

**MINUTES OF QUENDON & RICKLING PARISH COUNCIL VIRTUAL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10TH MARCH 2021 AT 7.30 PM. BY ZOOM ONLINE.**

Present: Sally Kitcat – Chairman (SK)
Tom Duncan – (TDN)
Katherine Nuthall- (KN)
Tony Dear - (TD)
Jennie Sutton – (JS)
Ted Crow – (TC)

County Councillor Ray Gooding – (RG)
Keith Williams – (KW) (Parish Clerk)

3 members of the public

806. Declarations of Interest

None.

807. Apologies for Absence

Carrie Williams – (CW)

808. Minutes of the last meeting held on 10th February 2021 (already circulated)

The minutes of the last meeting held on 10th February 2021 were agreed as a true and accurate record and will be signed by the Chairman.

809. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 10th February 2021

A reminder to residents of the Census 2021 on 21 March. Posters have been put on the noticeboards and the necessary information will be put on the Q&R website and Facebook.

810. Public participation session

None

811. Finance

a. Accounts balances (already circulated).

Noted.

b. Invoices and payments for approval.

The payments were approved.

[173/2021]

FINANCE REPORT for MARCH 2021

Balance b/f @ 28/02/2021 38614.28

Payments to be authorised for March 2021

Payee	Chq No	Amount	Reason
Ted Crow	online	623.40	Football pitch purchases
Tracey Hepting	online	150.00	Gemini speaker system
e-on	dd	52.66	Electricity for February 2021
Andy Bush	online	35.00	Repairs to noticeboards
EALC	online	84.00	Plannin6 briefing training day
Payroo	online	6.00	Payroll expenses
Keith Williams	online	359.97	Clerk salary for March 2021
HMRC (Keith Williams)	online	90.00	PAYE March 2021
Total Payments for March 2021		1401.03	

Balance @ 31/03/2021 37213.25

Balance c/f @ 31/03/2021 37213.25

Please note: The payment to HMRC was made by the parish clerk and is being reimbursed.

812. Correspondence

None

813. Free tree offer from EForests

The council feels that this initiative is too large to be relevant to Quendon and Rickling but the council will keep it in mind should an opportunity arise in the future.

814. Planning

1. U TT/21/0366/HHF – Well Cottage, Rickling Green

Proposed garage conversion with new pitched roof.
No objection.

2. UTT/21/0234/HHF – Sycamore, Rickling Green Road

Erection of replacement boundary fence and gate.
No objection.

[174/2021]

815. Spring Litter Pick

The pick is scheduled for Saturday 20th March commencing 10.30 am from the Village Hall.

JS would like to start a regular monthly litter pick. It was agreed that this was a good idea. JS will contact the school to see if the children would be interested in taking part.

816. Broadband

TDN advised that with Ventnor Road now covered by Open Reach, all the village now had access to fast broadband.

817. Football pitch

TC reported;

- A sub-base has been laid which should assist vehicles in wet conditions.
- The pitches have been cut and fertilised.
- Mini-soccer will commence on 3rd April.
- Adults football will commence on 4th April.
- FC Newport wish to use the pitch every Saturday in May and June.
- The portaloos will be required by 2nd April.

818. Footpaths

An email has been received from a resident remarking on the poor condition of the steps at the north end of the village. SK will speak to the Rangers.

The condition of the entrance to Quendon Woods was reported by SK on 22nd February.

819. Street lighting

The parish clerk is in communication with UK Power Network to ensure that their records have noted the number of street lights which have been converted to LED's. It is hoped that this may result in a reduction in the monthly electricity charge.

820. B1383

a) Quendon trees

The trees have now been planted, and will be watered and cared for by Mercer Tree Services.

b) 40 mph buffer zone

The buffer zone signs have been installed although it is noted that one pole is longer than the other. Stonebond is in touch with Essex Highways to rectify this.

[175/2021]

821. Events

- KN reported that pumpkin seeds are now available. 11 packets have already been sold. There are 3 seeds per packet.
- The Waffle Van will be coming to the village on 18th March, from 5-8pm, and will be sited next to the cricket pavilion.
- The council would like to thank Tracey Hepting for help given in the Events and Speedwatch.
- The Gemini PA system is now available for use at events.

822. Wildlife Friendly Village

Paul Wilsher had been asked to give some advice on implementation of this initiative. He suggested that when mowing the grass verges it would be advisable to imitate the cutting of hay meadows. This would mean only cutting twice a year; once after flowering and allowing for seed to be set (in late Summer), and once before Christmas. It is important to remove the grass cuttings after mowing.

Before considering seeding wild flowers he suggested waiting to see what wild flowers will generate naturally. SK will help to produce a plan of action.

At Forsters Footpath, Stonebond will be removing the old posts and wire so it can be landscaped. A resident has trees ready to plant when cleared.

823. Local Plan consultation

TD had circulated the consultation papers to various committees together with his notes. The notes need to be studied to decide what is wanted for the village.

824. County and District Councillor reports

Ray Gooding (County Councillor)

- There was a full council meeting on 23rd February.
- There is a 1 ½% increase in the social care budget.
- The Locality Fund will continue next year.
- £7m has been allocated for Local Highways Panels, spread over the next three years.
- An Education Task Force has been set up to give further support to schools.
- £2m has been allocated to support Essex businesses.

825. Date of next meeting

14th April 2021.

826. Closure of meeting

There being no further items to be discussed, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20.54.

[176/2021]