

BERDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 14th November 2022, 8.00pm. Present: John Burton, John Riddell, Diane Holt, Laura Free, Ian Stumpf, Amanda Coomber, Pete Hewitt, Duncan Murdoch(20.17),Ray Gooding (20.45)

Public: Claire Russell (leaves 20.38)

305.0	<b>Apologies:</b> Janice Loughlin
305.1	<b>Declarations of Interest:</b> No
305.2	<b>Public Participation:</b> No
305.3	<b>Approve Minutes Berden PC meeting on</b> 10th October 2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Approved &amp; Signed,</li></ul>
305.4	<b>Clerk's Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Items moved agreed</li></ul> <b>Solar Farm/Battery Unit Proposals</b>
305.5	<b>Wickham Hall</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This is outside the BPC area but some thought needs to be given as to if the PC raises concerns, there has been amendments to the original proposal.</li></ul> <b>Crabbs Green Battery Unit</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Catherine Armstrong has advised that the tree clearance is wide enough to take a lorry at the edge of the nature reserve.</li><li>• To be verified but it is thought Samatha Russell owns the land &amp; it seems that is where the clearance has started.</li><li>• Quite a substantial area, it isn't clear why this is being done.</li><li>• Substation is expanding, more equipment is being added.</li><li>• Jo Van Reimsdijk is still in contact with Environmental Health, East Herts Environmental Health have investigated noise levels from the existing battery unit and have consequently recommended refusal of the application due to insufficient noise attenuation.</li></ul> <b>East End Battery Unit/ Greens Farm</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No further update</li></ul> <b>Battles Farm Solar Facility</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Submitted to PINS 10th October, the PC awaits further information.</li><li>• Map not yet completed, awaiting to see if area has changed when Low Carbon submit.</li><li>• The local parishes need to acknowledge the impact the traffic will have on their day to day lives.</li><li>• No further action until the next consultation period opens.</li><li>• PTP will look at engaging with Manuden residents.</li><li>• Awaiting Mike Hutchins &amp; John Archer to confirm Duncan's letter. Although the period has closed, Berden, Stocking Pelham and Manden are responding to information sent after the application was submitted.</li></ul> <b>Stocking/Furneux Pelham Solar Facility</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No further update</li></ul>

	<b>Berden Farm Solar</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Traffic issues- environmental impact was due on the 7th November.</li> <li>• PTP have done a landscape report &amp; heritage report</li> </ul>
305.6	<b>Village Hall</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offer of a grant, possible solar panels on the roof.</li> <li>• There is a possible relief on bills, the VH committee are to review.</li> <li>• Warm Spaces- Ian to check how money is claimed, JB will discuss with the Social club committee.</li> </ul>
305.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leaves are in excess and this needs addressing.</li> </ul> <b>Finance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget for the coming year has been completed, PH has signed off.</li> <li>• DH has circulated to committee members.</li> <li>• Risk Assessment has been sent by DH, all are agreed</li> <li>• Fete Toilets- PC to pay the invoice &amp; Fete will reimburse. AC to speak with John for payment. DH to advise total cost.</li> </ul>
305.8	<b>Planning &amp; Environment.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parkers-no comments</li> </ul>
305.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16 St Nicolas Field- no comments</li> </ul>
305.10	<b>Playground Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Maintenance- all ok. Although fees for maintenance are set to increase.</li> <li>• Fees for various options obtained to move/paint the slide. H&amp;S have been contacted and there is no other viable location for the slide nor can it be rotated. All members agree changing the color is a possibility. PC will discuss with local residents.</li> </ul> <b>Highways</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community speed checking sessions have started back and are going well.</li> <li>• Local Highways Panel mostly likely 3rd quarter, if reviewed and validated likely to be Q4 for a meeting.</li> <li>• 20 is plenty is a blanket initiative, possibly not right for all areas.</li> <li>• ECC are having a Pot-hole initiative so RG advised to get all concerns reported</li> <li>• Signs are also an issue.</li> </ul>
305.11	<b>Footpaths</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JB is awaiting further instruction from Highways to complete 2021/2022 cutting reimbursement.</li> </ul>
305.12	<b>Gigaclear</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set up complete at the VH</li> </ul>
305.13	<b>Defibrillator</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Both machines are OK.</li> </ul>
305.14	<b>Village Green Noticeboard</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery due late November-early December</li> </ul>
304.15	<b>Final Fete Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No update</li> </ul>
305.17	<b>Tree Planting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• QEII memorial Tree- now being delta with by the PCC but PC will cover the memorial plaque cost.</li> <li>• Replacement Tree for VH- JB to raise with VH committee</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two residents have volunteer to help in the Orchard</li> </ul>
305.18	<b>Rural Housing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No suggestions</li> </ul>
305.19	<b>Coronation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amanda to coordinate. Possibly get mugs, street party.</li> </ul>
305.20	<b>Parish Clerk</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Laura has given formal notice for 3 months, recruitment letter possibly to be distributed. Many PC members also stepping down.</li> </ul>
305.21	<b>Essex Warm Spaces</b>
305.22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Souper Friday- now being arranged.</li> </ul> <b>Cllr Loughlin</b> -not present.
305.23	<b>Cllr Gooding</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advised the members of the ECC initiatives as noted above in Highways</li> <li>Advised of Compass-Essex Domestic Abuse Helpline.</li> </ul> <p><b>Exchange of information &amp; matters to be raised for the next agenda.</b>  Parish council members stepping down, there needs to be a recruitment drive.</p>