

EIGHT ASH GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 9th January 2019 in Eight Ash Green Village Hall at 7.30pm.

In the Chair: Cllr Jean Absalom

Present: Cllr Alec Birchall

Cllr Andrew Cook

Cllr Alistair McGarry

Cllr Alan Tolfrey

Cllr Billie Wiffen

The Clerk

There were 6 members of the public present.

118-18/19 Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Willetts.

119-18/19 Declaration of Interests

Councillor Birchall declared a pecuniary interest in Item 128-18/19, due to living in one of the dwellings concerned.

120-18/19 Public Participation

A resident asked about the blue light on the side of the Village Hall.

Cllr Cook said this was a transmitter/received for County Broadband. He said if the resident was having problems with their aerial and believed this transmitter was the cause, they should contact County Broadband direct.

121-18/19 To agree as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 12th December 2018

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 12th December 2018 were unanimously agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

122-18/19 Report from the County and Borough Councillors: Report from County Councillor and Ward Councillors, if present.

Cllr Brian Jarvis said he had received the application for funding bird and bat boxes from the Locality Budget. He had also received an application for a defibrillator and asked for confirmation of the location.

Cllr McGarry said he had considered the chip shop at the top of Wood Lane.

Cllr Tolfrey said the garage would take the defibrillator if required.

Signed _____
Cllr J Absalom, Chairman

Cllr McGarry said he would discuss further with the owners of the chip shop. He said the First Responders would monitor all the boxes for the Parish Council, and he would also be arranging more training.

Cllr Jarvis said Cllr Lewis Barber was still in discussion with Colchester Borough Homes over parking in Fiddlers Folley.

There was a discussion regarding the spending of S106 monies and the Clerk said she would seek further clarification on this.

123-18/19 To receive written reports from:

- a) Heaths and Greens

A written report had been circulated.

Mr WInterbourne said the signs had now been put up. He said he would be looking for help in putting up the bird and bat boxes. He said the ditch in Cooks Mill Lane needed clearing and asked if the Parish's contractor could be asked to do this. It was confirmed that Mr Winterbourne could do this. The contractor would be clearing Daisy Green pond this month.

Mr WInterbourne asked about replenishing the supply of road planings. He said he would bring costings to the next Council meeting.

- b) Allotments – no report
- c) Neighbourhood Plan Working Group – no report.

124-18/19 To agree the Parish Council response to planning applications received from Colchester Borough Council and to note decisions made on previous applications

182737 - Orchard Cottage, Seven Star Green, Eight Ash Green Colchester CO6 3QB - Demolition of existing chalet bungalow, garage and out buildings and erection of 2 No. dwellings and double garage - **Object**

The Council notes this application falls outside the village envelope. The Council therefore object as the existing building would be replaced with two dwellings, and this would be contrary to DG2 of the Eight Ash Green Village Design Statement.

The Council would also comment that if the current access is widened as suggested this will encroach on to the village green. The green enjoys rights of protection and CBC should be aware of this when looking at conditions, should permission be granted for this application.

Signed _____
Cllr J Absalom, Chairman

The Council would also ask that a condition of any approval is that any damage to the green is made good on completion of construction.

182751 - Orchard Cottage, Seven Star Green, Eight Ash Green CO6 3QB - Demolition of existing chalet bungalow, garage and out buildings and erection of replacement dwelling and double garage. - **Support**

The Council has no objection to this application.

The Council would also comment that if the current access is widened as suggested this will encroach on to the village green. The green enjoys rights of protection and CBC should be aware of this when looking at conditions, should permission be granted for this application.

The Council would also ask that a condition of any approval is that any damage to the green is made good on completion of construction.

The responses above were agreed unanimously.

Planning Decisions

182498 - Land at Thurgoods Farm, Foxes Lane, Eight Ash Green Colchester CO6 3PS - Proposed siting of a temporary caravan. – *Approve conditional, 6 conditions, 19th December 2018*

182525 - New House Adjacent To Bungalow, Halstead Road, Eight Ash Green Colchester CO6 3PX - Side extension to existing dwelling & provision of an annexe (Resubmission of 172717) – *Permission granted, 8 conditions, 18th December 2018*

182217 - Essex & Suffolk Gliding Club Wormingford Airfield, Fordham Road, Wormingford Colchester - Application for the use of Touring Motor Gliders (TMG). All other existing uses to remain the same. This application is for permanent consent following temporary consent given on Application Ref150972. – *Permission granted, 6 conditions, 14th December 2018*

125-18/19 To confirm the reserves held by the Parish Council

The reserves were confirmed as follows:

General running costs	£15,000
Highways	£10,000
Play area equipment	£5,000
Contingency	£5,000

Signed _____
Cllr J Absalom, Chairman

126-18/19 To agree the 2019/20 precept demand on Colchester Borough Council

Following agreement of the budget at the December meeting, it was agreed that costs to the Parish Council would be higher for 2019/20. The Council agreed to use unallocated reserves to limit the increase in the precept to the residents of the parish, but it was acknowledged that further increases would be likely to be required in future years.

An increase of 5.5% was agreed unanimously, giving an individual Band D property a charge of £49.69 and a precept demand of 32,224.

127-18/19 To consider the problem of litter in the parish resulting from nearby businesses and to agree any action necessary to address this

Cllr Cook said with the increase in fast food outlets on the other side of the A12, the amount of litter had also increased. He said this litter was branded. He said it would be worth writing and asking for assistance in tackling this problem, possibly financial or litterpicking by staff.

The Clerk said she would draft a letter and send to Cllr Cook.

128-18/19 To consider and agree any action necessary to formalise access arrangements for properties on Seven Star Green across Parish Council land.

Cllr Birchall had declared an interest in this item and left the room while it was discussed.

Cllr Cook said this had arisen out of a query from a resident in 2018.

It was agreed that the Clerk would discuss the matter with Cllr Birchall following the meeting, with a view to him canvassing views from the residents concerned. The issue would then be brought back to the Council for appropriate action to be taken.

129-18/19 Accounts & Payments:

- Statement of Accounts to be circulated prior to the meeting
- Approve cheques for signature in accordance with 2018/19 Budget (Invoices Sheet) – to be circulated at the meeting.

Cheques were unanimously approved for signature.

Payee	Reason for Payment	Amount
Various	Staff costs	£651.22

Signed _____
Cllr J Absalom, Chairman

HMRC	PAYE Q3	£354.00
Mr K. Winterbourne	Expenses – petrol	£7.83
Cllr J. Absalom	Expenses – refreshments	£9.35
The Cricketers	Refreshments – Volunteer Day	£140.00
Impactsigns	Heaths – signs	£199.20
	Total	£1,361.60

130-18/19 To receive reports from Councillors

Cllr Wiffen said during a clean-up of Porters Close a problem with dog excrement had been apparent. She asked if solutions to this problem could be investigated.

She said there was a drain cover in Porters Close that was damaged.

Cllr Cook said there were purple bags of rubbish on Seven Star Green that needed to be collected.

Cllr McGarry said he and Cllr Absalom would be meeting someone about gates for the heath the following week.

Cllr Absalom said a letter had been written to Essex Highways had been written requesting a meeting to discuss issues within the parish.

Cllr Wiffen asked about providing bus timetables. The Clerk said if she had details of the bus-stops concerned these could be obtained from Essex County Council.

129-18/19 Date of Next Planned Meeting: Wednesday 13th February 2019, 7.30 p.m. at Eight Ash Green Village Hall, Spring Lane, Eight Ash Green, CO6 3QF.

Signed _____
Cllr J Absalom, Chairman