is on the PC website</p> <p>TENNIS COURTS - Complaints re tennis courts surface condition due to overhanging trees, I have received a quote from a local tree surgeon, who recently completed the tree limb removal behind the Scout Hut, for £375 to complete the works to cut back and remove all overhanging tree limbs. If you are in agreement I would like to proceed and have that work completed. Council agreed, CLERK to ACTION</p> <p>Cllrs have received various mailings from the District and County Councils and other bodies supporting or interested in this sector.</p> <p>The remainder of the matters are covered under specific items on the Agenda.</p>
20/149	<p>FINANCE – RECEIVE DECEMBER AND JANUARY 2020 FINANCIAL STATEMENT – APPOINT AUTHORISER RESOLUTION to Approve finance statement and payments: Proposed Cllr Coverdale, Seconded Cllr Lawton – unanimous agreement Cllr Collins to Authorise</p> <p>Statements at APPENDIX A</p> <p>20/149(i) – UPDATE ON BUDGETARY CONSIDERATION FOR YEAR 2021-2022 Cllr Considine explained as follows why she did not agree that an increase in precept is necessary or warranted at this time and would not vote in support of this Budget:-</p> <p><i>“After reviewing budgets back to 2017 for hours, looking at our reserves and how we can look to spend a portion of that this year, seeing reduced expenses due to covid like our hire of hall for meetings, increased expenses such as bin emptying, cleaning etc during lockdowns. Noting only increase this year is possible election. Lastly the apportionment to Trust that need to be done, insurance, grass cutting, hedges (and we may need to look at the hedge contract – should we be getting the money from ECC split over trust and PC thereby getting more of the actual precept from BDC) – after considering all this we do not have a need for an increase to the budget.”</i></p> <p>Budget suggests a 2.67% increase at £53,750.00 RESOLUTION to Approve Budget 2021-2022 at £53,750.00: Proposed Cllr Collins, Seconded Cllr Coverdale</p> <p>20/149(ii) – APPROVE PRECEPT REQUEST RESOLUTION to Approve Precept request at £44,742.00: Proposed Cllr Collins, Seconded Cllr Coverdale Cllr Considine did not approve the request and would not vote in support of the Precept, see explanation above.</p> <p>CLERK and CHAIRMAN to complete Precept application formalities</p>
20/150	<p>RECEIVE PLANNING REPORT, CURRENT KNOWN ITEMS LISTED BELOW</p> <p>20/02154/HH</p>

Proposal: Proposed ground floor front extension & first floor dormer window.

Location: 14 The Hopgrounds, Finchingfield, Essex

NO OBJECTION

20/02140/HH

Proposal: Erection of two storey side extension

Location: Mandalay Farm, Pump Lane, Walthams Cross

NO OBJECTION

20/01920/HH

Proposal: Construction of detached garage and annexe for ancillary use incidental to the main dwelling. Insertion of dormer windows into existing house. Alterations to existing driveway.

Location: Castle Cottage, Howe Street

OBJECTION – NOT IN KEEPING WITH SURROUNDING DWELLINGS

20/00445/TPOCON & PP-09367371

Proposal: Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area - Sycamore (T1) - pollard to 5 metres due to extreme close proximity to neighbour's property causing lack of light. Hazel (T2) - coppice because of excessive shading to area around potting shed which will be planted with shrubs/flowers.

Spruce (T3) - crown lift to 4 metres because of excessive shading to area around potting shed which will be planted with shrubs/flowers.

Yew (T4) - crown lift to 3 metres and cutting back of longer branches to improve overall shape and improve grass underneath.

Location: Brick House, The Green, Finchingfield

NO OBJECTION

Update on 50 Houses appeal outcome – Cllr Coverdale

Council objected to the original application, matter of public record.

Written to MP Cleverley and Secretary of State Jenrick challenging the appeal outcome and a request to call it in, Butland and Sprey wrote similarly, Bardfield PC voted against and likewise written to MP Cleverley. Lawyers confirmed to Cllr Coverdale there is no case for challenging the Inspectors decision, a handful of legal opinions agreed, including one paid for by Cllr Coverdale and a group of residents. Article in Dunmow Broadcast is probably somewhat more positive than the reality.

20/151

RECEIVE FEEDBACK FROM APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES

PARKING – Cllr Lawton

Apologies for being out of the loop, seeking more support from residents to join working party to share the burden of work. Yellow lines collated report to be circulated, no major objections to proposed sites identified with some additional sites suggested.

Fingerpost delivered, awaiting confirmation of new site approval. County Cllr Butland to assist Clerk progress the matter.

FOOTPATHS – Cllr Collins

Three footpath bridges in need of repair, FP35, FP31, FP36; FP35 now repaired, Highways FP Officer inspecting the remaining two. Obstruction to FP2 to be rectified as currently gated by property owner.

SPEEDING & NOISE – Cllr Coverdale

No current update to report

20/152

RECEIVE UPDATE FROM THE CHE PLAYINGFIELD COMMITTEE – CLLRS CONSIDINE AND DEBNAM-SHARP

Cllr Considine – Working party seemed to be possibly struggling to understand their remit, awaiting feedback from the working group; a community led group to input to the council is still highly desirable by the council. A community survey would prove beneficial to confirm the age group and possible wishes for the play area improvements. Proposed identify a budget to be spent on the play area, indication of £8,000 plus existing CHE

	<p>play area funds held in reserve of c. £3,500. The desire is to maintain community involvement working against clearly understood terms of reference.</p> <p>Cllr Debnam-Sharp – Aerial runway now reinstated, CLERK to enquire whether it needs safety inspection before reopening.</p>
20/153	<p>AGREE DONATION TO COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS IN RECOGNITION OF ENERGY SUPPLY TO POND CHRISTMAS TREE KINDLY DONATED ALL THESE YEARS BY MR & MRS SMITH OF SAXONS</p> <p>Proposed £150 donation split Essex Air Ambulance and the First Responders RESOLUTION to Approve donation to Essex Air Ambulance and First Responders: Proposed Cllr Considine, Seconded Cllr Lawton CLERK to ACTION</p> <p><i>20:30 Dist Cllr Tattersley left the meeting</i></p>
20/154	<p>CONSIDER ADDITIONAL ROAD-SIDE SALT BIN FOR THE COMMUNITY</p> <p>Proposed locations top of Church Hill near Guildhall / Lion car park entrance and the corner of the School building and Kempe Rd, plus possibility of a location at Walthams Cross – CLERK to liaise with County Cllr Butland</p>
20/155	<p>RECEIVE UPDATE ON PONY FIELD TREE PLANTING INITIATIVE – CLLR CONSIDINE</p> <p>School PTA approached, awaiting further response, carry forward to next meeting</p>
20/156	<p>RECEIVE UPDATE ON TEXTILE RECYCLING BANK FOR STEPHEN MARSHALL AVENUE</p> <p>Discussions ongoing with Eastlight Housing and the Textile recycling organisers</p> <p><i>20:38pm Cnty Cllr Butland left the meeting</i></p>
20/157	<p>RECEIVE UPDATE ON THE BRIDGE WORKS IF LATEST NEWS AVAILABLE FROM HIGHWAYS</p> <p>Awaiting update from Essex legal on deregistration of village green</p>
20/158	<p>ITEMS OF REPORT OR TO BE CONSIDERED FOR NEXT AGENDA</p> <p>Purchase of two additional signpost, CHE play area budget, CHE Pavilion maintenance plus clearance and future use plans, Parish three year plan, items to be carried over</p>
20/159	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 23 FEBRUARY 2021 – CLOSE – 8:46pm</p>

Signed.....

Date.....

BACS and Debit List December 2020									
Date	Payee	Description	Inv No.	BACS	Account	Amount	Net	VAT	Ccentre
04/12/2020	Silverton Aggregates Ltd	Rock Salt	217393		Community	£59.88	£49.90	£9.98	Parish
07/12/2020	X2 Connect Ltd	K6 Door handle	26188		Community	£37.63	£31.36	£6.27	Parish
11/12/2020	L Turner	Honorarium	N/A		Community	£650.00	£650.00	£0.00	Parish
11/12/2020	CHE PCC	Grant	N/A		Community	£1,130.00	£1,130.00	£0.00	Parish
11/12/2020	FinCH PCC	Grant	N/A		Community	£1,700.00	£1,700.00	£0.00	Parish
23/12/2020	B&Q	Lights	1184		Community	£80.00	£80.00	£0.00	Parish
23/12/2020	Post Office	Stationery	228114		Community	£12.57	£12.57	£0.00	Parish
23/12/2020	Adrian Bagnall Serv	Pavilion Keylock instal	5279		Community	£118.49	£118.49	£0.00	Parish
23/12/2020	Adrian Bagnall Serv	Xmas tree lighting	5278		Community	£74.80	£74.80	£0.00	Parish
23/12/2020	MattElectrical Ltd	FVH Emergency lighting	0134		Community	£402.00	£335.00	£67.00	F V Hall
24/12/2020	Employee	salary	PAYE		Community	£591.08	£591.08	£0.00	Parish
24/12/2020	Employee	Expenses	N/A		Community	£26.00	£26.00	£0.00	Parish
24/12/2020	ZOOM	Video conferencing	TBC		Community	£14.39	£11.99	£2.40	Parish
24/12/2020	I Smith	Street Cleaning	008		Community	£290.00	£290.00	£0.00	Parish
24/12/2020	I Smith	Toilets caretaking	108		Community	£400.00	£400.00	£0.00	Toilets
					Community				
		TOTAL				£5,586.84	£5,501.19	£85.65	
Date	Payee	Description	Invoice No	DD	Account	Amount	Net	VAT	Ccentre
08/12/2020	British Gas	Toilets electricity	1171099	DD	Community	£22.94	£21.85	£1.09	Toilets
15/12/2020	Anglian Water	Toilets Water	1015667	DD	Community	£3.00	£3.00	£0.00	Toilets
16/12/2020	EoN	Electricity	H193A0F711	DD	Community	£79.98	£76.17	£3.81	Parish
18/12/2020	Anglian Water	Pavilion Water	115787988	DD	Community	£13.00	£13.00	£0.00	ayingfields
21/12/2020	A&J Lighting	Lighting maintenance	34700	DD	Community	£37.22	£31.02	£6.20	Parish
		TOTAL Debits				£156.14	£145.04	£11.10	
		TOTAL Expenses				£5,742.98	£5,646.23	£96.75	
Account		Balance							
Community 40186910		£33,735.38	Signed _____				Date _____		
Base Rate Reward 53301885		£27,516.45							
Total		£61,251.83							
			Minute Item _____						
					FVH	£14,729.65			
					FVH Save	£25,093.46			
					SportsFld	£20,721.10			
					CHE	£3,470.50			
Income									
Parish									
PAYER	DESCRIPTION	METHOD	AMOUNT						
Barclays Bank	Interest	Account Credit	£0.22						
		TOTAL	£0.22						

BACS and Debit List January 2021									
Date	Payee	Description	Invoice No	BACS	Account	Amount	Net	VAT	Ccentre
08/01/2021	RBL Poppy Appeal	Poppy Wreath	IFlemming		Community	£30.00	£30.00	£0.00	Parish
14/01/2021	HMRC	PAYE Qtr3	PAYE		Community	£764.15	£764.15	£0.00	Parish
27/01/2021	Ian Smith	Toilets Caretaking	109		Community	£400.00	£400.00	£0.00	Toilets
27/01/2021	Ian Smith	Street Cleaning	009		Community	£260.00	£260.00	£0.00	Parish
27/01/2021	Fenland Leisure Ltd	CHE Aerial Cableway Repair	SIN038791		Community	£638.57	£532.14	£106.43	Parish
27/01/2021	Community Heartbeat	Defib Pads - School	7648		Community	£52.80	£44.00	£8.80	Parish
27/01/2021	Nisbets	Toilet Rolls - IB	22296480		Community	£71.98	£59.98	£12.00	Toilets
27/01/2021	Oracle Environmental	Mobilisation - Oil Leak	2843		Community	£12,582.53	£10,485.44	£2,097.09	F V Hall
27/01/2021	OHES Environmental	Final Invoice	3212		Community	£159.60	£133.00	£26.60	F V Hall
27/01/2021	SHenZhenShi	Xmas Tree Lights	4003		Community	£68.98	£57.48	£11.50	Parish
27/01/2021	A&J Lighting	CHE Lamp Repair x2	34795		Community	£182.28	£151.90	£30.38	Parish
27/01/2021	A&J Lighting	CHE Lamp Repair x2	34814		Community	£123.84	£103.20	£20.64	Parish
27/01/2021	Employee	Salary	PAYE		Community	£590.88	£590.88	£0.00	Parish
27/01/2021	Employee	Expenses	N/A		Community	£26.00	£26.00	£0.00	Parish
		TOTAL				£15,951.61	£13,638.17	£2,313.44	
Date	Payee	Description	Invoice No	DD	Account	Amount	Net	VAT	Ccentre
07/01/2021	British Gas	Toilets Electricity	1234011	DD	Community	£22.32	£21.26	£1.06	Toilets
15/01/2021	Anglian Water	Toilets Water	1015667	DD	Community	£3.00	£3.00	£0.00	Toilets
18/01/2021	EoN	Electricity	H1955425FE	DD	Community	£82.65	£78.71	£3.94	Parish
19/01/2021	Anglian Water	Pavilion Water	115787988	DD	Community	£13.00	£13.00	£0.00	yingfields
20/01/2021	A&J Lighting	Lighting Maintenance	34748	DD	Community	£37.22	£31.02	£6.20	Parish
		TOTAL Debits				£158.19	£146.99	£11.20	
		TOTAL Expenses				£16,109.80	£13,785.16	£2,324.64	
Account		Balance							
Community 40186910		£43,551.49	Signed _____				Date _____		
Base Rate Reward 53301885		£27,516.45							
Total		£71,067.94							
			Minute Item _____						
					FVH	£14,729.65			
					FVH Save	£25,093.46			
					SportsFld	£20,721.10			
					CHE	£3,470.50			
Income									
Parish									
PAYER	DESCRIPTION	METHOD	AMOUNT						
barclays	Interest	Account Credit	£0.26						
LSH	Sports Field Hire	BGC Txfer	£150.00						
Zurich INS	Oil Leak Reclaim	BGC Txfer	£10,618.44						
		TOTAL	£10,768.70						