

Ongar

Town Council



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**Minutes of the FULL COUNCIL meeting
Held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, BANSONS, BANSONS WAY, ONGAR
on 19th March 2020**

46/20 Those present and apologies for absence

Chairman Cllr Birch

Councillors Azzopardi, Feetham, Mendoza, Piggott, Vaz, and Cole.

Also present The Office Manager.

Resolved. The council to accept apologies for absence from Cllrs Battersby, Freeman, Reynolds, Dadd, Browning. Proposed Cllr Mendoza seconded Cllr Azzopardi and carried unanimously.

47/20 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

none

48/20 Public participation.

There were no members of the public present.

49/20 To consider grant applications

Ongar Music Club

Resolved: The Council agreed to grant Ongar Music Club £1,000.

Proposed Cllr Mendoza seconded Cllr Feetham and carried unanimously.

50/20 Correspondence

Ongar Town Forum - Thank you for the grant for Christmas lights.

Community Energy South - support for community led renewable energy groups and projects

Essex Village of the Year Competition 2020

Email - Curbstones & Unpassable Street

Email - spend on Chairman's Chain

Phone call from the Groundwork charity - Yellow fish project

Roger Hirst has had to postpone an open meeting about Policing in the civil parish of Ongar on 30th March 2020.

Action: noted

51/20 Consultations

Draft Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) for 2020-2024 from Essex County Fire and Rescue Service.

Essex rural strategy 2020.

Action: Noted

52/20 Reports from District and County Councillors

District Councillor Paul Keska confirmed that EFDC Local Highways Panel Committee meeting for March has been cancelled.

Action. Noted

53/20 To agree the Full Council meeting minutes of 20th February 2020

Resolved. The minutes of Full Council Meeting held on are approved as a true record. Proposed Cllr Feetham seconded Cllr Mendoza and carried one abstention who was not present at that meeting.

- 54/20 Finance Reporting.**
a. The list of all payments up to the end of February 2020 were noted.
b. The budgetary information on all accounts was noted.
Resolved. The Council notes the budgetary information for February and confirms that the account balance of £31,881.61 agrees with the reconciliation. Proposed Cllr Azzopardi seconded Cllr Mendoza and carried unanimously.
- 55/20 To consider the locations for installing bins in Ongar high street.**
The clerk is obtaining information from EFDC. Deferred until the next meeting.
- 56/20 To consider entering the Essex Village of the Year competition.**
The council decided not to enter this year.
Resolved. Proposed Cllr Birch seconded Cllr Mendoza and carried unanimously.
- 57/20 To consider joining the Rural Market Towns Group.**
The council decided to join for £130 per year.
Resolved. Proposed Cllr Mendoza seconded Cllr Cole and carried unanimously.
- 58/20 Essex-wide Bus Shelter project**
It was noted that the Essex-wide Bus Shelter project will establish a long-term contract to create a better bus shelter estate, incorporating all maintenance, cleaning, replacement and supply of shelters – all paid for from the generation of income through advertising.
Action: Noted.
- 59/20 To note electrical condition report and consider a quotation for upgrading the electrical distribution board at Bansons.**
Resolved. To spend £865 plus VAT to upgrade the existing distribution board and £280 plus VAT to install a main switch in order to comply with recent regulations.
Proposed Cllr Birch seconded Cllr Mendoza and carried unanimously.
- 60/20 Air Ambulance – buy a brick**
The council considered contributing to the Air Ambulance fund-raising project. The council decided to contribute 3 £100 platinum bricks.
Resolved . Proposed Cllr Birch seconded Cllr Cole and carried unanimously.
- 61/20 Car parking space**
To note that nine high street parking spaces have been reserved for the VE day commemoration.
Action: The commemoration day has now been postponed until August.
- 62/20 Skate Park**
To note the land has been sold to Brodie (Bansons) LTD who are now the landlord.
Action: Noted
- 63/20 Shelley Park playground.**
The council noted closure of the bidding process but considering the situation of the country at the moment this will be deferred.
Action: Noted
- 64/20 CCTV contract update.**
The systems are installed and working.
The council thanked Cllrs Reynolds, Mendoza and Birch for the work they had done.
Action: Noted

65/20 Action report and council chasing list.

Deferred to next meeting.

66/20 Car Parking Working Group.

No developments this month.

67/20 Neighbourhood Plan

ONPCG are working closely with Dave Chetwyn and RCCE. The evidence to support the Policies is nearing completion and accompanying related Actions are being finalised.

Many thanks to those Councillors who have sent suggestions for Designated Local Greenspace and maps and photos.

At present ONPCG recommended priorities for the provision of infrastructure through use of Section 106 contributions are a new town park within or adjacent to the Small District Centre, new or improved sports pitches and Pre-school provision.

68/20 Climate Change working party update

Following the offer of free mixed bare root whips, it was decided to concentrate on the boundary of the Sports Club and Recreation field.

Advised EFDC we want to be involved in all climate change support schemes. Countrycare were offered to support our efforts and there will shortly be a Climate Change Officer appointed. Our Cllr Nigel Bedford has it as part of his portfolio.

There was a site meeting at Ongar Sports Club and Ongar Recreation field, which made a detailed analysis of the boundaries suggested for hedging, including soil assessment, preparatory work required, maintenance and management, planting programme, volunteers and instruction, loan of tools etc.

It was concluded that it is too late to plant this Spring. It was therefore agreed to request late autumn planting.

69/20 To note the Annual Town Meeting is 16th April 2020

This has now been postponed.

70/20 Items for next agenda.

Pavement Parking.

Citizen of the year

Review Emergency box/contingency plans

Meeting closed 8.41