

East Donyland Parish Council
Full Parish Council Meeting – 14th January 2021
Zoom starting 7.00pm.

MINUTES

Present; Cllrs Helliwell, Appleyard, Brett, Clay, Crouchman & Pettitt, Clerk E Nelson-Hayes, 5 members of the public.

The Chair thanked everyone for logging on to Zoom, the invoices have not been seen before the meeting, so the agenda point will be changed somewhat to reflect this. A lot of the information needed for tonight's meeting was shared electronically instead of the usual envelopes so please be patient. The budget will be discussed within the meeting where there will be more detail, the Chairman would like to increase some areas to make the figures tally for the precept application.

- 098/20 To receive and accept apologies and to note absences;** apologies from Cllrs Guy, Myers & Bentley.
- 099/20 To minute pecuniary & non-pecuniary interests of members relating to items on the agenda:** PI for Cllr Brett 112/20
- 100/20 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2020 (*attached*):** NC proposed to minutes to be correct & JB 2nd – all agreed.
- 101/20 Have your say! The Chairman will allocate a max.15 minutes to ask members of the public to speak (max. 3 minutes each) on any matters relevant to parish business:**
A MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) update for the Council; Contractors have been contacted regarding lighting and planning and provided images of different designs for the area. Four representatives from the walking football group and Rowhedge football club met for a very productive meeting where key issues were raised-ideas included keeping an accessible games cage, moving the youth shelter-Maintenance & management of the whole of the top of the recreation ground in future. Rowhedge football club are keen to be involved, everyone would like the school to be involved but do appreciate they have a lot on at present. The next step would be a feasibility study to revitalise the top end of the rec, which they feel EDPC would need to be involved in, there is a limit to the amount of work that can be achieved before a study is required. Would EDPC consider a special meeting to discuss this further? Questions raised included, What surface would be laid? the surface is specialised but should be ok for the majority of people who would use it. Would there be surface issues with footwear, would it prohibit anyone using the area? Are the group making a scope of work for the feasibility study, headline areas? Remove the MUGA, move the new MUGA further along the area and utilise the space. Turn the basketball area into an open access MUGA. EDPC were informed that the new MUGA would have restricted access. It was agreed that a separate to discuss this further is necessary. *-Action RH*
A resident registered their thoughts with hope that the next resident will have as long to speak as the previous resident.
The Colne Life; why is there no content from EDPC, the Clerk explained the lack of submission for the last few months, but hopes to resume it soon. Heath Rd, concerns about the expenditure of the area, hopes to see a vast improvement of the area without a waste of funds. It feels like the top of the village had been forgotten. Interested to see the expenditure on Lion Quay. It is noted there is an agenda point regarding the path on the recreation ground, but no discussion about the path under the memorial trees, wonders how many councillors use the path-it has previously been mentioned.
The junction at Weir Lane; there was a short discussion about usage, questions about the potential change in the area, are the councillors going to ask more questions about the solutions put forward, didn't feel like enough was discussed, is the junction used by the council? The danger of the area puts people off using it. It was agreed all round that it's a

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frustrating situation-the discussion and project will continue when Cllr Bentley is in attendance.

102/20 To receive and note reports from:

- i) **County Councillor Kevin Bentley;** Apologies sent.
- ii) **Borough Councillor Lee Scordis:** The path from the Hythe to Rowhedge, there is a structural survey taking place with Anglian Water & CBC working together. There is no date to re-open, the stages of progress are, after the topographical survey, then the work goes out to tender for the repairs this could take a couple of months, if something serious is discovered during the survey it could be a lot longer.
Essex County Council took the decision to close the schools and there, at the moment, isn't a date set to reopen. During this pandemic, it was noted how Rowhedge has really looked out for each other, opening a foodbank and checking on the vulnerable. A question about the closed path previously mentioned, could there be a route round? The problem being its privately owned land to the right of the path as you travel towards the Hythe and businesses might not be keen due to the nature of the work in the area but Cllr Scordis will ask.
- iii) **The Clerk:** Noted.

103/20 To agree the payments list already checked by Cllrs Appleyard & Helliwell (refer attached): NC proposed the payments list to be correct, on the proviso that the invoices tally with the payment list. DC 2nd – all agreed – *Action the Clerk*

104/20 To note the draft minutes from the Maintenance Committee on 16th December;
noted

105/20 To agree the draft budget and parish precept request for 2021-22; RH explained the imbalance between proposed precept & budgeted figures. Increase salaries to £29,000 potential to replace assistant Clerk. Legal & Professional fees increase to £4000, Tree work; Increase to £3000, Maintenance other increase to £7000. £81,591, precept submit precept and budget on that basis. DC proposed AA 2nd – all agreed – *Action the Clerk*

106/20 To agree an increase of budget to improve Heath Road garden; In November the Council approved £1500-a provisional cost to renovate Heath Rd Garden, to do this the idea was to save as many plants as possible, keep the shape of the borders, put in plants kind to wildlife and it all being self-sustaining, it was a ball park figure. Design of the new garden has arrived at the cost of £1680 which is for all plants & excluding labour. Volunteer labour doesn't work, it has been tried many times before. To complete the project would like to increase the budget an extra £2105 to make the total £3605. The design plan cost £205, which is on the payment list for this month. IP asked if there are there ongoing maintenance costs? This will be researched. RH proposed to increase the budget by £2105 to complete the new and improved Heath Rd plan, with the caveat that the ongoing maintenance of the area is under £1500 per annum, IP 2nd – all agreed – *Action AA*

107/20 To receive an update & approve expenditure to replace the edible beds on Lion Quay. A quote has been received to dismantle the edible beds, retain the earth within and all the plants, to rebuild the beds in treated oak, refill and make good. Maintenance on these; 2 local residents have come forward to volunteer to take on the maintenance. Should the Council decide not to move forward with this the beds would be removed and the area turfed over. The Chair for context; the expenditure is reasonable against other projects taken on by the council. RH proposed approved the expenditure £1975.36, to rebuild the beds as the quote states-all agreed. – *Action RH*

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- 108/20** To receive additional quotes to widen the path on the recreation ground, to approve expenditure & seek funding from S106 monies due. DC to walk us through, it was noted that unsure if it is covered under the 106 money, to speak to Siobhan Mcleod at Colchester Borough Council who has been the go-to contact for Section 106 queries throughout discussions. 2nd quote was the same as the first one received. Company A gave the choice to finish the path in wooden edging or concrete edging & include the line painting for the village hall car park. The company can do the job, middle of March. More information needs to be set before the council – This vote didn't move forward at this meeting.
- 109/20** To agree to advertise for a new Councillor using the process previously set by the Council. A 6 week deadline is set, so the end of February. Advertise the vacancy in Colne life (if possible), on the website, Facebook and in the Friday catch up & on the notice boards. – *Action the Clerk*
- 110/20** To deal with matters arising from the previous Council minutes not dealt with elsewhere in this agenda (*refer attached Action List*): The new, currently unconstructed play area at the apex of Footpath 24 & 27 on the new development before the footpath travels towards Fingringhoe– get more info from the developers when this will be constructed. – *Action the Clerk*
- 111/20** To discuss planning applications and note decision papers as listed (*refer attached*):
- i) Planning application 202837 Rowhedge Wharf – Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 20 & 26 of 172220 (Contaminated land) Contact CBC, the link is broken, so cannot see the information to make a decision. – *Action the Clerk*

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Part 2 - Closed to the press and public due to the sensitivity of the item under discussion

- 112/20** To agree the honorarium for the post of Water Bailiff; JB was muted and his video stopped during the zoom call. AA proposed £160 honorarium payment, NC 2nd all agreed. JB's access to the meeting was reinstated – *Action The Clerk*
- 113/20** To discuss the role of litter picker during the current lockdown; AA proposed 80% of the litter pickers monthly salary as previously agreed last year during the first lockdown as a good will gesture for all her hard work. A reminder that the litter picker cannot be furloughed as she is a contractor not an employee, RH 2nd – all agreed – *Action the Clerk*

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending

The meeting closed at 8.33pm

Agreed as a true record.

Signed: Date:
Chairman