

# PEBMARSH PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Of the meeting held 29<sup>th</sup> May 2024

**Present:** Cllr M Sharp, Cllr B Nott, Cllr L Darroux  
Clerk – Mrs Shelley Boydell  
District Councillors – Cllr G Courtauld  
County Councillor – none  
Members of Public – none

## MINUTES

**1.(25/07/2024) Apologies for Absence** – Cllr G Coutauld, Cllr G Spray, C P Schwier

**2.(25/07/2024) Declarations of Interest** – Cllr B Nott – Haul Road

**3.(25/07/2024) Minutes of previous Parish Council Meetings**  
The minutes were agreed by all and will be signed by the Chairman in due course.

**4.(25/07/2024) District / County Councillors Reports**  
Gabrielle Spray – report circulated and noted (attached)

**5.(25/07/2024) Clerk's Report** – noted

**6.(25/07/2024) Public Forum** – no public present

**7.(25/07/2024) Parish Upkeep & Village Matters**

- a) Playground – Cllr L Darroux has been in touch with some playground providers to obtain quotes, the groundwork, levelling of ground plus playground items is going to cost an estimated maximum of £85,000.  
Part of the fence has fallen / been pushed down, the broken part has been removed due to safety, after carrying out a risk assessment, the PC has agreed to remove the rest of the fence to avoid further safety risks. The fence will be replaced once the work on the playground has been completed.  
**ACTION: Cllr L Darroux to continue to obtain quotes**  
**ACTION: Clerk to contact other Parish Councils to find out suppliers, process and funding used.**  
**ACTION: Cllr M Sharp to remove remaining wooded fence with the help of other councillors if required.**
- b) Application for 20mph limit – Draft letter to Cllr P Schwier was agreed with changes suggested. **ACTION – Clerk to update and send letter**
- c) No update on Haul Road
- d) Village Hall car park – An informal meeting was held with the school regarding the safety issues surrounding parents and pupils using the main vehicle entrance to the car park to get to and from the school. Today the PC agreed that the side gate should be used and a connecting path should be created. **ACTION: Chairman to write to school confirming the decision of the Parish Council.**  
The entrance of the car park requires tarmac, The Village Hall Management Committee are to obtain quotes for this and are invited to the next Parish Council meeting to discuss.  
**ACTION: Clerk to Write to VHMC to ask to get quotes for tarmac on the entrance of the car park and matting to create an extended car park – also invite to next meeting to discuss.**
- e) PC agree village sign requires repointing. **ACTION: Clerk to post on Facebook to ask residents to quote for this work, PC will agree quote via email to enable work to be carried out ASAP.**

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- f) Defibrillators – The process for the new defibrillator adjacent to the shop is to call 999, the code and simple instructions will then be given. Clearer signage was agreed and Cllr J Rumsey will organise this and also ensure that the original defibrillator is on the central 999 system. **ACTION: Cllr J Rumsey to organise clearer signage for new defibrillator and also add the original defibrillator to the central 999 system.**

First aid training was discussed to go along side the use of the defibrillators, the PC agreed this would be offered to the village, Cllr J Rumsey kindly agreed to fund this training.

**ACTION: Clerk contact training providers for quotes to be agreed via email, Clerk to then advertise and organise the training.**

- g) Skate park sign – Clerk to contact Play Inspection Company to confirm the requirements for the sign. **ACTION: Clerk to contact Play Inspection Company to confirm the requirements for the sign and reprint playground sign with any changes to be agreed via email. Clerk to obtain samples of noticeboards to be used once new playground is complete.**

## 8.(25/07/2024) Finance

- a) *finance report noted*
- b) *Cllr L Darroux signed paperwork to become signatory on the bank.*
- c) *Glebe Land – PC discussed the possibility of purchasing the Glebe Land. **ACTION: Clerk to looking into funding, including the levelling up fund for a community asset.***
- d) *PC agreed to new policies: communication policy, grievance policy, equality and diversity policy & disciplinary policy. **ACTION: Clerk to prepare policies for agreement at next meeting.***
- e) *PC reviewed and agreed no changes Emergency Plan. **ACTION: Clerk update Emergency Plan.***
- f) *PC to Review Governance Documents-Code of Conduct, Data Protection Policy, Subject Access Request Policy, Internal Controls Policy, Retention of Documents Policy via email. **ACTION: Clerk to organise the reviews to be agreed via email and for updated policies to go onto website.***
- g) *Clerk's appraisal to be at the end of the September meeting but going forward it will be at the end of each July meeting. **ACTION: Clerk to prepare documentation to facilitate appraisal.***

## 9.(25/07/2024) Items for Next Agenda

*Clerk's Appraisal*

*Village Hall Underlease Agreement – invite VHMC (Kelly) to meeting*

*Review Councillor Individual Roles*

*Review Privacy Policy*

*Update on Village Sign*

*Update on first aid training*

## 10.(25/07/2024) Dates of Next Meetings

11<sup>th</sup> September 2024 Parish Council Meeting

4<sup>th</sup> December 2024 Parish Council Meeting

Meeting closed 20:56

Signed by Chairman Cllr Michael Sharp

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## **REPORT FOR THE COLNES PARISH COUNCILS - JULY 2024**

Following six weeks campaigning for the General Election, and the suspension of many BDC meetings, normal business has now resumed!

### **LOCAL PLAN**

Work on the refresh of Braintree Council's Local Plan continues. Over 300 sites have been submitted as part of the Call for Sites process and Officers from the Planning and Policy teams are currently conducting site visits and collating the necessary information.

All the sites will be subject to examination by the Local Plan sub Committee, chaired by me, with meetings set to take place in September and October. At those meetings, the Committee will decide which sites are appropriate to be included in the updated Local Plan. This will be followed by a 6-week public consultation period in November / December during which time, consultees and residents will have the opportunity to comment on the choice of sites.

There will be a further round of consultation in the Spring of 2025 with the Local Plan being submitted to the Planning Inspectorate by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

### **PLANNING REFORMS**

The new Government appears to have hit the ground running with the speech made by the Chancellor, Rachel Reeves, last week indicating changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), a push for housebuilding and a drive for growth and infrastructure. I largely welcome this direction of travel although we won't know the details until the NPPF consultation paper is published at the end of this month. A slight concern is the message around onshore energy schemes and what this might mean for National Grid's Norwich-Tilbury scheme which proposes miles of new pylons crossing the East Anglian countryside and impacting on Braintree District. The Council's position on this at the moment is that we don't feel that NG are giving sufficient consideration to running cables offshore as an alternative to pylons. This position is supported by other Councils and MPs across the region. Given the Government's intention to support onshore schemes, we will have to see how this develops going forward.

With best wishes

Gabrielle Spray, The Colnes Ward