

**Minutes** of the Annual Council Meeting of Lower Halstow Parish Council held virtually due to Coronavirus Covid19 restrictions at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Present: Cllrs: K Howard-Challis (Chair); M Szabo (Vice-chair); A Groves; T Portman; A Smith; E Stiles; P Miller; Mrs A Smith (Clerk);

In attendance: Cllr Whiting and 4 members of the public.

**1. Election of Chair**

Cllr Keith Howard-Challis was duly elected as Chair.

**2. Election of Vice-Chair**

Cllr Martin Szabo was duly elected as Vice-Chair

**3. Dates of Meeting 2021/22**

It was agreed that the monthly meetings of Lower Halstow Parish Council would take place on the first Tuesday of the month, with the exception of August.

**4. An overview of Lower Halstow Parish Council's Accomplishments during 2020/21**

What a very strange year it has been for all of us but hopefully things are looking up. Something reassuring is that we have seen people in our village and across the country pulling together to care for each other in any way that they can. Life's challenges have been huge.

Lower Halstow Parish Council (LHPC) has operated virtual monthly meetings throughout Coronavirus Pandemic and the Hugofox website holds all details of what we discuss. In case you missed it here are some of the achievements from LHPC for our village this last year: -

- New trees and hedges have been planted in the village.
- Our dedicated litter picker John has continued to keep our village clean and tidy.
- A Roman coin was found on Parish Council land and now displayed in the British Museum.
- Friends of The Brickfields (FOTB) organised a working party and continue to look after our much loved habitat. Storms damaged to 20 trees, which the FOTB made safe.
- The noticeboard at Britannia Green blew down. A new one is being made and almost ready.
- Maintenance and cutting back of hedges in the Lower Halstow Burial Ground is done voluntarily by one of the Parish Councillors.
- Bottle digging was a hot topic and Best Kept Garden competition was held.
- The handrail at the Brickfields was replaced and steps repaired.
- Planning applications in the village are examined on a regular basis.
- 20 is plenty and anti-idling campaign is being headed up by LHPC.
- Southern Water was challenged regarding repairs and the disruption and noise caused by tankers.
- Lower Halstow Parish Council formed a working group to submit a bid for the necessary funding for what was called the Gigabit Project or Full Fibre to Premises (FFTP) for connectivity for the whole village. On 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021 it was confirmed by Open Reach that sufficient vouchers had been redeemed and the project has now moved to the build phase.
- Improvements were made to Westfield Car Park.



**Date:**

**Signed:**

**Cllr. K Howard-Challis  
Chair**