



Minutes of a meeting of the FULL COUNCIL Held on 22nd April 2021 via Zoom

70/21 Those present and apologies for absence

Chairman Cllr Piggott
Councillors Battersby, Bell, Birch, Cole, Feetham, Mendoza, Mills, Seffens, Vaz. Cllr Shami from minute 73/21.
Also present The Locum Clerk, Office Manager, Admin Assistant three members of the public.
Not present Cllr Freeman.

Resolved. Apologies were accepted from Cllr Reynolds, Proposed Cllr Birch, seconded Cllr Cole and carried with two abstentions.

71/21 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

There were declarations of interest from Cllr Birch for item 79/21 as he knows the family, and 83/21 as he is an occasional paying guest of music club. Cllrs Cole and Feetham declared an interest for item 81/21 as trustees of the Charity.

72/21 Public participation

For the convenience of attendees, agenda items 82/21 and 85/21 were considered at this point.

73/21 Correspondence

Noise complaint.

Further correspondence confirmed that the complaint was about the overall behaviour of the residents and the lack of a cohesive approach from the different departments of the enforcing authority. The District Council confirmed that the work was made more difficult because the staff are dispersed during refurbishment. The Town Council will see if there is there something that can be done to help co-ordinate the response. The Clerk was asked to check the records about the conservation area with a view to extending it to cover the remaining buildings in Castle Street.

The fly posting correspondence has been forwarded to the District Council as the enforcing authority.

The correspondence on authorising cross-hatching traffic restrictions by fire station has been forwarded to the Highways Authority with an offer of support from the Town Council.

Play equipment.

The complainant was informed of the major upgrade at St Peters Road play area and of the several minor improvements to the other play areas. However, it was agreed that more should be done to improve the other areas, and money would be allocated to the work in the coming year.

74/21 Consultations

The continuation of remote meeting legislation consultation was noted.

75/21 Reports from District and County Councillors

Cllr Keska reported that the Town Centre Project Manager has been appointed but not yet taken up their post.

76/21 To agree the Full Council meeting minutes of 18th March 2021

Resolved. The minutes of Full Council Meeting held on are approved as a true record. Proposed Cllr Shukri seconded Cllr Piggott and carried unanimously.

77/21 Finance Reporting.

a. The list of all payments to the end of March 2021 was noted.

b. The budgetary information on all accounts was noted.

Resolved. The Council notes the budgetary information for March and confirms that the account balance of £29,622.63 agrees with the reconciliation. Proposed Cllr Piggott seconded Cllr Mendoza and carried unanimously.

78/21 To note the end of remote meeting powers and the resumption of face-to-face meetings from 7th May. To consider the venue and format of future meetings.

Resolved. The Council will hold the Annual Council Meeting by Zoom on 6th May 2021. Proposed Cllr Piggott seconded Cllr Battersby and carried unanimously.

79/21 To consider an appeal against non-resident cemetery fees.

An ex-resident of the neighbouring parish of High Ongar asked the Council to apply the parishioner's discount to their interment fee. As the reduced fee is in place to recognise the contribution that residents make in the precept payments, it was not though fair to apply this discount to non-residents who were not contributing.

Resolved. As the appellant is not a resident, the appeal is refused. Proposed Cllr Piggott seconded Cllr Cole and carried with one abstention due to declared interest.

80/21 To consider a request for use of Recreation Ground for exercise classes.

The decision will be deferred pending more information.

81/21 To consider granting landlord's consent for a balustrade at the Jubilee Park Pavilion.

The tenants have requested permission install a 900 mm balustrade around the outside patio area to channel foot traffic and prevent mess and damage.

Resolved. The application is approved. Proposed Cllr Piggott seconded Cllr Seffen and carried with two abstentions due to declared interest.

82/21 To consider a grant request for 3food4U container to be sited at Jubilee Park.

(Moved to 71/21 to permit public participation.)

The council received a verbal report from Pesh Kapasiawala outlining the methods 3food4u uses to collect surplus food and supply it to those who need short-term support relief. Their current need for short-term storage can be met by a shipping container which would be installed at Jubilee Park. The Clerk has applied for planning permission exemption under Part 12 Class A of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995.

Resolved. The Council approves expenditure of up to £2,000 toward the purchase and installation of a shipping container at Jubilee Park pending planning permission. Proposed Cllr Birch seconded Cllr Cole and carried unanimously.

83/21 To consider a grant request for Ongar Music Club.

Resolved. The council approves a grant application of £1,000. Proposed Cllr Battersby seconded Cllr Bell and carried with one abstention due to declared interest.

84/21 Meeting with Town Regeneration Officer.

See District Councillor's report.

85/21 Schemes to be considered for section 106 money.

(Moved to 71/21 to permit public participation.)

Mary Dadd reminded the Council that several years ago, local authorities were asked about their views on S106 schemes prior to the establishment of the local plan. The Neighbourhood Plan and the Town Council response laid out the priorities for S106. The following points were noted,

- S106 agreements are set by the Local Planning Authority (LPA), as would be any changes to developer contributions in schemes that replaced S106.
- S106 and similar agreements are decided between developer and LPA before a formal planning application is made.
- The priorities are essential infrastructure such as 40% affordable Housing, any highway requirements, any education, and health requirements.
- Small developments (as proposed in Ongar) will not enable much more except Locally Equipped Area for Play, Local Areas for Play and Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play, although up to five sites can contribute to a larger community facility or amenity
- Epping Forest District Council consulted the Town Council years ago for its suggestions. They are incorporated in the Local Plan Infrastructure Delivery Programme (IDP) available on the District Council's website
- There is a large funding gap in providing everything in the IDP, acknowledged by EFDC
- Following surveys, Ongar Neighbourhood Plan (ONP) prioritised the community facilities and amenities Ongar wants from the lists within EFDC IDP (i.e. what s106 or other developer money should be spent on in Ongar)

Suggestions for funding an extension to the cemetery and provision of bus parking sites were discussed but would be unlikely to attract S106 funding.

The Clerk was asked to write to Epping Forest District Council officers Andrew Marks, Nigel Richardson and Sean Scrutton with a request further consultation.

86/21 Representation on Broadband service to Ongar.

The Council noted that broadband coverage is uneven, with some areas of extremely poor bandwidth. Residents will be encouraged to write to the Member of Parliament if they are dissatisfied with their internet connection.

87/21 To receive an update on the Neighbourhood Plan.

No update this month.

88/21 To receive any updates on the Regenerate Ongar project.

No update this month.

89/21 The minutes of the 6th March Planning and Environmental Committee were noted

90/21 **Climate Change working party update.**

The working party is establishing contacts and reviewing previous work.

91/21 **To receive update from projects and actions working group.**

The group will be refocussed, and a meeting arranged.

92/21 **Items for next agenda.**

Exercise classes at Rec Ground.

Conservation area at castle street.

Renovation of recreation ground play area.