

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 30 MARCH 2021 AT 7:30 PM**

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

20/178	NOTE AND APPROVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE None
20/179	DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR THIS MEETING Interest declared in Item 20/184 by Cllr Considine
20/180	APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ONLINE 23 FEBRUARY 2021 RESOLUTION to Approve the minutes as a correct and appropriate record: Proposed Cllr Collins, Seconded Cllr Lawton
20/181	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). None put forward
20/182	DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS Dist Cllr Tattersley – Issues surrounding the ending of remote meetings and how to successfully, lawfully, safely proceed is exercising members, certain District and Parish elections coming up, lockdown arrangements due to covid regs are changing. Cnty Cllr Butland – Submitted application to Local Highways Panel (LHP) re salt bins for the parish. Traffic and noise – correspondence from CHE resident, who has lost hedge due to vehicles running into it, offered suggestions for traffic calming measures, Cllr Butland has forwarded to LHP for advice. A meeting has been held with the Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner (PFCC) to discuss speeding and noisy vehicles, mainly motorcycles, notes from which have been circulated and placed on social media; noted there has been a more visible Policing at present with one vehicle seized at the weekend in this parish. County Council elections due in May.
20/183	CLERKS REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE SALT BINS - update – Myself with the support from Cnty Cllr Butland have submitted a formal request to the LHP to progress this initiative. The finger post installation is awaiting approval from Highways which is awaiting confirmation from the council as to how it intends to satisfy the need to ensure the minimum ground clearance of 2.2M whilst ensuring sufficient length of fixing below ground.

I have forwarded this correspondence to members but for the benefit of the minutes - Residents of CHE have repeated their concerns surrounding speeding, noisy motorcycles passing through their village, not only denying them peaceful enjoyment of their homes and gardens but in their words making it unsafe for residents to pull out of their drives with several near misses reported last year. The council has been asked for the working group to investigate and consider traffic calming measures for that ward.

The village green damage has been repaired, the invoice will be forwarded to the company who's vehicle and driver sadly was forced to drive across the green.

Trees on Trust land by the Scout Hut may have by now been cut back and reduced to help protect neighbouring properties from potential damage from falling branches.

Due to the diary commitments Council should consider the Annual Parish Assembly for April to enable the Chairman to present her annual report.

The construction company associated with the 50 houses development intends to hold an initial online meeting with the PC.

The various election notices have now been published both online and on the Noticeboards, nomination papers into the electoral office at BDC before 4pm, Thursday 08 April by hand and ideally in person.

And finally a letter from the Secretary of State to local council leaders advises that from May 07, ie after the elections, a form of face to face meetings will be reintroduced providing they are socially distanced and the venue is covid friendly and we comply with any then known relevant legislative and or government guidelines.

At this point County Cllr Butland advised that the Local Government Association are discussing a workable solution to the dilemma posed by the ending of online meetings whilst maintaining the health & well being of both councillors, officers and the public and complying with the law surrounding the public's right to attend council meetings.

I have received confirmation from both the grass cutting contractor and verge cutting contractor that they are prepared to continue with the contract on the same terms and rates as last year.

Essex Air Ambulance and First Responders Bumpstead thanked the council for its donations on behalf of a resident who has generously donated the Xmas tree lighting power year in year out, I am seeking to save their blushes by not naming them but they live at Saxons...

The remainder of the matters are covered under specific items on the Agenda.

20/184

FINANCE – RECEIVE MARCH 2021 FINANCIAL STATEMENT – APPROVED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION Finance statement approved for payment: Proposed Cllr Coverdale, Seconded Cllr Lawton – unanimous agreement Cllr Collins to Authorise

Statements at **APPENDIX A**

20/185

CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND APPEALS, CURRENT ITEMS LISTED BELOW

	<p>Reference: 21/00648/TPOCON Proposal: Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area - Remove 4 small trees and 2 larger trees, There are 4 small trees at the front of the property and 2 larger trees these are breaking the patio area to the Left hand side of property between the house and garage. Location: Fox Barn, The Green, Finchingfield Comment date – 31 March Tree Warden advised no objection to complete works - NO OBJECTION</p> <p>Reference: 21/00675/FUL Proposal: Retention of two Gazebo's to front of public house. Location: The Fox Inn, The Green, Finchingfield Comment date – 15 April</p> <p>Land ownership is open to confirmation, however, the majority had NO OBJECTION to the application.</p> <p>Cllr Considine did raise the observation that access to the side entrance was potentially impeded by the installation of the gazebos.</p> <p>Request to add common land item to next Agenda</p>
<p>20/186</p>	<p>RECEIVE FEEDBACK FROM APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES PARKING – Cllr Lawton No meetings but group remains in communication. Spains Hall Estate published a clarification of their parking offer along the Causeway after the previous PC meeting; the Estate do require PC agreement to support parking free days, circa twenty per year, which will also require support from NEPP to enforce such days, without enforcement it is a pointless exercise. Cnty Cllr Butland offered to speak with Chairman of NEPP to gain an indication of interest and ability to assist with manpower to enforce such days. Noted that Wardens will now issue immediate ticketing in Finchingfield.</p> <p>Duck End yellow lines, Clerk progressing the yellow line application with help from the NEPP. It was suggested a member of the parking working group takes on communication with NEPP on behalf of the PC in the absence of Cllr Lawton. CLERK to clarify authority with the resident concerned.</p> <p>FOOTPATHS – Cllr Collins FP36 has been investigated by Highways, a schedule of works agreed</p> <p>SPEEDING & NOISE – Cllr Coverdale Noticeable Police activity of late with noise levels significantly lower, so seemingly having a positive impact. Sound monitoring equipment on trial but will seemingly be some time before generally available for wider use.</p>
<p>20/187</p>	<p>RECEIVE UPDATE FROM THE CHE PLAYINGFIELD COMMITTEE – CLLRS CONSIDINE AND DEBNAM-SHARP Cllr Considine and Debnam-Sharp – Suggested the circulation to the CHE community a questionnaire to assess their opinion and input as to what was needed or desired for the play area and playing-field. Cllr Considine agreed to circulate the draft document for either approval of council or further comment.</p>
<p>20/188</p>	<p>RECEIVE UPDATE ON THE POND AND MILL GATES REFURBISHMENT PROJECT Despite repeated efforts by Cllr Coverdale still only the one competent company have quoted for the works; fear of pond drying this summer as in previous year. Cllr Coverdale urged council to agree, price £18,500 nett. Does not include repointing of pond brickwork and downstream works but simply includes the works to sluice gates, the gates bed and iron bridge. Cllr Coverdale warned if it does not go ahead the pond will almost certainly empty during the summer.</p> <p>Noted impending bridge works may put extra pressure on the pedestrian bridge which is in need of maintenance works. Cllr Lawton agreed to go ahead with the proposal Cllr Debnam-Sharp not in favour Cllr Considine not in favour</p>

	<p>Cllr Collins not in favour Proposal to postpone until after elections and put to newly formed council Suggestion council agree to the initial assessment be completed. Cllr Lawton proposed a motion to spend up to £950 to complete the initial investigation to enable a report to be produced, Seconded Cllr Coverdale – unanimous agreement – Cllr Coverdale to ACTION</p>
20/189	<p>RECEIVE UPDATE ON FINGERPOST INSTALLATION AND CONSIDER PURCHASE OF TWO ADDITIONAL POSTS Defer to next meeting</p>
20/190	<p>CONSIDER THE REQUEST TO CLEAN AND REPAIR THE WAR MEMORIAL Clerk to seek proposals and circulate to members.</p>
20/191	<p>REVIEW AND AGREE BENCH MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE Schedule circulated to members for consideration – proposed remove bench number 4, CHE, beyond repair. Remainder discussed and schedule to be agreed along with costing</p>
20/192	<p>RESPONSE TO REQUEST FROM HIGHWAYS FOR BUS HALT SITE OPTIONS ON B1053 WEST Various sites discussed to avoid distressing residents who park along that section of road, members to visit and review sites and report again.</p>
20/193	<p>CONSIDER ITEMS/CONTENTS OF POTENTIAL LEASE AGREEMENT(S) WITH THE TRUSTS FOR PC ASSETS SITED ON TRUST LAND Defer to next meeting</p>
20/194	<p>ITEMS OF REPORT OR TO BE CONSIDERED FOR NEXT AGENDA Election of Vice Chairman, Common land ownership</p>
20/195	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 27 APRIL 2021 – CLOSE 9:05pm</p>

Signed..... Date.....

APPENDIX A

BACS and Debit List March 2021									
Date	Payee	Description	Invoice No	BACS	Account	Amount	Net	VAT	Ccentre
02/03/2021	Bumpstead First Responders	Grant	N/A		Community	£75.00	£75.00	£0.00	Parish
29/03/2021	Employee	Salary	PAYE		Community	£590.88	£590.88	£0.00	Parish
31/03/2021	Oracle Environmental	Oil claim works	2988		Community	£16,177.54	£13,481.28	£2,696.26	F V Hall
31/03/2021	ZOOM	Subscription IB Feb	90775		Community	£14.39	£11.99	£2.40	Parish
31/03/2021	Gamart Engineering	Sluice gate key	7697		Community	£72.00	£60.00	£12.00	Parish
31/03/2021	Caloo Ltd	Adult annual gym maintenance	3198		Community	£396.00	£330.00	£66.00	Parish
31/03/2021	Electric Websites	Annual web services	FPC012		Community	£476.00	£476.00	£0.00	Parish
31/03/2021	ZOOM	Subscription March	6465		Community	£14.39	£11.99	£2.40	Parish
31/03/2021	Employee	Work from Home	N/A		Community	£26.00	£26.00	£0.00	Parish
31/03/2021	Ian Smith	Street Cleaning	011		Community	£310.00	£310.00	£0.00	Parish
31/03/2021	Ian Smith	Toilets caretaking	111		Community	£400.00	£400.00	£0.00	Toilets
31/03/2021	John Richardson	Tree inspections	64		Community	£56.00	£56.00	£0.00	Parish
31/03/2021	Printed Group - SC	Toilets signs	1205547		Community	£44.15	£36.79	£7.36	Parish
31/03/21	A Bagnall	Sign posts	5280		Community	£23.98	£23.98	£0.00	Parish
31/03/21	A Bagnall	VG grass repair	5281		Community	£88.20	£88.20	£0.00	Parish
		TOTAL				£18,764.53	£15,978.11	£2,786.42	
Date	Payee	Description	Invoice No	DD	Account	Amount	Net	VAT	Ccentre
01/03/2021	Calor Gas Ltd	Gas S/C	33625978	DD	Community	£17.99	£17.13	£0.86	SFId
10/03/2021	British Gas	Toilets Electricity	1409892	DD	Community	£25.37	£24.16	£1.21	Toilets
16/03/2021	EoN	Street Lighting	H198C504F6	DD	Community	£74.64	£71.09	£3.55	Parish
16/03/2021	Anglian Water	Toilets Water	1015667	DD	Community	£3.00	£3.00	£0.00	Toilets
18/03/2021	Anglian Water	Pavilion water	115787988	DD	Community	£13.00	£13.00	£0.00	SFId
22/03/2021	A&J Lighting	Lighting Maintenance	34979	DD	Community	£37.22	£31.02	£6.20	Parish
		TOTAL Debits				£171.22	£159.40	£11.82	
		TOTAL Expenses				£18,935.75	£16,137.51	£2,798.24	
Account		Balance							
Community 40186910		£21,009.47	Signed _____				Date _____		
Base Rate Reward 53301885		£27,516.87							
Total		£48,526.34							
			Minute Item _____						
Income					FVH	£14,637.65			
Parish					FVH Save	£25,094.09			
PAYER	DESCRIPTION	METHOD	AMOUNT		SportsFld	£20,721.10			
Barclays	Bank Interest	BGC Txfer	£0.21		CHE	£3,470.50			
Zurich Ins PLC	Oil claim	BGC Txfer	£13,481.28						
		TOTAL	£13,481.49						
VAT Reclaim		£15,302							