

21LHPC010b

Little Horkesley Parish Council

MINUTES

of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 18th October 2021

Present: Chris Exley (Vice Chair)
Hannah Taylor
Chris Jacobs
Susie Goldring
Jo Petersen (Clerk)

Apologies

Maria Oats (Chair)

Darius Laws

Lewis Barber

1. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 20th September 2021 were agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Vice Chair

2. Public Questions

No members of the public were present.

3. Parish Council

- a) In her absence, Maria Oats confirmed that she has spoken with a resident of the Parish who is keen to consider the role of Parish Councillor. She will join us at the November meeting to get an idea of what the role involves.

The clerk confirmed that she is waiting for legal advice from the EALC regarding the situation if a new Chair cannot be found before May 2022.

4. Broadband

- a) Chris Jacobs has not yet managed to speak with the County Broadband representative, Lisa Foster for an update on the rollout of superfast broadband.

Chris Exley reported back from the County Broadband webinar and confirmed that the lack of take up in Wormingford will not affect the roll out in Little Horkesley, and he is optimistic that superfast broadband may be a real possibility within a year.

Maria Oats, Chris Exley and Chris Jacobs have all received correspondence from Gigaclear regarding broadband in Little Horkesley.

Susie Goldring confirmed that Gigaclear will not cover Workhouse Road in Little Horkesley.

5. Playground

- a) The clerk has not received an update from Mortimer Contracts on the repair of the play equipment. She will contact them to confirm when this work will be carried out.
- b) The clerk was contacted by Sarah Dagba, a trainee paralegal at Colchester Borough Council on 8th October, who confirmed that she will send the draft playing field lease and supporting documentation. This has not yet been received.
- c) Michael Devine confirmed that he will inform Mr Bird of the Parish Council's intention to re-instate the chain link fence at the rear of Orchard Cottages. He will again offer Mr Bird the option of replacing the gate with a dwarf wall and railings to match the existing as it was agreed that this would be the most acceptable outcome for all parties.
- d) It was noted that the wildflower meadow has been cut and the grass removed.

6. Footpaths

- a) Chris Jacobs reported issues on the following footpaths:

No 4: Wire mesh on the bridge is worn and potentially dangerous.

No 21: Badger damage and close crops.

No 27: The finger post is missing.

Hannah Taylor confirmed that she will report these issues and is currently waiting for an updated map from Colchester Borough Council.

7. Roads & Verges

- a) It was noted that the fly tipping on Vinesse Road (CBC 301815-F8B6B5) has been cleared.

Potholes reported as follows:

- Fishponds Hill (ref 3500884 & 2722750) Potholes has been made safe
- Fishponds Hill (ref 2745436 & 2745691) Pothole awaiting inspection.

The Parish Council would like to extend their thanks to Joy Pallent for reporting potholes and keeping the Parish Council updated.

Susie Goldring informed the clerk of a pot hole on Crabtree Lane which has previously been filled but is now a large hole again. The clerk will ensure this is reported to Essex Highways.

8. Bus Shelter

- a) It was noted that the clerk has painted the notice board in the bus shelter and cleaned the shelter. She has ordered new cork and a new handle and will replace these once they have been delivered.

9. Affordable Housing

- a) Chris Exley confirmed that he had spoken with Ruth Newcombe at Colchester Borough Council about the possibility that CBC could fund the building and running of affordable homes in Little Horkesley.
The Parish Council agreed that this is something that should be explored and will wait to hear back from CBC.

10. Emergency Assistance Plan

- a) It was agreed that this item would be discussed at the next meeting once all Councillors had reviewed the revised Emergency Assistance Plan. It was agreed that the plan should be reviewed annually.
- b) The simplified consent form for the Vulnerable Persons list will also be reviewed at the November meeting.
The Vulnerable Persons list was last reviewed about 7 years ago. The process for monitoring the list will be reviewed at the next meeting.

11. Remembrance Day

- a) It was agreed that Chris Jacobs would represent the Parish Council at the Remembrance Day service at the church.
- b) The clerk gave the wreath to Chris Jacobs.

12. Finance

It was noted that Susie Goldring is now mandated on the Parish Council's bank account. We expect the card reader to be received shortly.

13. Correspondence

- It was agreed that the Parish Council would make a donation to the Essex & Herts Air Ambulance. This is included in the annual budget.

14. Items for the Next Agenda

- To review the Emergency Assistance Plan and Vulnerable Persons Form
- To discuss Vulnerable Persons advert for the Parish Magazine
- Budget for 2022/23
- Planning (add to all agendas)

..... (Maria Oats - Chair)

..... (Date)

Date of the next Parish Council Meeting Monday 15th November 2021 (Little Horkesley Village Hall)