

**Minutes of Meeting of Earls Colne Parish Council held in the Council Chamber on
Wednesday 15th January 2014**

PRESENT: Cllrs: Mr. R. Austing, Mr. J. Bendall (Chairman), Mrs. M. Barrett, Mr. P. Clarry, Mr. R. Curtis, Mr. C. Hazell, Mr. I. Sparks (Vice Chairman), Mr. F. Williams.

Mrs. V. Holmes was present in her capacity as Clerk together with District Cllr. Gabrielle Spray.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs. Bennett and McCubbine, District Cllr. Siddall and County Cllr. Joe Pike.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

District Cllr. Gabrielle Spray to contribute as matters arose.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18th December 2013 were approved and signed.

5. CLERK'S REPORT:

- a) **Oak Tree – Footpath 34** – the Clerk reported on correspondence received from a resident in Lowfields. The tree in question had been inspected by Cllr. Curtis and also by Richard Parmee, Tree Officer, Braintree District Council. Members felt that the Parish Council had reached the limit of its powers in this matter and the resident should liaise with the landowner.

6. PLANNING

- a) **Decisions reached:** Members noted the following decisions reached:

13/01253/FUL – Erection of replacement timber conservatory in the style of an orangery – 2 Park Lane - GRANTED

- b) **Current applications:** Cllr. Curtis reported on the following applications:

13/01481/MMA – Rosedene, Coggeshall Road - Application for minor material amendment to approved application 12/01568/MMA (alterations to ridge height, installation of dormer windows and roof lights, alterations to fenestrations and door openings and external appearance — **no objections**).

13/01468/FUL & 13/01469/LBC – The Cart Lodge, Pear Tree Hall, Coggeshall Road - Residential conversion and extension of cart lodge into a four bedroom house, erection of garden store and installation of adjacent air source heat pump and change of use of building and curtilage from agricultural to residential - **no objections as there is other residential development in the vicinity. Members would, however, find it desirable that Essex County Council Highway Authority's requirements regarding the visibility splay are met.**

13/01490/FUL – 21-29 Upper Holt Street - Proposed new vehicular access together with parking and turning area – **no objections. Members would wish to support this application in view of the number of vehicles which park in Upper Holt Street and also**

on the footway causing a hazard to pedestrians. In addition, the no parking restrictions recently placed in Tey Road and Lower Holt Street has reduced the already limited on road parking in the area.

14/00002/TPOCON – Land off The Causeway, Church Hill – Work on trees affected by the conservation area – ***no objections providing a planting scheme is put into place to replace any trees felled.***

14/00009/TPO – Land off The Causeway, Church Hill – Notice of intent to fell 7 trees protected by the Tree Preservation Order - ***no objections providing a planting scheme is put into place to replace any trees felled.***

14/00022/HDG – Land off The Causeway, Church Hill – Notice of intent to remove hedgerow - ***no objections providing a planting scheme is put into place to replace any hedgerow removed.***

14/00005/TPOCON – Greenhills Place, Halstead Road – Work to trees in conservation area – ***no objections.***

14/00008/TPOCON – 1 Tey Road – Remove 1 large Pine tree in rear garden – ***no objections.***

13/01479/FUL – Colne Valley Golf Club – Removal of existing timber doors and windows to two elevations, cut through wall to form new opening and installation of new aluminium doors and windows – ***no objections.***

7. **CASUAL VACANCY** – Members noted that one application had been received from Mrs. Carol Dennison for the Casual Vacancy. Cllr. Sparks proposed that Mrs. Dennison should be co-opted and this was seconded by Cllr. Williams. The proposal was carried unanimously.

8. **VILLAGE CAROL SERVICE AND SHOPPING EVENING**

a) **Review of 2013 event and date for 2014** – Members had received the notes of the meeting of the Christmas Committee following the Village Open Shopping Evening and Carol Service. They had also received a copy of the letter sent by the Clerk to all businesses thanking them for their participation in the event. There had been a problem with traffic during the procession. The Clerk had requested a Police presence but this had not been possible due to other demands on officers. Cllr. Sparks would investigate the possibility of funding a Police presence and/or signage for 2014. Members agreed the date for 2014 would be Tuesday, 9th December, starting at 6.30 p.m.

b) **Salvation Army** - Members agreed to send a donation of £50.00 to the Salvation Army with a letter of thanks and requesting their attendance again in 2014.

9. **MEMBERS' REPORTS:**

a) **Annual Inspection of Trees** – Cllr. Curtis noted that a tree inspection was due and the Clerk was asked to arrange for a full inspection to be carried out by D.J. Whiting as soon as practicable.

10. **ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS:**

a) **Matters relating to Highways** – Cllr. Bendall updated members on Highways matters. Cllr. Bendall would be meeting a representative from ECC Highways on 16th January to discuss the siting of new signs to deter HGVs from entering Massingham Drive.

b) Cycle Barrier, Massingham Drive – Following a request to install a cycle barrier, Cllrs. Bendall and Sparks had visited Massingham Drive and reported their observations to members. It was agreed not to proceed with a Scheme Request to the Local Highways Panel at the present time but to monitor the situation to ascertain if any further incidents are reported. The PCSO would be contacted by the Clerk and asked to check the area and report back to members.

11. **BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL:** No matters to report.

12. **VILLAGE HALL:** No matters to report.

13. **FINANCE**

a) **Payment of Accounts** – For schedule of payments see Appendix 1.

IN COMMITTEE

14. **COMMUNITY WORKER:** The Chairman reported on a meeting with Alan Atkinson and members noted and discussed a letter received from Alan following that meeting.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.

Date

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Chairman