

**East Donyland Parish Council**  
Full Parish Council Meeting – 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020  
Zoom starting 7.00pm.

**MINUTES**

Present; Cllrs Helliwell, Appleyard, Brett, Case, Clay, Crouchman & Pettitt, Clerk E Nelson-Hayes & 3 members of the public.

The Chair thanked everyone for logging on to Zoom, welcomed the new councillors and commented that it was good to have a lot of interest in the councillor vacancies. Cllr Helliwell passed on the sympathies of the council to ex-councillor Phil George after the recent loss of his father.

**044/20 To receive and accept apologies and to note absences;** apologies received & accepted from Cllrs Guy & Myers

**045/20 To minute pecuniary & non-pecuniary interests of members relating to items on the agenda:** None registered

**046/20 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9 July 2020:** NC proposed the minutes to be correct; DC 2<sup>nd</sup> – all agreed.

**047/20 Have your say! The Chairman will close the meeting for a max.15 minutes to ask members of the public to speak (max. 3 minutes each) on any matters relevant to parish business:** The walking football group would appreciate a progress report from the council regarding the potential extended Muga, a huge amount of work has gone into researching this project over the years as well as the time spent by the working party. Approval in principle was granted by the council in November 2018, consultation with CBC. This is an encouraging project with an increase in outdoor activities, an archaeological survey in July showed no results. Comprehensive reports have been produced by the working party, what's next? The Chair & ward councillor are talking to CBC planning to take direction on information regarding lighting & potential disruption to neighbouring properties. The council are happy to meet with the working party to work out the next steps.  
Enquiries into the process of applying for section 106 funds, signage on the new slipway at the Bloor development & management of it were enquired about. – Hope to have an update on these for the October full council meeting.  
Hopes were expressed that the available funds will be spent wisely and the walking football working party will be up & running soon.  
A member of the public communicated with the council previous to the meeting with an issue regarding the benches on Pearsons Quay and the possible need for signage.

**048/20 To receive and note reports from:**

- i) **County Councillor Kevin Bentley;** Well done to the RCRC for receiving part of his locality budget. Potential red lines along the High St are only as good as the monitoring of them. Pot holes, let Kevin know of roads in Rowhedge that need attention. Hillview Close is on the list already – *Action the Clerk*
- ii) **Borough Councillor Mike Lilley;** The area of the new development will be under a management company & there will be a key holder for the slipway. There are a few issues, possibly a collapsible bollard at the end of the High Street.  
Waiting to hear who the new Chief of Planning will be now that Sue Jackson has retired-regarding flood lights on the rec, plans can be altered, being correctly lit is essential for safe play. Has suggested training for parish councils in planning-more news on its way. Could Nick send over the size of the potential flood lights.  
The top end of the trail at the Hythe is being improved upon, working with Jason Bothelo from ECC.  
**Cllr Lee Scordis;** The smell from the new development's septic tank; CBC have started legal action against Bloor homes for this ongoing problem. The curbing on Heath Rd was left unfinished and now needs more work. Litter on the quay had been noticed, with children going back to school this should reduce & the litter picker returning to work
- iii) **The Clerk:** Noted

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**049/20 To agree the payments list already checked by Cllrs Appleyard & Heliwell:** NC proposed & DC 2<sup>nd</sup> the payments to be correct – agreed – *Action the Clerk*

**050/20 To update the council on plans to improve the burial ground.** The gate has been rebuilt by Fabian, new gate posts are needed which will incur a further expenditure and will be completed in 4-6 weeks time. The chevron will be reset. The volunteer team will hopefully take on the tasks for clearing the perimeter borders & brambles especially in the old burial ground. The old fence will be removed. A spruce of the burial shelter will be done also. Cllr Guy will co-ordinate with the volunteers. – *Action TG & the Clerk*

**051/20 To discuss safety issues and replacement signage on the quaysides;** \*Internet connection cut for Cllr Helliwell who led on this agenda point\* Coherent signage is need along the quays after a busy summer on the River including swimmers, tying up the signage with what is already in place, no repetition of instructions and highlighted dangers are needed. To be referred to the maintenance committee meeting in October – *Action RH, JB & the Clerk*

**052/20 To discuss how we can support users of the mobile library;** The mobile library buses have a fleet cut from 9 to 2 with frequent breakdowns of the vehicles. Slight reluctance to promote and push this service in this uncertain climate, due to COVID-19, Rowhedge is a popular location, seating for the elderly would be ideal especially if the bus is going to be late along the grass edge next to the playground, behind the barrier for safety. Posters will be put up with all the relevant information on, once received with updates on facebook & the Friday catch up and the website. AA proposal & 2<sup>nd</sup> by NC to spend up to £700 for the purchase and installation of a bench – all agreed. – *Action the Clerk*

**053/20 To review and approve the expenditure to cover Christmas lighting on the quayside;** Everyone in agreement that the lights bring cheer during the winter months and the village looks festive and would like to continue this if possible. RH proposed an expenditure of £600 for 3 lights and installation. NC 2<sup>nd</sup> – agreed. – *Action the Clerk*

**054/20 To deal with matters arising from the previous Council minutes not dealt with elsewhere in this agenda (refer attached Action List):** Noted. Signage along the quayside which would be more succinct and dog fouling signs to be erected.

**054/20 To discuss planning applications and note decision papers as listed (refer attached):** Planning application 201617 44 Albion Street, work on trees; RH proposed no comment-all agreed.

*The Chairman thanked everyone for attending*

**The meeting closed at 7.55pm.**

Agreed as a true record.

Signed: ..... Date: .....

Chairman

## **MINUTES**

Parish Report from County Councillor Kevin Bentley

### **Garden Waste Charges**

I am pleased to say that plans to introduce Garden Waste charges have been halted. The Cabinet of CBC accepted the recommendations of the Scrutiny Panel (which I have the privilege to Chair) this week to pause the proposed charges and to set up an all-party Task and Finish Group to look at Waste services in the future and that all Borough Councillors will be consulted on any changes proposed in their Wards.

### **Colchester High Street Paving to be fixed**

Night work to repair and improve the paving slabs in the High Street will start on 20th July, thanks to some clever installation of broadband upgrades by Colchester Borough Council. More Colchester businesses and homes are getting ultrafast broadband, thanks to a £3.5 million ultrafast broadband project being implemented by Colchester Borough Council and its wholly owned company, Colchester Amphora Trading Ltd, using funding from the Department of Culture, Media and Sport. A smarter way of installing the necessary extra capacity has been found, which meant digging up less of the road and pavement in the High Street. Work there is now complete, so contractors Henderson and Taylor can begin work from Monday 20th to replace and re-grout and seal slabs on the pavements. Essex Highway is managing the work, which will take about 12 weeks, funded by a partnership of Essex County Council and Colchester Borough Council. The repair works will be done at night, from 7pm to 6am, in sections, moving quickly along the street.

### **‘Safer, Greener, Healthier’ town centre streets**

Health experts and leading cycling and walking campaigners have welcomed ambitious plans to make Colchester town centre streets safer, greener and healthier. Responding directly to the current COVID 19 pandemic the plans allow people to self-distance and still travel safely by creating new lanes for cycling and walking in Colchester. The project ensures areas of the Town Centre with some of the highest footfall are safe and healthy places to move through, following the easing of lockdown restrictions and the re-opening of shops and businesses. Essex County Council and Colchester Borough Council have taken their lead from many hundreds of people who have been cycling and walking more on short distances. As a result, teams from the two councils have been working together to design and implement one of the first projects to make town centre public spaces safer for people. Called ‘Safer, Greener, Healthier’, the schemes aim to provide bigger, safer spaces for city centre shoppers, residents, workers and visitors to be able to social distance. 20mph limits, temporary barriers and signs providing shared spaces will be introduced on the High Street, Queen Steet/St Botolph’s, Head Street, St Johns Street and other town centre roads. A monitoring group has been set up to adjust these measures as necessary to assist residents and businesses.

### **Locality Budgets**

To remind everyone that I have access to two Locality Budgets. One from CBC which is £2,000 per councillor and for those Parishes where I am the Borough Councillor I pool this

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money with my two colleagues, Cllr. Andrew Ellis and Cllr. Jackie Maclean and we offer our Locality Budget on a first come first served basis. We spent a little of this money earlier this financial year and at the start of the Corona Virus pandemic to assist some Parishes who ran community groups to help shop and look after vulnerable people.

For those Parishes where I am also the County Councillor, I have access to a £10,000 budget, although some has been spent on one community project in my Division.

Please do contact me if you need any further information or would like to apply for a grant to help with community led scheme, project, or buy a community item.

Best wishes

Kevin

### Parish Report from Ward Councillor Mike Lilley

Once again Parking problems are the main issue with residents parking close to the junction of rectory road and Taylor's Road. A resident has asked for Double yellow lines to be put in. She has emailed me and passed to Parish Council. There seems to be a problem within the Red lines application as the Chairman of the Parking Partnership has queried the legality of removing yellow lines he is currently looking into that with County Councillor Kevin Bentley. After complaints from residents in Heath road about repairs to the kerbs this has been passed onto County Councillor Kevin Bentley.

After complaints about ASB on the front and on the Rec a request to the Police for more patrols was made and I urge residents to report all ASB to Police so they see what a problem it is in Rowhedge.

Colchester Borough Council is facing a funding shortage due to no income coming in because of the Covid 19 crises, the sum is between 8-10 million pounds. This will have a massive effect on services provided and will affect Rowhedge. The time has come to look at areas that could be left uncut and grow wild just to save money. If the Government keep to their word to replace money lost then this will be a great relief but if not then serious decisions of cuts will have to be made.

Mike.