

# PEBMARSH PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Of the meeting held 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021 Online via Zoom

**Present:** Cllr D Ballard (Chair), Cllr J Tuffnell, Cllr M Sharp, Cllr S Smith, Cllr T Donaldson  
Clerk – Mrs Shelley Boydell  
District Councillors – Cllr G Spray

**1.(10/03/2021) Apologies for Absence** – Cllr G Courtauld, Cllr D Finch

**2.(10/03/2021) Declarations of Interest** – Cllr M Sharp re; item 7 a) and 7 b) (non-pecuniary)

**3.(10/03/2021) Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held Online 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

The minutes were agreed to be signed by the Chairman in due course and it was noted that as part of the budget, the clerk's contract was agreed to be increased from 5 to 7 hours per week from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021.

**4.(10/03/2021) District / County Councillors Report**

District Cllr G Spray

Report for Pebmarsh PC March 2021 is attached as Appendix A

**5.(10/03/2021) Clerk's Report** – noted.

**6.(10/03/2021) Public Forum** - A planning query was answered by Cllr G Spray.

**7.(10/03/2021) Current Planning Applications**

- a) Prior approval for the Change of Use of Agricultural Buildings to a flexible use within Shops (Class A1), Financial and Professional Services (Class A2), Restaurants and Cafes (Class A3), Business (Class B1), Storage or Distribution (Class B8), Hotels (Class C1) or Assembly and Leisure (Class D2).

Broomhills Farm Catley Cross Pebmarsh Essex CO9 2PD

Ref. No: 21/00432/COUPA | Received: Mon 08 Feb 2021 | Validated: Mon 08 Feb 2021 |

**AGREED RESPONSE: THE PARISH COUNCIL HAVE NO COMMENT**

- b) Proposed new ground floor timber sash window.

Rafe Hall The Street Pebmarsh Essex CO9 2NS

Ref. No: 21/00438/HH | Received: Mon 08 Feb 2021 | Validated: Mon 08 Feb 2021

**ALL IN AGREEMENT: NO OBJECTIONS**

- c) Proposed Detached Double Garage with Log Store and Home Office Over (Existing shed removed)

Applegate Colne Road Pebmarsh Essex CO9 2NBRef. No: 21/00463/HH | Received: Wed 10 Feb 2021 | Validated: Wed 10 Feb 2021

**ALL IN AGREEMENT: NO OBJECTIONS**

- d) Proposed cartlodge, garden store and extended driveway

Caroline Cross End Pebmarsh Essex CO9 2NU

Ref. No: 21/00592/HH | Received: Fri 19 Feb 2021 | Validated: Fri 19 Feb 2021

**ALL IN AGREEMENT: NO OBJECTIONS**

- e) Proposed replacement single storey rear extension and erection of detached outbuilding

Cooks Cottage Twinstead Road Pebmarsh Essex CO9 2PBRef. No:

21/00550/HH | Received: Tue 16 Feb 2021 | Validated: Tue 16 Feb 2021

**ALL IN AGREEMENT: NO OBJECTIONS**

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## **8.(10/03/2021) Finance**

- a) All in agreement for Cllr M Sharp to obtain quotes for playground essential restorative work and organise the work to be carried out as soon as possible, without the need to bring the quotes to the full Council it was agreed that Cllr M Sharp could permit work up to the value of £1,500.
- b) The application process for the move to Unity Bank and online banking is complete, the Clerk is organising the relevant mandate to be signed and returned along with required supporting documentation.

## **9.(10/03/2021) Items for Next Agenda**

- To discuss ideas including community christmas tree and community events.
- Clarification required from Mr Holliday regarding any proposed restoration work to the bus shelter owned by the Parish Council
- Future of the playground – the way forward, potential grants?
- Review grass cutting areas
- Damage to verges caused by vehicles parking

## **10.(10/03/2021) Dates of Next Meetings**

The Annual Parish Meeting (Parish Assembly) will not be going ahead in 2021 due to the coronavirus restrictions.

- 7.30pm Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 (online via Zoom) – AGM & Parish Council Meeting
- 7.30pm Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021
- 7.30pm Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021
- 7.30pm Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021

**Meeting closed**

**Signed by Chairman Cllr David Ballard**

**Date:**

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## APPENDIX A

### REPORT for PEBMARSH PC MARCH 2021

**Planning:** Section 1 of the Local Plan has been found 'sound' by the Inspector and was approved at Full Council on 22<sup>nd</sup> February. The Public Examination of Section 2 is scheduled for early July, dates to be confirmed. We hope that it will be approved late autumn this year. Section 2 allocates sites within Braintree District for housing, sets local planning policies and will provide protection against speculative development.

**BDC Budget update:** Prudent financial management of BDC's budget over the last few years means that we are in a much better position than many other Local Authorities; some of which are in danger of going bankrupt as a result of the pandemic stresses. BDC has not had to cut any frontline services.

At Full Council on 22<sup>nd</sup> February it was agreed there would be no Council Tax increase for 2021/22 in recognition of the financial impact Covid has had on residents

£35 million in grants has been given out to businesses; we have received very good feedback on the efficiency of the grant support system.

Half a million pounds has been earmarked for future climate change initiatives, including electric charging points, a community tree and bulb planting scheme and investing in cycling as a sustainable method of transport.

Both the Climate Change Strategy and the Cycling Strategy will be discussed by Full Council on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March.

Car parking charges remain frozen; we hope this will help to encourage shoppers back to town and village centres once all retail is allowed to re open.

The Councillors Community Grant Scheme is to continue for another twelve months. This starts from April and, as before, will allocate £1500.00 to each Braintree District Councillor towards local projects.

Finally, great credit goes to BDC staff who have worked tirelessly over the last twelve months to support residents and businesses. Many have worked much longer hours than usual and the added pressure of working from home has impacted on them also. They are a real credit to the District.