

Fyfield Parish Council Draft Minutes

Minutes of the meeting of Fyfield Parish Council held on Monday 4th March 2024 at Fyfield Village Hall, Houchin Drive, Fyfield.

Present: D Webster (Chairing), Councillors S Mead, T Wadey, L Webster

In attendance:

6 members of the public (MoP), Christopher Davy (until 8pm) District Councillor Balcombe

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| 23.130 | Apologies for Absence To receive and approve apologies for absence Councillor Saward. |
| 23.130 | Ride London <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sunday 26th May, signed up for 3 more years. Route similar to last year. £1.75m is donated for sporting purposes. Online to find information about how to access funds.• Community Access Plan to ensure that residents can get in and out if they need to.• Stewarding has been looked at, and they will now be briefed better.• Link for local person to stand with chief steward in Fyfield to make decisions on who can go in and out.• Carers and healthcare providers have access to the plan, and blue lights take priority.• Cyclists will be passing through Fyfield between 7:30 and 12:30. The road will re-open at 13:30 latest.• Anyone who has any travel provisions need to contact Christopher Davy (details available from Clerk). Email is the best means.• There is now a crossing by the shop.• Stewards have been briefed to try and keep noise to a minimum early in the morning.• Pot holes – the route has been surveyed since July. Any potholes - report to Christopher using What3Words. If on the route and reported, it will get escalated up the list to get repaired before 26 May.• All funding was taken up in 2023. There is a fund to enhance cycling in Fyfield, or for an event during the race. There are various other funds such as Active Essex.• The A414 will be closed for most of the day.• A MoP asked about behaviour of riders and it was reiterated that all participants are briefed to treat the area with respect. One of the ideas of the event is to bring people to Essex who may not have visited the area before.• Clear Up follows the last cyclists through so that by the time the road is re-opened, it should all be clear.• The stewards do not deal with security, but the course is monitored and police can be there if needed.• KP to put details on Grapevine. |

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| 23.131 | <p>Declaration of Interests & New Councillor To receive Councillor’s declaration of interests and dispensations concerning items on the agenda</p> <p>No declarations of interest.</p> |
| 23.132 | <p>Approval of the Minutes of Meeting held 5 February 2024</p> <p>The minutes of the Fyfield Parish Council meeting held on 5th February 2024 were approved as an accurate record.</p> |
| 23.133 | <p>Public Participation Session To receive questions and statements from members of the public with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest</p> <p>A MoP asked about the feedback concerning Strettons. KP reported on the reply from Ian Hadley stating that the developers have been asked to make the dormer windows glazed glass. The decision as to whether the change is non material is at the planners discretion.</p> <p>The potholes on the main road have been reported and have now been escalated to an emergency. It is hoped that it will be mended in the next 24 hours.</p> <p>A MoP raised the issue of the ‘Liable to Flooding’ signs saying that they should be removed as highways are responsible for the flooding in the first place. No work has been done to keep pipes clear. Councillor D Webster to contact Tom Cunningham head of highways, to discuss this and ask what is to be done.</p> <p>It was questioned whether these signs could implicate house insurance.</p> |
| 23.134 | <p>Clerk’s Report</p> <p>Playground Inspection W/e 22 March. Once the inspector gets onto site, he will need to check our weekly maintenance and health and safety checks, for the previous 6 weeks. Cllr Saward to ensure all records up to date before this date.</p> <p>Gates to churchyard on Cannons Lane This has been looked at by the Shed Club, and they will level them up and put a new catch at the top.</p> <p>Twenty’s Plenty and speed watch Cllr Mead fed back on recent mtg. Meeting was about getting more people involved and lobbying local villages to sign up. District Councillor Balcombe stated that having the village gates would help as 30MPH signs could then go on these. Parish Council to get the re-instatement of the gates onto the EFDC agenda. It may be that the Parish Council needs to fund this. Add to next meeting to formally vote on the gates and speed limits in the village.</p> <p>Remembrance wall/path Les Hall has offered help to build this or lay path as required.</p> |

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| | <p>Parish and Town Council Elections These will take place on 4 May. Councillors were reminded that they need to fill in the relevant forms and deliver them back to EFDC before the deadline.</p> <p>Byway 21 – Rose Cottage to Norwood End This has been closed and will remain so for several months whilst it is repaired.</p> <p>Rural Affordable Housing Hastoe Housing and the Rural Community Council of Essex would be willing to do a housing needs survey for Fyfield if felt there was a need. They are holding an open event in Willingale on 27 March about local housing.</p> | | | |
| 23.135 | <p>County Councillor, District Councillor and other representatives reports.</p> <p>Report was sent in from PC Warren Shepherd and read at the meeting.</p> | | | |
| 23.136 | <p>Finance a) To consider and approve invoices for payment</p> <p>RECEIVED List of invoices submitted in February 2024 that required payment by the Parish Council.</p> | | | |
| Ref No | BACS Ref | Payee | Detail | Amount |
| 14 24 | 4658 | TBS Hygiene | Emptying bins | £107.04 |
| 15 24 | 21-9301 | BB Groundscare | Sports Field Maintenance | £647.50 |
| 16 24 | | K Perry | Salary February | £459.48 |
| 17 24 | DD | Xero | Monthly subscription | £24.00 |
| 18 24 | | Village Hall | Hire of room 4/3 | £14.03 |
| 19 24 | | Paul Norris | Churchyard Maintenance | £160.00 |
| <p>Agreed - List of invoices were authorised (approved unanimously).</p> | | | | |
| 23.137 | <p>Burial Ground</p> <p>a) Cllr L Webster reported that it has been a busy month. Mr Eames' ashes to be added to current grave. New headstone to be arranged. Mrs Hum to be buried with her parents. Malcolm Bretton – not yet arranged. Mary Ellis buried next to her husband. David Lewellyn Jones memorial this week.</p> <p>Councillor Wadey suggested all forms be accessible on the website. To be added to next agenda – full review of prices and procedure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No accounting in regulations for ashes to be added to graves. | | | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarify what constitutes a resident, and provision made for longtime residents who were not residents at time of death and other extenuating circumstances. <p>b) Churchyard schedule of works and biodiversity. Lesley Wallis Churchwarden would like to keep areas wild. Hedgerow to potentially be replaced – look into funding/grants for this.</p> |
| 23.138 | <p>Sports Field & Village Hall</p> <p>a) Sports field hire bookings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village Hall have band on 22 June and want to use the field. Discussion about payment for the field. It was decided that we need to hire it to them to cover our insurance. • Gigaclear coming on Thursday 7th March to connect the fibre from the road to the village hall. |
| 23.139 | <p>Planning</p> <p>To consider</p> <p>EPF/0261/24 Wethers, Willingale Road, Fyfield, Ongar, CM5 0SD Retrospective Application for the retention of a Greenhouse</p> <p>EPF/0271/24 Wethers, Willingale Road, Fyfield, Ongar, CM5 0SD Retrospective Application for the retention of a garden shed</p> <p>– no objections.</p> |
| 23.140 | <p>Repairs to Assets</p> <p>a) Noticeboard – to be done in next month.</p> <p>b) Village Sign repair – this is on-going, and is expected to be end of summer.</p> |
| 23.141 | <p>Communication and Promotion</p> <p>Discussion about the use of the phone box. To look into use for defibrillator at next meeting.</p> <p>Ride London – give Christopher Daly’s details for those that want to contact him.</p> |
| 23.142 | <p>Date of the next Parish Council meeting</p> <p>To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meeting 8 April 2024.</p> |

The meeting closed at 20.57.

Signed: -----

Dated -----