



Pebmarsh Parish Council



Chairman: Cllr Harry Anderson

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Minutes of the Pebmarsh Annual Parish Assembly Wednesday 25 May 2016

Present:

Cllr Harry Anderson (Chairman)
Cllr Simon Nott
Cllr Jim Holder
Cllr Jackie Tufnell
Cllr Perry Crimmins

District Cllr G Spray
Six members of the public
Philippa Potter, Clerk

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from County Cllr David Finch and District Cllr Chris Siddall.

2. Minutes of the Previous Annual Parish Assembly – held 10 March 2015

The minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held 10 March 2015 were agreed as a true record and signed accordingly.

3. Report from County Councillor David Finch

In Cllr Finch's absence, Cllr Anderson read out highlights from the report, which is attached in full to these minutes.

4. Report from District Councillor Spray and District Councillor Siddall

Cllr Anderson thanked both Cllrs Spray and Siddall for their attendance at Parish Council meetings over the last year and for the help they have given.

Cllr Spray presented her report to the meeting, which is attached in full to these minutes and summarised it as follows:

- Braintree District Council (BDC) has 5 key priorities, the top one being to keep the District clean and tidy. There has been an 83% reduction in litter in Braintree District and a 41% reduction overall in Essex. BDC won the Local Authority of the Year award at the Keep Britain Tidy awards.
- Supporting vulnerable people – a handyman and home inspection service has been introduced to help keep people living in their homes and to prevent falls.
- A less welcome statistic is that Braintree has the highest level of obesity in Essex, especially amongst young people. BDC are promoting healthier living and increased activity – working to help get people moving and doing exercise.

- The Mi Community Fund has come to an end but as of September every District Councillor will be given a pot of £1500 to allocate within their ward to small projects. Details of this scheme will be publicised in the autumn.
- Cllr Spray continues to sit on the BDC Planning Committee. With regard to the Local Plan, the preferred options will be coming out for public consultation over the summer. Once the consultation is completed, the agreed plan will be looked at by the Planning Inspector. The target for homes is very high at over 800 homes per year from now until 2033.

A member of the public asked how the obesity levels are measured. Cllr Spray answered that statistics are gathered from places like the NHS figures and from schools, where children's height and weight are monitored at key moments of school life.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Spray for her report and for her support.

6. Chairman's Report

The Chairman read his report to the meeting, which is attached to these minutes, which can be summarised as follows:

1. Mast
Despite the Parish Council's efforts, this will now not be happening in the village as the government scheme funding has now ceased.
2. Planning: The Parish Council continue to comment on applications in the village and also on the larger BDC consultations such as the allocation of sites for housing within the new Local Plan.
3. Playground: This continues to be an ongoing project with maintenance and represents a large part of Parish Council expenditure every year.
4. Memorial Bench: The bench has now been installed and thanks go to Norman Wiseman for initiating this and then making it possible.
5. Pearsons Close: the S106 criteria has been altered to provide further priority for those with a local connection to the village.
6. Footpaths – there will be two cuts this year, one provided by BDC and a further cut paid for by the Parish Council.
7. Roads: the Parish Council have, for the moment, exhausted the options to curb speeding in the village but will continue to be monitored.

7. John Nott Charity Report – 2015/16

Report attached to minutes, which informed the meeting that £1000 had been distributed through the year. The allotments currently have three vacancies.

8. Village Hall Report

Cllr Anderson read out the report from Chairman Jonathan Nott, which is attached to these minutes.

9. Public Forum

It was requested that the Parish Council agendas and meeting notices go up earlier than they do at present. It was agreed to put these up two weeks before the meetings.

10. Closure

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.