



**Minutes of the Great Burstead and South Green Village Council, held at
South Green Memorial Hall, Southend Road, Billericay
on Wednesday 2nd February at 7:30 p.m.**

Present: -

Councillor M Dear - Chair
Councillor B Chapman – Vice Chair
Councillor A Boyce
Councillor L Cowles
Councillor J Dear
Councillor L Thomas

Also in attendance: -

Mrs Mylène Linwood, Clerk & RFO to the Village Council

22/1 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllr Crowe.

22/2 Declarations of Interest & Register of Members Interests

There were no declarations of interest received.

22/3 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting on 1 December 2021, were received, agreed and duly signed by the Chair of the meeting as a true record of the meeting.

22/4 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters, which are of mutual interest. No decisions to be made.

Three residents of South Green attended the meeting and brought to the attention of the Council the following concerns:

a) Grass cutting of the Green and nearby grass verges between Grange Road and Passingham Avenue – not frequent enough and cuttings left behind which makes the area look untidy.

Action: Clerk to make enquires with Basildon Borough Council as to the grass cutting schedule and the procedure with the disposal of cuttings

b) Possibility of planting flowers around the edge of the green

Action: Clerk to begin by asking Basildon Borough Council if this idea would be feasible before the idea is explored further. Cllrs raised the concern that the flowers may hinder access for grass cutting.

c) Emptying of dog waste bins in Grange Rd and Passingham Avenue – not emptied frequently enough. Residents have noticed an increase of dog owners coming to the green and therefore the emptying of the bins needs to be increased. In summer the bins overflowing is particularly unpleasant.

Action: The Clerk to inform Basildon Borough Council of the problem and enquire about the schedule of emptying the dog waste bins

d) Speeding – Grange Rd

The residents expressed concerns about the speed vehicles travel along Grand Road.

Action: Clerk to inform Cllr R Moore of Essex County Council of Grange Road being a road safety concern.

e) Dealing of drugs in the South Green area

Suspected drugs deals have been seen by residents in the area and they wish to know what can be done to stop this.

Action: The Chair informed all that this was a Police matter and as such must be reported to the Police.

The Clerk is to share after the meeting the various ways the Police can be contacted to be informed of any anti-social behaviour including suspected drug deals.

Essex Police can be contacted for non-urgent matters by dialing **101** or via the website the following link:

<https://www.essex.police.uk/ro/report/asb/asb/report-antisocial-behaviour/>.

They also offer a 'Live chat' service via the website homepage: www.essex.police.uk.

In an emergency always dial 999.

f) Ash trees on the Village Green need maintenance

Action: Clerk to inform Basildon Borough Council.

22/5 Finance

The following payments were unanimously approved:

Month	Cheque No	Payee	Description	Amount
January	Standing Order	Mrs M Linwood	Clerk Salary December 2021	£633.36
January	022442	Mrs M Linwood	Home Working Allowance Q3 (Oct, Nov, Dec)	£150.00
January	022443	Cllr Crowe	Cllr Expenses: Food purchased to be donated to Billericay Food Bank	£107.80
January	022444	Billericay Nurseries	Winter Planting	£330.00
			Total	£1221.16

February	Standing order	Mrs M Linwood	Clerk Salary January 2022	£633.36
February	022445	Mrs M Linwood	Clerk's expenses	£17.60
February	022446	SLCC	Annual membership renewal	£134.00
February	022447	EALC	Climate Crisis Conference 27 th January 2022 – Cllr L Thomas	£60.00
			Total	£844.96

The cash book spreadsheet had been circulated to Cllrs with the agenda for 3 monthly review.

22/6 Planning Applications

February planning:

Planning App. Ref	Address	Planning Request	Comments
21/01771/FULL	48 Highfield Road, Billericay. CM11 2PE	Single storey front porch extension	No objection
22/00089/FULL	204 Noak Hill Road, Great Burstead	Single storey side extension	No objection

January planning:

Planning App. Ref	Address	Planning Request	Comments
21/01814/FULL	Hygro Farm Kennel Lane Billericay CM11 2SU	Proposed redevelopment of a site currently occupied by commercial barns to create 5 dwellings with associated parking and landscaping	Object - on the grounds that site is on green-belt land and is in a flood zone. There are also concerns regarding the road safety at the access point of the site and that the proposed dwellings could overlook neighbouring properties.
21/01662/PACU	2 Noak Hill Road Great	Notification for Prior Approval for a proposed change of use of an	No objection

Planning App. Ref	Address	Planning Request	Comments
	Burstead Billericay Essex	agricultural building to a dwellinghouse (Class C3), and for building operations reasonably necessary for the conversion, under the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 (as amended) Schedule 2, Part 3, Class Q.	

Cllr Cowles had sent the Clerk a list of planning applications that are within the parish and have been proseed by Basildon Borough Council but were not sent to the Village Council for comment.

The Chair requested that the Clerk contact Basildon Planning Department to enquire why these applications were not sent for review.

A Notice was received to inform the Council that the following application is being referred to the Basildon Council Planning Committee and will be on their agenda on 9th February 2022.

21/01224/FULL - 187 Noak Hill Road, Great Burstead, Billericay - Provision of seven lodges together with alterations to the existing club house at Noak Hill Golf Course

22/7 Billericay Nurseries – Flower Bed

Members considered the proposal to have a raised flower bed under the notice board on the Green, South Green to make the board more noticeable. It was agreed the Clerk would contact Basildon Borough Council to request permission and Billericay Nurseries for a quote of the costs involved.

22/8 Barratt David Wilson Housing meeting invitation

Members agreed to meet with the Barratt David Wilson Housing regarding the proposed development of 156 new homes on land off of Southend Road.

22/9 Proposed Burstead Solar Farm (Previously called Gurnards Farm Solar Farm)

No further update at this time.

22/10 Proposed Crays Hill Solar Farm

The Village Council has been contacted to arrange a meeting with Boom Power regarding the proposed Crays Hill Solar Farm. Some Councillors attended a public consultation on 8 December 2021 held by Boom Power to share information regarding the proposed site.

It was agreed that the Village Council should meet with Boom Power.

22/11 Fun Day 2022 – Jubilee Fête

The Clerk shared the following update on behalf of Cllr Crowe.

Our working party met on 21st Jan to kickstart our preparations again after Christmas but everything is on track. We are meeting again on March 4th at 11.30am. I have reshared the spreadsheet with the working party but currently the cost is at £3201.04. In terms of payments the following needs to be scheduled:

March 2022 agenda (due April 22)	£360 for face painters
April 2022 agenda (due May 22)	£150 for Imperial birds £1600 for Fun4Events (due 7 days before event)
May 2022 agenda (due on the day)	£85 cheque for Mayflower Morris Men £765 cash for CB Bouncy Castles

The event has been advertised on Billericay Discussion Page on Facebook to see if we can get more stalls or a Punch and Judy person as we have been let down by the one, we usually use.

Cllr Crowe would like Councillors to let her know if they are available to help on the day?

The Clerk updated members on the following:

Music License: Cost of £75.75 + VAT.

St John's Ambulance: Cost of £255 + VAT (including the hire of a gazebo as a treatment area).

Both costs were approved by members and the Clerk is to go ahead with payments.

Cllr Chapman updated members that he is liaising with the dance groups to arrange timings and any needs for changing facilities.

Residents are welcome to get involved in the organisation of the Fun Day and may contact the Clerk or Cllr Crowe. (email: suzy.crowe@greatbursteadsouthgreen-vc.gov.uk)

22/12 Plant a tree for the Jubilee, The Queen's Green Canopy Initiative

As part of the Jubilee celebrations the Village Council has expressed the wish to plant a tree on the Village green and the Clerk had begun making enquiries with Basildon Borough Council for permission, and the Chair had started liaising with the Billericay Tree Wardens. The Clerk has also received a request from the South Green WI to plant a tree and it awaiting to hear from Basildon Borough Council regarding these requests.

Members expressed a concern of not changing the landscape of the Village green by planting too many trees and ensuring it is preserved as an open space for residents to enjoy and children to play. An idea was put forward to replace trees in ill state or out of keeping with the other trees.

All members were also in favour of exploring the possibility of having a commemorative masonry stone placed by the Village Council jubilee tree.

The Clerk has also been recently contacted by the Rotary Club of Billericay Town who wished to inform the Village Council that they had been liaising with the Billericay Tree Wardens regarding planting 8 mixed standard trees in Passingham Park. Members expressed some concerns at this proposal; it was discussed that the quantity of tree may be too much for the size of the park and depending on the size and height of the trees in may affect the light into the surrounding homes.

The Clerk was requested to enquire if Basildon Borough Council had approved the planting of these trees and if so, felt it would be advisable to write letters to the surrounding residents to ensure they are in agreement with the addition to the trees.

The maintenance of the trees was also another matter that was raised and would need to be taken into consideration.

Cllr J Dear stepped out the meeting at 8:15pm

22/13 South Green Recycling Point Removal

No information has yet been received on the public consultation but this will be distributed by the Clerk when it does and everyone is encouraged to take part in the consultation.

22/14 Missing Bollard South Green Parade of Shops

The license to carry out the repair works has now been granted from Essex Highways and the Clerk will update when a work date is confirmed.

22/15 Vacancy – Village Councillor

No applications had yet been received. The advertising of the casual vacancy of Councillor to be filled by co-option will continue.

Cllr J Dear rejoined the meeting at 8:20pm

22/16 CCTV

Members were updated that the signs for the CCTV pole had now been received by the Clerk and the she is to proceed with arranging for the signs to be put on the pole and will confirm when this has been completed.

The Clerk explained to those present that during the search of footage following a request from Essex Police the viewing platform had stopped working correctly and therefore the search not yet completed.

Members were extremely disappointed to learn of the problems as the equipment in new having been installed in May 2021. The Clerk is to continue liaising with Clearview to get the problem resolved as soon as possible.

The problem has highlighted that a maintenance package is needed going forward and a quote had been received from Clearview for an annual service and maintenance cover. Cllrs suggested that other quotes should be acquired to compare and bring back to the Council to decide at the next meeting.

22/17 South Green Christmas Lights 2022

Cllr Crowe had distributed some design ideas and festive lighting companies to members before the meeting. The Chair reminded members of difficulties faced in the past with approval of hanging lights or hanging baskets to the lamp columns in the South Green shopping parade by Essex County Council. This has been due to concerns the lamp columns can withstand only the very lightest of items. It was raised that therefore Cllrs would like to request Essex County Council check and address if the lamp columns are indeed safe and fit for purpose, especially as it is noted that other nearby shopping areas are able to use lamp columns for various displays to visually improve the area. In the meantime, the Clerk is to arrange meetings and quote with the festive lighting companies and Cllr Chapman offered to be involved with the meetings.

22/18 Annual renewal of Society of Local Council Clerk's membership

Members agreed to the renewal the Clerk's membership to the SLCC at a fee of £134.00.

22/19 Public Spaces protection Order (PSPO) Consultation

Item carried over from cancelled January Agenda.

The Village Council took part in the Consultation which ended on 20th January 2022

22/20 Billericay Foodbank

It was noted that a letter of thanks was received from the Billericay Food Bank for the food donated by the Village Council in December 2021 and members also gave thanks to Cllr Crowe for organizing the purchase of the food.

22/21 Training

The Clerks sought approval to attend the following training courses with the EALC.

- Understanding Annual Meetings
- Council Finance
- Minutes and Agendas

22/22 Social Media

The following suggestions were put forward as possible ideas to add to the Village Council Twitter page:

- Thanks from Billericay Food Bank for donation
- Updates on the Jubilee Fête

22/23 Next Meeting

Wednesday 2nd March 2022

21/24 Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 8:43pm

Minutes agreed and approved:

Signed:

Date: