

# WORMINGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2021

ON-LINE VIA ZOOM DUE TO COVID-19, AT 7.00 P.M.

In the Chair: Cllr. Bentley  
Present: Cllrs. Boyce, Byrne, Fenn, Hearne  
Clerk: Mrs. Cook  
Also Present Cllr Barber & three members of the public

21/022	<p><b><u>WELCOME, APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u></b></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies had been received from Cllr Chapman.</p>
21/023	<p><b><u>PARISH COUNCILLOR RESIGNATION</u></b></p> <p>The Chairman confirmed John Evan's resignation. Thanks was given to John for his time and dedication to the Parish Council.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED that Cllr Byrne would take over the as Financial Representative on the Parish Council.</b></p>
21/024	<p><b><u>PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY</u></b></p> <p>The Clerk confirmed no applications had been received. An advert had been put on Facebook and a poster would be designed to go on the noticeboard.</p>
21/025	<p><b><u>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</u></b></p> <p>No Cllrs declared an interest.</p>
21/026	<p><b><u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION WITH RESPECT TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AND OTHER MATTERS THAT ARE OF MUTUAL INTEREST</u></b></p> <p>No members of the public had contacted the Clerk prior to the meeting nor wished to speak on-line.</p>
21/027	<p><b><u>WARD &amp; COUNTY COUNCILLORS TO ADDRESS THE MEMBERS IF PRESENT</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Chapman sent an update on the Local Plan and the Budget for Colchester Borough Council for the next Financial Year.</p> <p>Cllr Lewis Barber explained that he would be standing as a candidate instead of Cllr Brown at the May Elections, as she was retiring.</p>
21/028	<p><b><u>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES</u></b></p> <p>21009 <b>RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021 were a true record of the meeting and would be signed by the Chairman outside the meeting.</b></p>
21/029	<p><b><u>PLANNING APPLICATION</u></b></p> <p>1) <b>PLANNING APPLICATION: 210287. CROWN PIECE, CHURCH ROAD, WORMINGFORD, CO6 3AD. APPLICATION TO VARY CONDITION 5 (LANDSCAPING) OF PLANNING PERMISSION 062771.</b></p> <p>21010 <b>RESOLVED that Wormingford Parish Council object to planning application 210287 and the following comments be sent to Colchester Borough Council:</b></p> <p><b>The trees which were unlawfully removed by the applicant should be reinstated for a like for like replacement in species and maturity. Accepting the proposed planting schedule would send out the wrong message to the local community.</b></p> <p><b>We would also ask that the new trees are monitored and recorded for a least five years following contractual practical completion of the development. In the event that any trees die, are removed, destroyed, fail to thrive or</b></p>

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are otherwise defective during such a period, they shall be replaced during the first planting season thereafter to specifications agreed in writing with the local Planning Authority.

- 2) **PLANNING APPLICATION: ESS/11/21/COL. COLCHESTER SKIP HIRE, GREENACRES, PACKARDS LANE, WORMINGFORD, CO6 3AH.** CONTINUATION OF USE OF WASTE RECYCLING FACILITY WITHOUT COMPLIANCE WITH CONDITION 11 (HGV MOVEMENT TIMES) OF PLANNING PERMISSION ESS/09/18/COL THAT WAS FOR "ERECTION OF CLEAN MATERIALS RECYCLING FACILITY AT EXISTING ESTABLISHED RECYCLING/RECOVERY FACILITY, RELOCATION OF EXISTING SWALE, ADDITIONAL LANDSCAPING, RAINWATER HARVESTING TOGETHER WITH AMENDMENTS TO SITE OPERATION HOURS AND HGV MOVEMENT TIMES TO PERMIT 24 HGV MOVEMENTS BETWEEN 07:00-16:30 HOURS ON GOOD FRIDAYS" TO NOW ALLOW FOR 6 HGV MOVEMENTS BETWEEN 05:30-06:00 HOURS; 10 HGV MOVEMENTS BETWEEN 06:00-07:00 HOURS AND 10 HGV MOVEMENTS BETWEEN 07:00-07:30 HOURS TO ALLOW MORE FLEXIBILITY IN EARLY MORNING MOVEMENTS PERIODS.

21011

**RESOLVED that Wormingford Parish Council object to planning application ESS/11/21/COL and the following comments be sent to Essex County Council:**

Wormingford Parish Council discussed this application at their meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021. It was the Council's view that there is no material difference between this application and the one rejected by ECC last year. Consequently our response remains very much the same as our response in 2020 and would ask that this application is rejected.

Wormingford is situated in a rural location in North Essex on the border with Suffolk, parts of our village are within the boundaries of the Dedham Vale AONB. Over the last ten years residents have witnessed a significant reduction of amenity due to the increasing industrialisation of our small community. We have seen the arrival of a crisp manufacture with its associated odours and vehicle movements. We have experienced the development of a large gas generating bio-digestion plant processing maize, rye and grass to produce gas which is fed into the national grid. This again generates a very substantial number of vehicle movements at the various harvest times throughout the summer. We have Colchester Skip Hire (CSH), a business processing and recycling waste; a commendable activity in today's environment but one which again generates many vehicle movements, produces noise, light pollution and odours.

Against the above background Wormingford Parish Council wishes to express it's concerns that any change to CSH's working or transport operating hours, which extend the existing operating times will have a significant impact on the amenity of the residents living nearby or residing close to routes used by CSH's often noisy, clanking vehicles!

Operating vehicles from 05.30 will result in greater disturbance for residents living in the vicinity as staff will invariably arrive prior to opening times. This would cause harm to the rural character of the locality and harm to local amenity from unacceptable noise emissions and artificial light pollution. This problem is not confined to the residents in the immediate vicinity and will impact on those villages such as Fordham and West Bergholt which are along the routes used by staff coming to work. It is also our belief that once CSH's gates have opened in the morning that other vehicles not owned by the Company will be able to access the site to deliver or collect without restriction which potentially will add to the levels of early morning disturbance.

In addition to noise problems associated with vehicles and recycling processes which are experienced by nearby residents there is a light pollution issue; complaints have been made about lights being left on continuously over weekends. This is most unsatisfactory and is in breach of existing restrictions. This is just one example of how existing regulations are abused.

The last planning application sought to try and relocate the car parking closer to the boundary reducing the existing landscaping; this proposal seeks yet again to further erode the existing boundary landscaping and therefore reducing the buffer to the surrounding area making the site more visible, which is unacceptable. Also by relocating the car parking this removes the existing swale and would harm the existing ecology within the area at the expense of further hardstanding to accommodate car parking. The loss of a natural filtering swale and conversion to a pipe culvert is not in keeping with current ECC SUDs recommendations. As such both of these items are in our opinion unacceptable.

Wormingford Parish Council is very concerned by the continual pressure being exerted by local businesses including CSH to increase their operating hours. This would not be an issue if these businesses were situated in an appropriate business park served by a decent road infrastructure. However this is not the case in their current rural location and any further expansion comes at a considerable cost for the residents of Wormingford and nearby villages. In our opinion this is an unacceptable price to be paid and we seek your support by asking you to reject

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	<p>this application.</p>
<b>21/030</b>	<p><b><u>PLANNING APPLICATION</u></b></p> <p>1) <b>PLANNING APPLICATION: 202622. LAND WEST OF FOLLY COTTAGE, COLLETTS CHASE, WORMINGFORD, CO6 3AU.</b> CHANGE OF USE OF LAND FROM AGRICULTURAL TO RECREATIONAL/LEISURE PURPOSES TO PROVIDE FIVE LAKESIDE HOLIDAY UNITS.</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that this application had been refused.</p> <p>2) <b>PLANNING APPLICATION: 202592. AIR STRIP, FAIRFIELDS, FARM, FORDHAM ROAD, WORMINGFORD, CO6 3AQ.</b> CHANGE OF USE OF A 0.4 HA BUNDED CONCRETE SLAB FROM AGRICULTURAL TO OUTDOOR CARAVAN STORAGE FOR UP TO 85 MOBILE CARAVANS FOR STORAGE WHEN THEY ARE NOT IN USE. BAYS WILL BE 8M X 3.5M .</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that this application had been withdrawn.</p> <p>3) <b>PLANNING APPLICATION: 202064. CROWN COTTAGE, MAIN ROAD, WORMINGFORD, CO6 3AB.</b></p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that this application had been granted conditional approval.</p>
<b>21/031</b>	<p><b><u>LOCAL HIGHWAY PANEL UPDATE</u></b></p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that the Local Highway Panel were due to meet on the 16<sup>th</sup> March to discuss funding for projects for the financial year 2021/22. They would be discussing the reduction of the width of the bridge at this meeting. This item would be brought back to the April meeting for an update.</p>
<b>21/032</b>	<p><b><u>S106 MONEY</u></b></p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that from the Longs Farm development there was £2,449.37 of S106 money for Community and £1,009.43 for Leisure.</p> <p>Mr Jones was asked to speak on the Pavilion extension project. He explained that the cost for the extension would be in the region of £36,000, he was expecting to secure funding from the FA of £25,000 leaving £11,000 to find. The Pavilion extension would not only be for the Football Club enabling separate changing rooms but would also increase revenue due to creating a bar area. A friendship club was planned along with bingo nights and the ability to rent out the space.</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that she would send Mr Jones some possible funding avenues and continue to confirm the process of accessing the S106 Money.</p>
<b>21/033</b>	<p><b><u>AONB PROJECT</u></b></p> <p>Cllrs discussed the Landscape Lens Project to be run by the AONB by installing a post along the Stour Valley Path at Lodge Hill. It was agreed to write a letter of support and supply the contact details of the land owner to the AONB.</p>
<b>21/034</b>	<p><b><u>COVID – 19 SUPPORT</u></b></p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that she had been in contact with Bures Primary, The Stanway School and Fordham Primary. Only Fordham Primary was aware of a Wormingford family needed assistance with purchasing IT equipment. Cllr Fenn had kindly donated two laptops to Fordham in order to help a Wormingford family and a Fordham family. Cllrs thanked him for his generosity.</p>
<b>21/035</b>	<p><b><u>REC TRUST</u></b></p> <p>Mrs Tansley confirmed that the Village Hall remained closed for lockdown other than the Post Office. Colletts Farm van would be parked in the car park on a Wednesday in order to sell produce to residents. Mrs Tansley explained that the Electricity certificate in the Pavilion needed to be updated and work carried out. The roof has also started leaking and this will need to be repaired. The grants received from CBC should cover this work.</p>
<b>21/036</b>	<p><b><u>DEFIBRILLATOR</u></b></p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that the defibrillator had been ordered and the payment was on the schedule to be approved. Once the defibrillator arrives with Colchester Community Responders an onsite meeting will be arranged with the Electrician for the installation.</p> <p>The Rec Trust would let the Parish Council know as soon as the Pavilion had received its Electricity</p>

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<b>21/037</b>	<p><b><u>PLAY AREA</u></b></p> <p>The clerk confirmed that the documentation gifting the play area equipment to the Recreation Trust was currently circulating. The signage for the basketball hoop was currently waiting to be collected.</p> <p>Cllr Byrne and Cllr Bentley had looked the rocker to check on any movement and was satisfied that the movement was minimal</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that the Government had advices that the play area could remain open during the current lockdown.</p>																																																						
<b>21/038</b>	<p><b><u>WORM MAGAZINE</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Boyce and Byrne had held a zoom meeting with Mr Jones to discuss reinstating the magazine without advertising.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED that the Worm magazine is produced on a smaller scale of 4 pages, available on the website each month but only printed and distributed every other month. The invoice to the printer will be paid directly. The magazine would be reviewed at the end of the year. The first edition would be in March.</b></p>																																																						
<b>21/039</b>	<p><b><u>POST BOX</u></b></p> <p>The Chairman confirmed the reinstatement of the Post Box at the top of Church Road.</p>																																																						
<b>21/040</b>	<p><b><u>NOTICEBOARD</u></b></p> <p>The Chairman confirmed that the noticeboard was starting to deteriorate and it would either need to be repaired or replaced. Questions were raised whether due to the shop no longer being in the village whether the noticeboard was now in the right place. The Clerk had asked whether S106 money could be used to purchase a new board and this would very much depend on its location. The item would be brought back to the March meeting.</p>																																																						
<b>21/041</b>	<p><b><u>RCCE MEMBERSHIP</u></b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED that the RCCE Membership be renewed at a cost of £52.80.</b></p>																																																						
<b>21/019</b>	<p><b><u>FINANCIAL MATTERS</u></b></p> <p><b>1) FINANCIAL STATEMENT.</b></p> <p>The seven invoices including the Standing Orders for the Clerks Salary &amp; Pension were checked by all Councillors present.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Payee</th> <th>Description</th> <th>Chq Number</th> <th>Net</th> <th>VAT</th> <th>Gross</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Employee</td> <td>Salary</td> <td>SO</td> <td>£309.47</td> <td>£0.00</td> <td>£309.47</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Essex Pension Fund</td> <td>Pension</td> <td>SO</td> <td>£100.35</td> <td>£0.00</td> <td>£100.35</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Employee</td> <td>Expenses Jan</td> <td>101427</td> <td>£27.36</td> <td>£2.40</td> <td>£29.76</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dove Support</td> <td>Laptop Security &amp; Domain Name</td> <td>101428</td> <td>£50.00</td> <td>£10.00</td> <td>£60.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Active Med Supplies Ltd</td> <td>Defibrillator</td> <td>101429</td> <td>£1,385.00</td> <td>£6.00</td> <td>£1,391.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Information Commissioner</td> <td>Data Protection</td> <td>101430</td> <td>£40.00</td> <td>£0.00</td> <td>£40.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RCCE</td> <td>Membership</td> <td>101431</td> <td>£44.00</td> <td>£8.80</td> <td>£52.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>TOTAL</b></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><b>£1,956.18</b></td> <td><b>£27.20</b></td> <td><b>£1,983.38</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>RESOLVED that after further consideration seven payments detailed on the schedule be authorised for payment.</b></p> <p><b>2) MONTHLY BUDGET INFORMATION</b></p> <p>The Clerk had circulated the budget information prior to the meeting. No questions were raised.</p>	Payee	Description	Chq Number	Net	VAT	Gross	Employee	Salary	SO	£309.47	£0.00	£309.47	Essex Pension Fund	Pension	SO	£100.35	£0.00	£100.35	Employee	Expenses Jan	101427	£27.36	£2.40	£29.76	Dove Support	Laptop Security & Domain Name	101428	£50.00	£10.00	£60.00	Active Med Supplies Ltd	Defibrillator	101429	£1,385.00	£6.00	£1,391.00	Information Commissioner	Data Protection	101430	£40.00	£0.00	£40.00	RCCE	Membership	101431	£44.00	£8.80	£52.80	<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£1,956.18</b>	<b>£27.20</b>	<b>£1,983.38</b>
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21015	<p><b>3) SIGNATURES</b></p> <p>Cllr Bryne would no longer carry on the process of becoming a signature as he would be the Financial Representation for the Parish Council.</p> <p><b>4) AUDIT</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> that Mrs Stobart would carry out the Internal Audit for the financial year 2020/21 at a cost of £185.</p>
<b>21/043</b>	<p><b><u>CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED</u></b></p> <p>All correspondence had been circulated to Councillors.</p>
<b>21/044</b>	<p><b><u>CHAIRMAN &amp; CLERK'S REPORT</u></b></p> <p>The Clerk raised the question of the Annual Parish Assembly meeting and whether this will need to take place in 2021 and if so whether this can be done over Zoom.</p> <p>Cllr Bentley thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 7.57pm.</p> <p>The date of the next meeting would be Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7.00pm on Zoom.</p> <p>Signed:.....</p> <p>Chairperson of the Parish Council <span style="float: right;">Date: 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021</span></p>

MRS HELEN COOK

CLERK TO WORMINGFORD PARISH COUNCIL, E-MAIL: [wormingford@outlook.com](mailto:wormingford@outlook.com)