# **BLACK NOTLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY THE 28TH FEBRUARY 2024 AT 7.30 PM AT THE PAVILION MEETING ROOM AT THE BLACK NOTLEY PLAYING FIELDS, BLACK NOTLEY.

IN THE CHAIR: CLLR. S. PEDDER.

PRESENT: CLLRS. M. FORD, J. SMITH, M. SIMMONS, A. GEORGE, N. FERRIS,

 S. GOLDBERG, A. WOOD.

PARISH CLLR APOLOGIES: -CLLR S. ELDEN-LEE

Apologies received from District Councillors Ricci and Butland.

1614/24 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

Cllr Simmons declared a personal interest in Item 8 and 13 on the agenda regarding Customised Landscape and Interiors.

1615/24 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.

 6 Members of the public present including County Councillor Playle and District Cllr Cunningham. The Chairman asked Cllr Cunningham to obtain clarification as soon as possible from Essex County Council’s Head of Transport to find out if the number 21 bus service is going to stop or not, confusing information has been received from them regarding this bus service. Cllr Ford raised his concerns when he contacted Essex County Council that he was unable to speak to someone who could answer this query regarding the number 21 bus, he is still waiting for a response from his enquiry. A member of the public spoke of her concerns regarding the bus service being stopped for children using interconnecting buses from Braintree to get to college in Chelmsford or Colchester. Concerns also raised regarding the flooding at the bottom of John Ray Gardens / Witham Road Cllr Playle and Cllr Cunnigham have been made aware of this ongoing concern. Another member of the public said that this area has had an ongoing flooding issue for about 60 years.

Cllr Playle arrived at 7.40 pm. The culvert under the road is blocked. Cllr Playle said that Essex County Council are going to jet the drains out under the road in this location. The Clerk advised the resident that minutes of the January meeting will be on the website next week when they have been approved and signed by the Parish Council at tonight’s meeting. Another member of the public spoke reference the gravel extraction consultation. The Chairman advised that this item is on the agenda this evening. A member of the public said he was pleased with the joint magazine with the Church. He mentioned two articles inside not being correct. One was an article put in by the Church and one the Parish Council. Cllr Ford advised of its factuality and from Essex County Council. Cllr Goldberg arrived at 7.45pm.

1616/24 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS.

Cllr Cunningham advised in his report that Braintree District Council budget was set last week. Cllr Playle mentioned in his report that the Minerals Local Plan review consultation is currently out and none are in the Black Notley Parish. He advised that he will confirm the details regarding the Number 21 bus service. He said that Essex County Council have also set their budget. He said that the request to move the Bulford Lane depth gauge to be looked at in more detail. He confirmed that the recycling centre’s booking system will remain in place.

1617/24 MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON THE 24TH JANUARY 2024.

Agreed as a true and accurate record.

Proposed Cllr Simmons Seconded Cllr Ferris Vote Unanimous

1618/24 CLERKS REPORT & SIX MONTH REPORT.

Circulated.

1619/24 HAYESWOOD DEVELOPMENT.

The Clerk advised that she has chased Neil Jones from Braintree District Council and is still

waiting for a reply to arrange a meeting, he advised he has been tied up with a planning appeal

and his colleague has been on annual leave.

1620/24 ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY MEETING - 1st May 2024.

It was agreed to invite UK Power Network, Digigo and a representative from the Community Speedwatch HQ along with the same people as last year. Details to be put in the next edition of the Parish Magazine. Cllr’s Pedder, Ford and the Clerk to start to plan this meeting.

1621/24 PLAYING FIELD –

a) UK Power Network update. All emails circulated from Holmes and Hill surveys currently taking place. The Clerk to meet with Fenn Wright next week.

b) Circulation of the quotations for the Pavilion changing rooms work.

3 quotes had now been received circulated and discussed it was agreed to go with Customised Interiors £3,780 + VAT.

Proposed Cllr George Seconded Cllr Ferris Vote Unanimous

1622/24 ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT POLICY.

Draft recommendation circulated and agreed this to be reviewed annually.

Proposed Cllr Wood Seconded Cllr Smith Vote Unanimous

1623/24 CORRESPONDENCE.

\* Book a Home Safety Visit with Essex County Fire Service. free service for fire safety prevention information regarding this to go into the Parish magazine.

 \* Committee’s and Delegated Powers Courses with the Essex Association of Local Councils.

New course introduced last year. Cllr Wood said it was a useful course that she has done herself.

\* Pest control contract £622 + VAT. The Clerk to compare with other Companies before next year. Agreed to re-new.

Proposed Cllr Wood Seconded Cllr Pedder Vote Unanimous

1624/24 UPDATE FROM THE COMMITTEE’S –

a) Green Spaces update:- Brass plaques for the two copper beach trees planted in memory of Prince Philip and Queen Elizabeth II and the flowering cherry trees to commemorate King Charles III Coronation purchased and will be installed this week on the playing field. 5 tons of sand to be ordered to top up the bee beds in March. Delivery to be arranged one week after clearing the brambles when resources are available.Subject to the outcome of the six-monthly survey of the Oak tree at the playing field, the proposed Hobbit door to be made and installed in the oak tree.

Currently investigating the possibility of a pond or a bog area at the John Ray Millennium Green.

Cllr Simmons and Mr Morris have made and installed two insect houses. Grant for orchard was turned down for Cokers Peace. Another round of funding via Braintree District Council coming up and the Parish Council will apply. If successful Cllr Simmons to visit Cressing Temple Barn’s to learn from their recent fruit planting project and Parish Council to consider an advertising campaign to seek volunteers to assist at the appropriate time. Further areas to wild are being investigated. Cllr Simmons and Mr Morris met with representatives from Essex County Council. The outcome was disappointing as the representatives were not knowledgeable about the areas they are responsible for. Representatives from Essex County Council to review the situation and to contact them. It was suggested to invite villagers to add photographs to Website/Facebook of local wildlife /plants observed in any of the green spaces. Consider running a photographic competition on a quarterly or six-monthly basis with a seasonal theme. Post-meeting note: Cllr Pedder advised that photography competition to be run in conjunction with the monthly changing cover of the revamped Church/Village magazine**.** It may not therefore be appropriate for the Green Spaces Sub-Committee to run quarterly or six-monthly competitions as it could be confusing. It was agreed improved attendance at the meetings as well as supporting the outdoor activities will be essential for the continued success of this group. New membership from non - Parish Councillors should also be encouraged via Website and Facebook.

b) Communications update:-

- Cost of the facebook feed onto the Website £60 + VAT. One of fee. To go onto the agenda again next month.

- Suggestion of a new facebook page. Cllr Goldberg advised that he might have a solution and will update us in one week’s time.

- Circulation of ‘Terms of Reference’ Had been circulated and agreed to accept them.

 Proposed Cllr Ford Seconded Cllr Ferris Vote Unanimous

1625/24 HIGHWAY / PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY ISSUES.

\* Circulation of the ‘data’ from the Speed Sign. Report from Speed watch to be circulated.

The sign is not flashing outside the playing field the Clerk to chase this up with Essex County Council Highways.

1626/24 FINANCE - Circulation of the Finance List.

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| D/D | SSE (street light supply)  | £78.16 |
| D/D | A & J Lighting Solutions Ltd (street light supply)  | £68.22  |
| D/D | EDF Energy (Pavilion) | £40.00  |
| D/D | British Gas Light Business (Pavilion) | £203.36 |
| D/D | BT for Pavilion Office | £40.74 |
| D/D | BT (for Parish Council mobile phone) | £10.80 |
| D/D | Nest (Pensions HW & RG) | £129.51 |
| D/D | Wave (water bill from 15th Nov 23 to 14th Feb 24) | £51.00 |
| B/Trans | Helen Waterfield (salary) | £813.83  |
| B/Trans | Helen Waterfield (mileage £11.03 + elec £30.00, BT Broadband & calls £28.32 + A3 sign for ‘bund’ £66 + Microsoft storage £19.99) | £155.34 |
| B/Trans | Martin Cudlip (salary + 1 hour overtime)  | £524.70  |
| B/Trans | Martin Cudlip (22 miles for January £9.90, bird seed and fat balls £12.48)  | £22.38  |
| B/Trans | Richard Goodman (salary) | £738.32 |
| B/Trans | Playquip Leisure (Cross Rider gym equipment new bearing and new crank set) | £888.36 |
| B/Trans | James Todd & Sons (monthly wages service) | £39.60 |
| B/Trans | The National Allotment Society (membership renewal) | £66.00 |
| B/Trans | Braintree District Council (1/4ly empty of Dog waste bins) | £46.98 |
|  | TOTAL | **£3,917.30** |

Proposed Cllr Ford Seconded Cllr Ferris Vote Unanimous

JOHN RAY MILLENNIUM GREEN PAYMENTS -

50% Payment for Pergola repairs to Customised Landscapes £925.00 + Hedge cutting on the JRMG - £635.00 = £1560.00. Cheque number 000141.

Proposed Cllr Pedder Seconded Cllr Smith Vote Unanimous

1627/24 PLANNING.

**Replacement Minerals Local Plan Review** – 2025 to 2040 Public consultation from 6th February to 19th March 2024. None in Black Notley parish but this may increase the vehicle movements in Black Notley from local quarry’s. Comment to be made. ‘A condition must be made that contracted Lorry Movements from the Sites must use the Major Road Systems and not Local Country Roads when exiting the Sites and continuing their journey’.

**24/00204/TPO** – TPO 25 Wilkinson Grove, Black Notley, Essex. Comment no objection.

**24/00131/HH** Proposed front extension and extension to paving area, 8 Brain Valley Avenue Black Notley, Essex, CM77 8LS. No objection the Parish Council suggest a permeable finish to prevent run off.

1628/24 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY THE 27TH MARCH 2024.

Meeting closed 8.50 pm

CHAIRMAN………………………………………….. DATE …………………………