

# PEBMARSH PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Of the meeting held 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022

**Present:** Cllr J Tufnell, Cllr M Sharp, Cllr B Nott  
Clerk – Mrs Shelley Boydell  
District Councillors – G Spray  
County Councillor – Cllr P Schwier  
Members of Public - 0

**1.(19/01/2022) Apologies for Absence** – Cllr S Smith Cllr, Cllr G Courtauld

**2.(19/01/2022) Declarations of Interest** – none

**3.(19/01/2022) Councillor Resignation**

The Parish Council accepted the resignation of Cllr T Donaldson and expressed thanks for his work. The Parish Council are beginning the process of filling the vacancy.

**4.(19/01/2022) Minutes of previous Parish Council Meetings**

The minutes were agreed by all and will be signed by the Chairman in due course.

**5.(19/01/2022) District / County Councillors Reports**

Cllr Gabrielle Spray

Budget time – budget gap. 2.68% on council tax which is approx. 10p per week increase on a band D. Will not be cutting back on front line services. A lot of discussion within BDC regarding cllr community grant and whether or not to carry on – unanimous view that it is a good thing and agreed to carry on but it might be lower. Planning – Wethersfield airfield prison proposals – no official planning application yet.

Cllr Peter Schwier

Continues to email updates which clerk circulates and posts on social media. Community Challenge and Community Action Fund both available. Public rights of way – issues with cross field obstruction, assistance with Essex ramblers to enable better understanding – reduced by 30% in last year. Good feedback re free transport to get COVID-19 vaccine. 200,000 lateral flow tests distributed from libraries. Council tax - 2% increase in core council tax, 1 % in adult social care precept (£987 million) + 1.5% from previous year. Increase of £1.16 per week band D. COVID makes us realise how important caring for family and health is. Enormous cost pressures. Continuation of warm homes grant for low income households. Solar panels up to 30% discounts and batteries – for residents plus small and medium enterprises.

**6.(19/01/2022) Clerk's Report** – noted with comment that Braintree District might be able to help with streetlight ownership or other local clerks.

**7.(19/01/2022) Public Forum**

No public present.

**8.(19/01/2022) Parish Upkeep & Village Matters**

- a) Levitts Corner & HGVs – discussion including District Cllr explaining that unfortunately preventing HGVs down this one road is not a practical solution and would not be supported by the County Councillor; the reason is that traffic would be sent on a diversion causing a longer route for HGVs and increased traffic on other small roads.
- b) Letters from Strutt & Parker regarding increase in Glebe Land rent – PC discussed letters and Chairman will be looking further into this.
- c) No changes to make to Open Spaces Action Plan 2022.
- d) Not applicable due to postponement of initial meeting date.

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- e) Cllr Sharp is currently waiting for a price for playground gate and will also obtain quotes for work required on apparatus with a view to applying for grants when available.
- f) No new developments regarding proposed mast site.
- g) Chairman proposes to contact Pebmarsh website, Parish Magazine and to post on social media regarding the damaged verges and overgrown hedges in the village, it was suggested to ask that residents adjacent to hedges to trim them, and residents adjacent to damaged verges to help to keep vehicles off of the damaged areas. All in agreement.
- h) Cllr Sharp spoken with Jonathan Nott re: discussing the Nott Family Trust and Village Hall at a Parish Council Meeting – PC agreed that the best time for this would be during the Parish Assembly on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022.
- i) PC discussed current dog waste bins and confirmed that Braintree District Council will need to approve any new bins and will only do this if there is significant demand e.g. overflowing bins or excess littering. Cllr Nott agreed to monitor the dog bins in Pebmarsh
- j) PC agreed to replace 2 salt bins (one by village hall and one at Clay Hills) Cllr Sharp has had salt delivered and will distribute as appropriate and ensure that bins are kept full.
- k) Annual Parish Assembly – guest speakers suggested as Village Hall Committee, Pebmarsh Community Pub, Nott Family Trust, John Nott Charity, Friends of Pebmarsh Church. It was noted that agenda and any advertisements to go up for this event within the required timeframe.

## 9.(19/01/2022) Current Planning Applications

- a) **Erection of new double garage and extension of existing driveway.**  
Ref. No: 21/03320/HH | Received: Mon 08 Nov 2021 | Comment Expiry: 08/12/2021  
**No comment as already granted**
- b) **Outline planning permission with all matters reserved apart from access for the erection of 2 No. 3 bedroom semi-detached dwellings.**  
Ref. No: 21/036160/OUT | Received: Mon 13 Dec 2021 | Comment Expiry: 20/01/2020  
**Parish Council has no objection to the development, however, there are concerns over access due to restricted visibility.**

## 10.(19/01/2022) Finance

- a) Separate finance report noted with a comment to check the electricity bill.
- b) Precept demand agreed at £12,402. Also agreed to move approx. £100 savings from Natwest Savings Account to Unity Bank Current Account. PC agreed to pay Clerk £10 per month to use own PC and £5 per month to use own printer, rather than investing in a new computer and new printer (which would have been a considerably higher cost). Note to chase school for car park donation as not yet received.
- c) The Parish Council unanimously agreed to add Cllr B Nott as a bank signatory.

## 11.(19/01/2022) Delegated Powers

Parish Council unanimously agreed the delegation of Council decisions to the Clerk, after confirmation from a minimum of 3 councillors, during any period of restricted activity declared by the Government in respect of the Covid-19 virus. Such delegation is to enable the Council to fulfil its responsibilities to its residents.

## 12.(19/01/2022) Items for Next Agenda – none

## 13.(19/01/2022) Dates of Next Meetings

- 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022 Parish Council Meeting followed by Annual Parish Assembly)
- 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022 (Annual General Meeting followed by Parish Council Meeting)
- 14<sup>th</sup> September 2022 (Parish Council Meeting)

**Meeting closed 21:11**

**Signed by Chairman Cllr Jackie Tufnell**

**Date:**