



SILVER END PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 14th February 2024
in the Parish Council Office, Silver End Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Bugg (Chair,) Cllr McDonald, Cllr Ashford, Cllr Hughes, Cllr Taylor, Mrs Temple (Clerk,) Cllr Playle (ECC, left after 0224/FC2076) and Cllr Abbott (BDC, left after 0224/FC2079.)

0224/FC2072 **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Sullivan and Cllr Wright (BDC.)
Absent without apologies: Cllr Bailey.

0224/FC2073 **Declarations of Interest** by Members in respect of any items on the agenda. None offered.

0224/FC2074 **Members of the public** are given an opportunity to speak at this point, however none were present.

0224/FC2075 **Minutes of the previous Full Parish Council Meeting** were agreed and signed as a true record of the meeting, taking into account the following:

- Speedwatch volunteers should read IA and AF.

It should be noted that the Chair is currently signing with his opposite hand, following a recent accident. His signature is recognisable but there is a marked difference to previously.

Clerk's Report and any matters arising from the last minutes:

- **Clerk** is waiting for confirmation of a site meeting with Eastlight to discuss fruit tree planting off of Bristol Court.
- Abandoned vehicle on Goslings Way has been reported and the complainant responded to. Car has been moved from the road.
- Search for new members of **Speedwatch** will be placed in WoSE.
- Notification to Cllr Ashford that the bank has confirmed that payments can now be made online/by phone via the new debit card. The **Clerk** will now order the SIDs as agreed at last month's meeting.
- BDC have been notified of all responses to their questions regarding the table tennis licence.
- A site meeting has been arranged with BDC to discuss the York stone paving, the rebound goal and parking for the football club. 1st March . **Cllrs Bugg and Ashford** to attend with the **Clerk**.
- The **Clerk** is to order the Bleed Control kits once establish from **Cllr Bailey** if the Round Table still intend to purchase one. Let **Cllr Ashford** know the one's purchased to consider buying one for the pavilion.
- **Jan Stobart** from RCCE is coming to give an initial introduction to Neighbourhood Plans at the FC Meeting in March. She has stated that the presentation is short and designed to be part of a meeting with detailed questions being asked after the meeting if needed. All agreed that the meeting will start at **7pm** to make allowances.
- Notification from BDC that the Casual Vacancy notice has expired. An election was not requested, therefore SEPC can now co-opt.
- The tree outside 4 Broadway was damaged during the storms and split down the middle. The Clerk arranged for Eastlight to investigate and it has since been removed. **Clerk** to ask for a replacement as it is part of the original village.
- A report was made of what looks like **fly tipping** outside the garages on Broadway. It transpires that Eastlight re-homed a resident and this is their household waste that Eastlight agreed to dispose of. Matt Lawday has committed to doing so asap.
- A bench by the pond in the Memorial Gardens was pulled from its fixings and thrown into the pond. The Clerk asked for confirmation of its current whereabouts so she can inform BDC. Cllr Bugg confirmed that it is back in situ but not secured. **Clerk** to notify Rick Sargeant.

0224/FC2076 **Report from District/County Councillors**

Cllr Playle (ECC) reported:

- £12m additional funds allocated for Highways – should be more inclusive for pot holes and pavements.
- Money set aside for impacts made from flooding.
- Locality Fund and Community Fund being renewed for another year.
- Trees to be planted in Grooms Lane next month.
- Repair to Western Road drain this month.
- Applications for the benches has been made.
- Minerals Plan Consultation is open until 19/3. Encourages councillors to look at proposals and comment online.
- Crittall site – good news that it is moving forwards with numerous meetings taking place. Public pre-app consultation in the summer with an application expected in September.
- Boars Tye Rd – Has suggested putting speed limit back as part of the 94 houses planning application.

The Chair thanked Cllr Playle for his report and opened the floor to questions.

IA – Western Rd – lose some of verge to allow passing? RP stated that he couldn't give details but to 'watch this space.'

KM – drop kerbs – still not on the LHP list. RP - still awaiting new officer, but not until new financial year.

KM – Questions relating the gateway and footpath.

JA – drain in Boars Tye Rd, including the one that was made safe – RP confirmed it will be fully repaired.

The Chair thanked Cllr Playle for his attendance.

Cllr Abbott (BDC) reported:

- BDC will set budget 2024/5 at a meeting on 19th February to be held at the council offices in Braintree. The public can attend or view on-line. An increase is proposed. Street cleaning support grant continues for at least another year as does the district councillor grant scheme, £1,250 each.
- Subscriptions paid for green bin collections is that about 50%, almost all via the “early bird” discount. Raised concerns about the impact on recycling rates and potential diversion of garden waste into the black bins. Supporting assisted collections through the I&G Group and an amendment to create a new rural investment fund specifically to help with local projects for rural and village community assets.
- BDC now has a 5 year Housing Land Supply (5.8 years) tempered somewhat by the details of the new arrangements following the publication of the revised National Planning Policy Framework. New Government planning rules state that if a council has an up-to-date Local Plan (less than 5 years old); then the previously required HLS assessment does not apply. Beforehand BDC had to grant a lot of unallocated greenfield sites, or was losing appeals, despite having a new Local Plan. It is now in a much stronger position but the new rules only apply to applications submitted after the new NPPF was published. How this complex situation will play out for Silver End is yet to be seen, but the new Conservation Area Guide for the village will assist in creating a planning environment that has more certainty.
- Discussions continue regarding the old factory site with the Corporate Director at BDC and continue to ask that any planning application takes on board, if possible, an option for a new GP clinic at the site. BDC now can confirm a planning application is expected in September and that prior to that a Planning Forum meeting will have an early look at what is being proposed and that has a current target date of 16th July. The parish council should automatically get an invite from BDC to send up to 2 reps to that meeting.
- Calls for ECC to take action on the repeat flooding of roads and footways at several locations in the district ward, the worst of which is at the railway bridge at Rivenhall End. Thought that the main problem is underground pipes that need repairs or re-laying.
- Closure of Long Green has affected Silver End residents who use that road. No signs of major construction work. Thanks to County Cllr Paul Thorogood for his work on this issue, it was identified that there were problems with legal aspects of the closure and so a new closure will to start again at some point.
- Revised Minerals Plan is now out to consultation. We were concerned to see that once again, the southern part of Braintree District has more proposed sites than any other council area in Essex. A6 is again submitted.
- Community Speed Watch - Rivenhall PC has discussed this recently in the context of potential joint working across local parishes to share resources and Cressing are considering that as an option this evening. All agreed that the **Clerk** should contact both to suggest working with them.
- Pleased to see a possible way forward on the stone sett paths in the Memorial Gardens.

The Chair thanked Cllr Abbott for his report and opened the floor to questions:

AB – large number of heavy goods vehicles going down Sheepcotes Lane– JA need to know what company they are from.

KM – S106 monies re surgery. Has it been claimed? JA and **Clerk** to press BDC on this, particularly as it is their building.

IA – cut back undergrowth on driveway to the Scout Hut. Ambulance and waste trucks are being impeded.

The Chair thanked Cllr Abbott for his attendance.

Cllr Playle left the meeting at this point.

0224/FC2077 **Planning Applications – agreed via email communication since the last meeting. Only objections or formal comments noted.**

None.

Any large Planning Applications or Applications received after agenda was set

None.

Applications received after the agenda was set.

None.

0224/FC2078 **Correspondence – not already included in the Clerk’s report**

EALC – framed photo of the King for each Parish Council, ordered and awaiting delivery.

BDC Enforcement – re 77 Grooms Lane. Findings are that hardstanding has been in situ since at least 2015, upgraded but not increased in size. Therefore unable to take enforcement action. **Clerk** to email **Cllr Hughes** for him to check his historic records.

BDC – Community Infrastructure Grant, available to all community groups, ideally demonstrating a carbon reduction of at least 5%. Supporting 10 projects with a value of £10k that must be delivered and completed by 31/3/25. Projects include installing resources of renewable energy to buildings and their surroundings and installing efficiency measures such as insulation or LED lighting, or other capital projects which reduce carbon emissions. Clerk has passed onto the Football Club, suggesting applying to upgrade the floodlights. Suggest to BDC that they might want to get capital funding for solar panels – Cllr Abbott will mention.

Indaver – meeting dates for 2024 – 13/3, 13/6, 5/9, 12/12.

BDC – Report from on the spot visit to the Luncheon Club from Environmental Health. 5 star rating issued. Minute and **Clerk** to pass thanks and congratulations onto the staff and volunteers.

BDC – notification that following SEPC’s nomination of Erica Peagram for a Volunteers Award the judges have decided that because Erica’s nomination was exceptional that she should be issued with a High Sheriff Award which they are sending to the Clerk. They ask that this be presented to Erica at an SEPC meeting. All agreed that the **Chair** should present this to her.

Cllr Playle – already discussed in his report re the future plans for the former Crittall Factory Site. Details sent to all.
ECC – Replacement Minerals Local Plan Review 2025-2040. Notice for the board encouraging residents to have their say, online, 6 February-19th March.

0224/FC2079 **Reports from Silver End Councillors – Meetings/activities**

Cllr McDonald reported:

- BALC meeting. Report sent to all. Very interesting meeting. Noted that PCs are not capped on precept increases.
- 100th anniversary meeting – 15 people attended, including the Academy – Anna Whiteman. Due to new faces most of the meeting was spent recapping. **Next meeting** on 23/4 7.30pm.
- WoSE – map to include dog poo bins. Meeting this Friday to approve draft for print.

Cllr Ashford – Ambulance required on Friday night. Elderly lady had a heart attack on pavilion approach resulting in a tragic fatality on site. Pavilion’s defib not registered on the Circuit but has now been rectified.

ECC/BDC Reports

MoP – request for use of the parking at the rear of the Hall for Children’s Centre. Cllr Abbott is investigating and reported that a bid for parking at Bowls Club has been turned down for the second time.

The **Clerk** was asked to notify BDC that the tree by the gates to the Memorial Gardens has not been cut down as promised.

Cllr Abbott was thanked for this attendance and he left the meeting at this point.

0224/FC2080 **Finance**

Bank reconciliations and balances as at 31.1.24

The Clerk presented the statements and balances which were agreed and signed by the Chair of the meeting, and the Clerk as the RFO, as per appendix 0224i, as sent to Members with the agenda. All payments to be made, detailed on this appendix, were agreed and the balances as at 31.1.24 were noted.

Additional payments agreed, to be added to the appendix:

Hire a Hall for APM	max 150.00	Posts for SID (IA)	154.80
Refuse truck	261.25		

0224/FC2081 **Members to reconsider the decisions made regarding benches (0124/FC2065) following progress made to replace the ECC benches on the crossroads of Broadway/Temple Lane/Valentine Way**

Having investigated up to date quotes for benches as requested by Cllr Playle, the Clerk has discovered that there are now fixing options to be laid under tarmac. With this in mind it suggests that the ECC benches can be replaced sooner rather than later. The Clerk asked Members whether they still want to install the benches on Eastlight land or is this not a sound use of funds?

Cllr Ashford suggested that **Cllr McDonald** speak to Sharon Gray to canvas opinion as to whether a new bench would be welcomed on Western Rd. **Agenda item** for next meeting.

0224/FC2082 **Format of Annual Parish Meeting April 2024**

Clerk suggested a date of Wednesday 24th April – to be booked with Hire a Hall (small hall.)

All agreed that the meeting would continue in its usual format as digital equipment isn’t advanced enough to make live streaming worthwhile.

0224/FC2083 **Project Plan – quarterly review**

Amendments made during the meeting and the **Clerk** will add dog waste bins . **Next review** in May.

0224/FC2084 **Dog Waste Bins – proposed installation of 3 new bins**

Clerk to write to Bowers Hall and hand deliver. **Cllr Ashford** to canvas residents on Daniel Way. **Clerk** to then notify BDC.

0224/FC2085 **Local Listings**

Cllr McDonald reviewed documents submitted regarding listings in 2019. There are 22 assets in Silver End all are Grade 2.

Clerk asked **Cllr McDonald** to send details of all suggested assets to be recommended for inclusion in local listings. Send to all.

His concern is that the conservation area is under risk and with that in mind all agreed that the **Clerk** should write to Chris Paggi at BDC, with the list, asking BDC to consider adding suggestions to the listings cc to Historic England and Place Services

0224/FC2086 **Quote for installation of table tennis table in Memorial Gardens**

John Bailey (SEPC contractor) has updated his quote for installation - £1260.00.

Cllr Hughes proposed this amount. Cllr Ashford acted as second. All agreed at vote. **Clerk** to instruct work once licence is issued.

0224/FC2087 **Agenda items for the next meeting**

No additional items requested.

Next Full Council Meeting – 13th March.

There being no further matters to discuss the Chair called the meeting to a close at 21.28pm.