

Fordham Parish Council
Minutes of Parish Council meeting
Held at Village Hall, Fordham, Colchester, Essex
7.30 pm on 10th September 2019

Present: Cllr N Head-Jenner (NHJ) – Chairman
Cllrs S Pallent (SP), C Alexander (CA) and R Gregory (RG)
Also in attendance: Cllr N Chapman (Colchester Borough Council)
Mrs K Cameron (KC) – Clerk
And 5 members of the public

19-20/61 Those present and apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs N Durlacher (ND) and George Branagh

Resolved. To record and accept apologies for absence

19-20/62 Council Vacancy

Following a brief discussion, it was agreed to accept the application from Mr Rob Turner for co-option and to continue to advertise the remaining vacancies

Resolved. To accept application from Mr R Turner

19-20/63 To receive any declarations of interest from councillors

Resolved. That no interests were declared

19-20/64 Minutes of the meeting held on 30th July, 2019

Resolved. That the minutes of Full Council Meeting are accepted as a true record

19-20/65 Public question time

The meeting may be temporarily suspended for up to fifteen minutes if members of the public wish to comment on agenda items or items of interest or concern to the parish

Representatives from Fordham School PTA asked the council if they would consider making a financial donation to assist the school. The Chairman noted that the PTA could apply to the Council for a grant towards a school project and asked the Secretary to email grant forms.

A resident asked if there was any news on the Church Road road sign. Cllr N Chapman noted that he had sent to the Zone team and he will investigate.

A resident noted that there are branches of a tree covering the LED speed sign outside of the school. The Chairman noted that the Council will arrange to make the sign visible.

19-20/66 Receive report from County and Borough Councillors if in attendance

Cllr N Chapman noted:

- The revised Local plan is with the inspector and the Council wait for confirmation
- The Fairfield's planning application will be discussed at CBC planning in September
 - A resident asked if this will allow business operation on Sundays. Cllr Chapman said he would check but it is thought yes it would.

Cllr N Chapman asked if there were any issues with the recycling collections

- Cllr R Gregory confirmed that there has only been one occasion where there has been an issue. It was also noted that the compactor van has been very successful.
- Cllr R Gregory asked how much money is saved from the recycling and if there is any advertising that could be provided as to what products are accepted for recycling.

19-20/67 Confirm General Power of Competence

Members were asked to resolve to use the General Power of for the remainder of 2019/20 and it was agreed.

Resolved: That the Council resolves to use the General Power of Competence for the remainder of 2019/20 if appropriate.

19-20/68 Planning sub-committee

Members agreed it would be beneficial to create a sub-committee and that councillors would consider candidates for the next meeting

Resolved. That Councillors agreed to form a sub-committee and consider candidates at the next meeting.

19-20/69 To appoint officers to vacant roles and responsibilities

It was agreed to fill the vacant roles, village maintenance and Fordham in Bloom and Cllr Rob Turner was appointed officer.

Resolved. That Cllr Rob Turner was appointed officer for Village Maintenance and Fordham in Bloom

19-20/70 75th Anniversary of VE Day – May

The Clerk informed the Council of the National plans for VE day on Friday 8th May. Members agreed that it would be good to join forces with other organisations in the Village and that Councillors will bring forward ideas and suggestions at the next meeting

Resolved. That the Council will find out what other village organisations are organising and will work together to commemorate the 75th anniversary

19-20/71 Parish Council Insurance

The insurance renewal and quote were discussed and councillors agreed that it would be good to negotiate with the current provider to match the new quote.

Resolved. That the Council agreed to renew the insurance policy hopefully with the current provider but if they are unable to match the new quote, the Council will proceed with the new quote.

19-20/72 To receive Finance reports as of 16th August, 2019

Resolved. That the reports received as of 16th August be approved

19-20/73 Expenditure

73.1 Wooden posts to Village Green

Works were approved at the previous meeting for 2 wooden posts however, 3 were required.

Resolved. That 3 wooden posts were installed on the village green at a cost of £210.00 plus VAT

73.2 Invoices for Payment – Appendix A

Resolved. That the invoices listed in appendix A – total expenditure: £3,518.91 be approved

Payable	Purpose	Amount
ID mobile	Mobile Phone	£12.77
DA Page	Village Green works	£252.00
DA Page	Village Maintenance	£936.00
J&M Payroll Services	August Payroll - <i>Including NI/HMRC/Pension</i>	£465.68
Fordham Church	Grant	£500.00
Fordham Allotments Association	Grant	£500.00
Sutcliffe Play	Baby Swings	£388.66
J&M Payroll Services	Payroll Fees - <i>July Fees</i>	£30.00
The Landscape Centre	Bark for Lucas Ave	£100.80
Dave Bodle	Works at Lucas Ave/Church Rd & Hogweed on Rec Field	£180.00
TOTAL BILL PAYMENT EXPENDITURE		£3,506.14

73.3 Invoice for Payment – Appendix B

An additional 3 invoices were submitted totalling £512.51

Resolved. That the invoices listed in appendix B total expenditure £512.51 be approved.

Total expenditure approved (appendix A & B): £4031.42

Payable	Purpose	Amount
Chris Cousins	Playgrounds checks - <i>July & August Fees</i>	£153.00
K Cameron	Working from home allowance - <i>Payment 1 for 2019/20</i>	£210.00
Colchester Fabrications	Noticeboard renovations	£147.51

19-20/74 Planning Applications

74.1 To discuss and agree comments to be submitted to Colchester Borough Council for applications:

192106 Brook Farm, Halstead Road, Fordham Colchester CO6 3LW Proposed New Replacement Dwelling; conversion of existing dwelling to carport

Resolved: Fordham Parish Council has no objections to application 192106

192182 22 Partridge Drive, Fordham Colchester CO6 3NH The construction of a two storey side extension, with extended porch; demolish existing garage

Resolved: Fordham Parish Council has no objections to application 192182

191967 Rams Farm, Rams Farm Road, Fordham Colchester CO6 3NT Conversion of existing stables into holiday let

Resolved: Fordham Parish Council has no objections to application 191967

191968 Rams Farm, Rams Farm Road, Fordham Colchester CO6 3NT Conversion of existing stables into holiday let

Resolved: Fordham Parish Council has no objections to application 192204

192204 20 Partridge Drive, Fordham Colchester CO6 3NH Two storey side extension, demolish existing garage

74.2 To discuss any applications received between 24th – 30th July 2019

Resolved. That no applications were received

74.3 To note planning Decision received

191855 26 Partridge Drive, Fordham Colchester CO6 3NH Application to remove condition 2 of planning permission F/COL/00/1962 Approve Conditional

Resolved. That the above decision be noted.

19-20/75 To receive Health and Safety Checks for playground

- To note reports for w/c 3rd July to 28th August 2019
- To note that the swing seats have been received and will be installed urgently

Resolved. That the reports be noted

19-20/76 To receive Councillors reports

Cllr C Alexander noted:

- The road is subsiding by Weavers Green and the Moat on the left hand side due to HG Damage
- The Gat to the Rural Housing Trust needs securing
- Would like to discuss the potential of a ditch around the village green
- Defects on footpaths have been passed to the Clerk

Cllr S Pallent noted:

- The grass verges outside 15/17/19 Lucas Avenue have not been cut

Cllr R Gregory noted:

- Is investigating traffic calming opportunities in the village and has written the Highways and will contact Cllr Anne Brown to discuss further

Cllr N Hed-Jenner noted:

- Would like the Council to consider the Christmas lights event on Sunday 1st December 2019 and the batteries required
- Would like to thank Dave Bodle for the works carried out on church Road/Lucas Avenue and for dealing with the Hogweed on the recreation ground

Resolved. That the above reports be approved

19-20/77 To receive Clerks report

Finance

- The second instalment (2 of 2) of Precept and LCT Grant has been received
- VAT for 2018/19 total £3,292.44 is in the process of being claimed
- Refund of 75% of the CiLCA training (Clerk's Bursary) will be received

Audit

- The External auditor has reviewed the annual return and has raised 'except for matters' – this will be reported officially at the next PC meeting
- Simple reporting errors for e.g. CBC pays precept and grant in one lump sum and this needs to be reported separately

Training

- Now a fully qualified Clerk
- Planning training with Colchester borough council 12/09/19
- Local plan and neighbourhood planning training at RCCE 27/09/19
- Wed accessibility training planned for 7/10 & 10/10

Website

- Great Baddow use the same website package and host as Fordham. The Admin assistant has worked with the provider to upgrade their site. A meeting has been arranged to see what was done and what can be done to improve Fordham's website

Request

- The Clerk at Aldham has asked if FPC will pay for the weeding and strimming of the bridge at Ford St. They believe it is FPC land, but are willing to pay half and estimate the works to be £130 each PC

A12

Junction 26 to 27 will be closed for two weekend in October, more information to follow

Resolved. That the information be noted.

19-20/78 Items for next meeting on 29th October, 2019

To agree any further items for 29th October agenda

19-20/79 Exclusion of the press and public

TO RESOLVE that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the Meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest.

19-20/80 Staffing

The Clerk left the room for discussions and returned once a resolution agreed.

Resolved. That the Clerk's employment was reviewed and the Council approved an increase of hours and additional payroll costs with effect from 1st October 2019.

19-20/81 Public Domain

To consider whether any item discussed in Private Session could be moved into the Public Domain

Resolved. That the information remain in private

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.19