

ALRESFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting (held by telephone conference) on 3rd March 2021

Cllrs. present (remote attendance): Cllr. F. Belgrove (Chairman), Cllr. Osborne, Cllr. Wiggins, Cllr. Hammick, Cllr. Clark, Cllr. Housden, Cllr. Swash, Cllr. Scott and Cllr. L. Belgrove.

Also present (remote attendance): Parish Clerk, Cty. Cllr. Goggin (arriving late due to attending another meeting prior) and 0 members of the public.

Minutes

Announcement(s):

1. The Chairman officially and warmly welcomed Cllr. Broom and Cllr. Claremont-Brown to the council.
2. Alresford Neighbourhood Plan – Current consultation taking place from 19/02/2021 until 09/04/2021.
3. There had been tragic deaths in the village, some related to COVID-19, thoughts were with the families.
4. Charley Day (ex-councillor) – Asked to be remembered to the council
5. Agenda item 03.21.1800 first two planning items would not be commented on as decisions had already been made by Tendring District Council.

03.21.1795 Apologies for Absence

None.

03.21.1796 Declarations of Interest

Dist. Cllr. Scott declared an interest in agenda item 03.21.1808. Cllr. Claremont-Brown declared an interest in agenda item 03.21.1804(i); Highways, Cockaynes Lane.

03.21.1797 Minutes of the last monthly meeting

The minutes of the meeting from 3rd February 2021 were accepted.

Action: Clerk to publish minutes on the council website.

03.21.1798 Public Forum (members of the public and guests can submit written questions/statements).

Time limit 3 mins per person. Item limited to 10 minutes.

A resident emailed the council, now that the council were getting more Precept from the new development, would it be considered to carry out a regular grass cut between the village gates in Wivenhoe Road and Cut Throat Lane, also alongside the B1027 between Wivenhoe Road and Station Road. Both would help the village realm as proposed in the Neighbourhood Plan, and the cut alongside the southern side of Wivenhoe Road would go some way to encouraging walking. It would after all provide another link to Wivenhoe via the footpath alongside the railway bridge (ECC central asset id: PROW 162_15) and the Colne coastal path.

The resident felt that the mown appearance would make it look more part of the village that would hopefully help reduce both the speeding and the littering along the B1027.

The council would consider the proposed.

03.21.1799 Finance

i) February Finance Report - Report approved.

Action: RFO to process payments

ii) Payroll provider - Recommendation from Finance Committee to go ahead with DM Payroll Services Ltd. All in favour.

Action: RFO to contact DM Payroll Services Ltd to proceed with set up.

iii) *Accounts package* - Recommendation from Finance Committee to go with Scribe. All in favour.

Action: RFO/Clerk to contact Scribe to proceed with set up.

iv) *Recycling credits for April 2020 – December 2020*. The amount of £1579.75 had been received. Noted.

03.21.1800 Planning:

i) 21/00074/FUL Mr Chris Morgan Retrospective planning for conversion of garage into detached annex for private use. 14 Crestlands Alresford Colchester Essex CO7 8AF – Already decided.

ii) 21/00101/FUL Mr D Dukelow Proposed demolition of conservatory and replacement extension to form new living area. 9 Ford Lane Alresford Colchester Essex CO7 8AS – Already decided.

iii) Premises Licence Grant – D.F. Alresford Limited, 1 Alresford Business Centre, Colchester Main Road, Alresford

Comment: No objection

03.21.1801 Committees/Environment Working Party

i) It was proposed that further appointments were made to:

The Finance Committee – Cllr. Broom was appointed

The Environment Working Party – Cllr. Claremont-Brown was appointed

Action: Clerk to update website information.

03.21.1802 Work Experience student report – INFORMATION ITEM

The council were very happy with the article produced. Cllr. F. Belgrove had requested that it be put into the next issue of the Advertiser.

Action: Clerk to add article to the website.

03.21.1803. Neighbourhood Plan interim report

Cllr. Clark reported that an email had been sent yesterday informing the council of the latest consultation by Tendring District Council. Cllr. Scott commented that a lot of positive comments from TDC had been received, which was a great recognition for Alresford.

03.21.1804 Highways

i) Speed limit reduction Cockaynes Lane. It was proposed that the Council would seek quotes to engage the service of a private Highways Consultant to assist the Council. Agreed. A petition was also suggested.

Action: Clerk to contact a Highways Consultant regarding Cockaynes Lane.

ii) Footpath issues; roadside and PRoW's – defer to Environment WP

iii) B1027 speed limit – Essex Police would support a reduction, Essex Highways confirmed that it didn't meet the criteria. Cllr. Scott suggested if the criteria could be reduced regarding the priority of the road. Suggestion made for a petition and survey.

03.21.11805 Project updates:

i) Mobile CCTV cameras – First CCTV camera had been ordered.

ii) Bench and disabled access/viewing area Alresford Creek (and PRoW improvements) – Bench was on order, once arrived depending on COVID-19 safety measures, installation of the bench and viewing area would be carried out.

iii) Borehole – playing field – Borehole had now been installed

iv) Hanging baskets – Baskets ordered and delivered, Essex County Council licence applied for awaiting decision, once approval given then the flowers would be ordered.

v) Litter bins – A bin had been installed by the Parish Council Handyperson replacing the damaged bin near the footpath adjacent to St Peters.

03.21.1806 Winter weather provisions

It was proposed that a quote be sought for an additional village salt/grit container, to be located in Station Road for use by residents. Cllr. Scott suggested another container at the other end of De Staunton Close (including along the alleyway to Ford Lane).

03.21.1807 COVID-19 update

Increase in assistance in the community, Neighbourhood Action Panel. Welfare issue reported and followed up immediately.

03.21.1808 District Councillor’s report (Written Report) and 3 min verbal report

See report. A120 & A133 to be cleared of litter soon.

03.21.1809 Essex County Councillor Report (Written Report) and 3 min verbal report

See report.

03.21.1810 Council to consider reimbursement of conference call charges for 3rd March 2021 meeting

Agreed.

03.21.1811 PCSO report

No report this month.

03.21.1812 Councillor’s to raise any matters they feel should be brought to the attention of the Council (1 minute each councillor).

Cllr. Swash – Attended Councillor training recently, suggestion made that each councillor could have a bio on the website/advertiser informing residents of what they do. Future agenda item.

Cllr. Scott – Business or organisation directory, future agenda item.

Cllr. Clark – Garden community development, Freeport at Felixstowe/Harwich, keep an eye out for updates.

Cllr. L. Belgrove – History of the village, suggestion made to revise booklet on the village.

Cllr. Osborne – No village fete this year but the over 75’s Christmas Tea would still go ahead.

Cty. Cllr. Goggin – Item 10 on report; Local Highway Panel £560,000 new budget for Tendring District.

03.21.1813 Meeting ended at 21.11pm

Chairman/Vice Chairman signed:..... Date:.....

District Councillor report – February 2021

Tendring

We attended a virtual Full Council Meeting where the Budget and Housing Revenue Account for 2021/2022 were ratified.

Tendring continues to give out Grants. More information can be found on the TDC website.

Tendring has teamed up with Colbea to launch Business4Growth to help new businesses following the pandemic.

We attended a virtual All Members Briefing where Dr Mike Gogarty from Essex CC gave us an update about the Covid situation and from Officers talking about the Covid Ambassadors. We were also given a presentation by Rachel Durmishi on how Community360 can help families in Essex – they are based in Colchester.

Ian Davidson continues to email out the latest Covid information.

Following today's Budget Freeport status has been given to Tendring for the area around Harwich and Felixstowe. Freeport east will bring jobs, growth and many opportunities and potential for the local area.

Alresford

We continue to give out recycling boxes and deliver medicines to residents.

We had a lot of calls about refuse not being collected following the snow with Hawkins, Coach and Elm Roads getting a special vehicle to come and pick their black bags up and also for an elderly gentleman who has assisted collections.

We have had questions about planning matters which have been forwarded on to TDC from the Taylor Wimpey site and in Station Road.

We have had an enquiry about paying Council Tax.

We have had contact with residents with regard to rubbish, dog waste and flytipping connected to the Council properties. We have contacted TDC who will be sending an Officer to look at the situation.

We have been contacted about other black bag and asbestos dumping locally.

Essex County Council report/notes – January 2021

1.	Surface water	Pleased to see that surface water disappeared as quickly as arose.	Next step is to nominate drains & gutters to be cleaned from pictures. Make sure no ditches identified. Ford Lane, Wivenhoe Rd, & Coach Rd.	Pleased to note that no flooding threat to life or property apart from Point Clear.
2.	ECC Budget meeting. 23/02/21	98% of total budget at £2 billion agreed by all. AG spoke in favour. Primarily around “Early Years” extra work and funding experience.	Each group requested modest alterations. Basic rates frozen. Similar to previous 6 years out of 10 years	AG circulated Leaders speech and some budget Highlights via Clerk. Thanks for feedback. Extra funds for environment, local projects, LHP’s, Mental Health, expand summer camps, child exploitation, boost re-opening economy.
3.	Cllr. David Finch	Leader of the Council retires	Not re-standing in May. In my book he’s been excellent	Alresford may wish to send card?
4.	School Laptops		Campaign to provide used & new to less privileged	
5.	Alresford bridge repair		Noted for 5 days February	
6.	Tendring Budget meeting	AG attended as member of public. Feb 16		Modest increase at 3%. 100% approved.
7.	Member locality grant	AG Submitted	Mobile CCTV + pleased to chat seat in Alresford Over my division 6 submitted. 3 “pleased-to-talk” benches + a booth!	Awaiting acceptance.
8.	Essential Living fund	In conjunction TDALC	Clothing, furniture, food etc.	Funds available. Alresford request?
9.	Colne School Brightlingsea.	Expansion	Extra 300 places. Expansion agreed at Cabinet – AG endorsed.	LHP part. Zebra crossing at last. Meeting to agree 04/01/21 Part funded
10.	B1027 speed review	Next Local Highways panel meeting due March 18.	Item from ECC budget meeting. EXTRA £200K per year for next 3 years. Should take budget for 21/22 to £560K plus revenue funding	AG submitted 5 sites for positive action, plus 2 further sites for “planning watch”. Alresford in one of each. Still awaiting return of speed & volume surveys.

11.	Covid Injections in Alresford		Heard good stories about visits to Holland & Clacton	Good reports from over 70's
12.	ECC support levels	Slight delays in service levels. Mainly highways	First time I noticed some items taking longer to respond. Whole staff stretched	Effect of COVID, illness, at same time as home/school teaching, isolating, surface water, snow & floods.