

SILVER END PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5th May 2021, immediately following the APCM. The meeting was held virtually, via Zoom, and was made available to the public.

0521/FC1632 **Present:** Cllr Bugg (Chair) Cllr Ashford, Cllr Bailey, Cllr Hopkins, Cllr McDonald, Cllr Galley, Mrs Temple (Clerk) and Cllr Abbott (County and District Councillor.) All attendees were present via Zoom.

No members of the public requested attendance.

Apologies for absence: Cllr Bob Wright and Cllr Holmes.

Absent without apologies: Cllr Waine and Cllr Hughes.

0521/FC1633 **Declarations of Interest** by Members in respect of any items on the agenda.

None given.

0521/FC1634 **Members of the public** are given an opportunity to speak at this point, however none were present.

0521/FC1635 **Minutes of the last Full Council Meeting** were agreed and will be signed by the Chair as a true record of the meeting, at the next available opportunity.

0521/FC1636 **District/County Councillors Report**

Cllr Abbott reported:

- Mark Garnham at Eastlight is prepared to gift area behind Bristol Court to the village, for tree planting.
- Suggest putting 3 Parishes meeting back to end of June. All agreed the **Clerk** should propose a new date of 28th June.
- Disappointed that top 50 potholes have not been by ECC – he has asked them to finish them off, as promised.
- Several complaints about the condition of footways off Daniel Way – he is chasing ECC.
- Waste Site Liaison Meeting – building due to start this summer but on the incinerator only.
- Local Plan – examination due in July.
- Concern about the speed of cars approaching the village from Rivenhall end. When roadworks are removed it could be worse.
- Planning delegation taken effect at BDC. If SEPC make objection it won't necessarily go to committee.
- LHP met at end of March, Silver End came out well.
- Minerals plan review – recommended to include site A6, as it includes the historic buildings. Unanimously agreed by BDC and has now gone to ECC.

The Chair opened the floor to questions.

Cllr Ashford:

- Any news on moving 30mph limits on Boars Tye Road? Cllr Abbott replied that ECC are very resistant. He will revisit after elections.
- Any information on Sanctuary cutting down trees at site entrance? Cllr Abbott stated that there appears no interest at BDC, he asked for TPOs but no success.
- Redrow's illegal signs, by Slaughterhouse, have blown down into the road and could cause damage. Cllr Abbott will ask Redrow to remove them.

No further questions. Cllr Abbott was thanked for his attendance and his report.

0521/FC1637 **Silver End Community Hub**

The Clerk reported:

Discussions have been taking place with the Witham Community Hub (WCH) based on the issue that SEPC are facing regarding storing food. WCH have suggested an initial plan that primarily aims to evidence that a Hub is needed in Silver End.

Those needing support apply via the WCH website or a form provided by them if they do not have access to the internet. If the applicant is in Silver End they can apply to collect a bag of basics plus a £10 butchers voucher. In time this could increase to holding items in a fridge/freezer and work with the Co-op for left over produce like bread and veg/fruit. Applicants will be supported for 4 weeks and need to acknowledge that they will be referred to Essex Wellbeing Service to ensure that all their needs are met and that they do not become reliant on the service. On their first visit they need to bring ID and proof that they are on Incapacity Benefit/Job Seekers Allowance. Records need to be kept at our end. Could all operate either from the office whereby they collect from the office door or by delivering the bags to people's houses. **Clerk and Cllr Holmes** to visit on Monday to run through everything at some time between 9-2.15pm.

Cllr Ashford commented that whilst he supports the idea, he is worried about IT access and the time it takes to get benefits. We might miss the time were people really need to sustain themselves.

Cllr Bailey feels this that the proposal is the best way to prove that there is a need in Silver End and appreciates that people may slip through the net but that it would be worth using this established route.

Cllr Ashford suggested a vote in principle, making amendments via email.

Cllr Bugg proposed that we start with this suggestion from WCH and see how it develops. Cllr Ashford acted as second. No further proposals so taken to a vote. Vote: all in favour.

0521/FC1638 **Employment Committee: Litter Picker/Amenities Staff Member Vacancy**

The Clerk reported that there had been three applicants, two from the village invited for interview on 12th May at 7 and 7.30pm. All agreed that the Chair and Vice Chair should make the most suitable appointment, to start working as soon as possible.

0521/FC1639 **3 Parishes Meeting**

As discussed earlier in the meeting, the 3 Parishes Meeting, on 24th May, hosted by SEPC, should be moved. The **Clerk** will suggest the 28th of June to the Clerks of both Rivenhall and Cressing.

0521/FC1640 **Planning Application Comments agreed by email under 0320/EO2**

Appendix 1. Minuted and agreed.

0521/FC1641 **Finance**

Payments made under 0320/EO2

E-on	229.43	Pension	507.01
Petty cash	27.31	HMRC	1796.07
Eon	198.72	E-on	647.30
M/Gdns contract	462.00	Office	40.00
E-on	158.93	M/Gdns Contract	462.00
M/Gdns contract	252.00	Pension	507.01
Pension	507.01	Office	40.00
Office	40.00	Office	40.00
Petty cash	15.23	Petty cash	13,72

Audit 20/21

It was agreed that Sections 1 & 2 of the Audit should be signed under the following minutes:

Section One – 0521/FC1641(i)

Section Two – 0521/FC1641 (ii)

The Clerk confirmed that the internal audit was booked with the Internal Auditor, Greta Tew, on the 24th May.

In addition the Clerk reported on a meeting, held in the Memorial Gardens, with Rick Sargent from BDC. He stated his pleasure that Mr Bailey is working to a very high standard and the quality of work in SEPC's section of the park has improved hugely. He is very happy to continue to work with this contractor on a yearly contract and is positive about the future. Cllr Bailey was asked to put an inventory together of the plants that he would like to see replaced and this can be put to BDC for their consideration. Cllr Ashford added that there is money in the Open Spaces budget and matched funding maybe a possibility.

Cllr McDonald wanted his thanks to Cllr Galley minuted, for his hard work and dedication over all of his years as Chair.

Cllr Bailey will speak to the Clerk for a full debrief following the meeting with BDC regarding the Memorial Gardens.

Assuming lockdown is released to the point that an SEPC meeting can be held inside, the next Full Council Meeting will take place on Wednesday 14th July.

There being no further matters to discuss the Chair called the meeting to a close at 20.26 pm.

Appendix 1:

Planning comments sent to BDC, as agreed by email under minute 0320/EO2:

Planning Application No: 21/00827/HH 46 Silver Street

First floor rear extension

Objection: multiple documents are missing. A legitimate response can not be made until they are made available.

Planning Application: 21/00570/HH 41 Silver Street

Demolition of existing garage and rebuild of single storey detached garage

Objection: in contravention of current conservation guidelines

Planning Applications: 21/00850/OUT Land West of Boars Tye Road

Outline permission for up to 94 dwellings & new landscaping, open space, access, land for allotments and associated infrastructure

Objections:

- Silver End is becoming an urban suburb of Braintree and has had far more than its fair share of new development, whilst the brown field factory site remains derelict,
- The absence of a valid BDC Local Plan has allowed developers to build on greenfield sites of good agricultural land.
- The local infra structure cannot cope efficiently with the current approved developments, particularly the Doctors surgery. (The developers have offered £10,000 to help if the development goes ahead, but this will have little impact based on the amount that will be needed to expand.)
- The mains water pressure is currently only one decimal point above the minimum. A new main was installed but there is no noticeable increase in pressure.
- Local roads cannot cope with the increase in traffic.
- Schools, both primary and secondary, are virtually full. As are pre-schools. It is unreasonable to expect primary age children (4 -11) to travel miles to Primary School. New developments in Silver End state primary age children can travel to Crossing if Silver End is full and applications in Crossing state that their children can travel to Silver End. It will take no time for them both to become full.
- The character of the original village is being swamped by new developments that have little or no relationship with the design and layout of the original.
- The proposed solitary access to the site is at the very point of a fatal accident approx. 22 years ago. A vehicle was leaving 3 Rolphs Cottages, directly opposite the proposed development. 2 years later there was a second fatal accident 20 yards down Boars Tye Road, as a vehicle entered 1 Rolphs Cottages. It is feared that a development of this size (equivalent to both Wood Grove and Francis Gate combined.) would necessitate so many vehicle movements on and off the development, that it would dramatically increase the chance of further accidents. This is especially likely as the entrance falls significantly before the 30mph limit, only just inside the 40mph limit. This is further compounded by the current unenforceable repeater 30mph signs that have been in place since completion of the Francis Gate development. Unfortunately, the application's Transport Assessment review Vol 1 (Section 2.8.1) only takes data during a 5 year period, 01/02/2016 to 31/01/2021, so it doesn't mention any serious/fatal accidents. In the Stage 1 Safety Audit, the Audit Team only visited the site once and that was on 15/06/20 between 10.00am and 11.00am, just when the traffic flow is low. Remembering of course that this date fell during a pandemic lockdown, when traffic movement was heavily reduced. Section 2.1.3 in this document also states, "At present, the road in question is subject to a 40mph speed limit, although observed speeds appeared to be higher than the posted limit". The prospect of between approx. 150 – 200 vehicles accessing/egressing from the completed site in any one day, suggests that there is a very real possibility of a serious accident occurring.
- The sewage system at Francis Gate fails repeatedly, causing noise and odour nuisance, suggesting a lack of capacity. A further 100 dwellings would surely over stretch it.
- Why is all land in this district stated as either low or medium quality land even if it is Grade 2? From an environmental aspect, Grade 2 farmland is being destroyed by greed from various sectors putting at risk the environment and causing the decrease of wildlife populations of birds, butterflies and small animals. Due to an increase in the country's population, we will be requiring all this valuable cereal land to help feed the nation.
- According to GEO's Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment it will take 10 years to just exceed the existing biodiversity units by 0.28 and another 17 years for these units to reach the proposed limit (a 14% increase.)
- There are other factors such as quality of life and the devaluation of property, especially those who live adjacent to the proposed development, who have probably worked hard to achieve a good level of living just for it to be destroyed by the greed of farmers, developers and builders!!

Planning Application: 21/01228/TPOCON

Land adj. 14 Crittall Close

Tree works

Objection: No reason is given as to why they wish to fell

