

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF GREAT HALLINGBURY PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON MONDAY 7<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2016, BEGINNING AT 7pm  
IN THE VILLAGE HALL.**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Alan Townsend (Chairman)  
Cllrs Mark Bloomfield, Vicky Wing, Andrew Noble, Tom Streeter,  
Alan Pinnock, David Barlow and Kaylash Juggurnauth.

**ALSO PRESENT:** District Cllr Keith Artus and Mrs Freda Townsend (Clerk) and,  
arriving later, District Cllr Lesley Wells.

**91. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies had been received from County Cllr Susan Barker.

**92. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Andrew Noble re Housing.

**93. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF PUBLIC**

No public present.

**94. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2016 were approved as a correct record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

**95. MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

**96. CHAIRMANS COMMUNICATIONS**

The Chairman firstly thanked Vicky for all her efforts in organizing the litter pick through the village. It was a good turn out of people coming to do their bit, and a good social gathering in the hall once the litter picking was done. It had been surprising to see the huge pile of pink bags piled up for collection.

The Queens 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday - suggestions for an event at the village hall were discussed, perhaps a rounders competition and/or cream teas. It was decided not to give commemorative tokens to children of the village or at the schools. Ideas to be mentioned at our Annual Parish Meeting.

The Chairman mentioned the litter up by the M11 roundabout at Start Hill and that a resident local to the area was under the impression that Stansted Airport pay ECC to keep it clear, asking Cllr Keith Artus if this was the case. Keith said that as far as he knew, this was not so, although it may be that ECC are paid to keep litter from roads nearer to the airport.

It would appear that our bin men are not always putting the food waste into the separate part of the lorry. There was some discussion this and other recycling problems. The Waste Aware team at UDC have been made aware of the current problems with collections.

**97. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

District Cllr Keith Artus said that the Local Development Plan is still ongoing and that results are in now for the SLAA sites. Council Tax has risen by 1% this year. The new Chief Executive at UDC is a lady called Dawn French.

With regard to Devolution, we do not need to do anything as a parish council, it is down to ECC and UDC to have services devolved from Government level.

District Cllr Lesley Wells apologized for arriving late, but this was due to a UDC meeting. She reported that she is now the Health & Well Being representative for UDC. Lesley mentioned the new Defibrillator now installed at Little Hallingbury, for which she had been able to provide a grant from the New Homes Bonus. She said that, if Great Hallingbury should decide to also install a Defibrillator, it may be possible she could provide us with a grant also.

**98. AIRPORT**

SSE have published a Review of 2015, a copy of which had been distributed.

**99. RE-ESTABLISHING ELM TREES IN THE VILLAGE**

Cllr Vicky Wing had requested this item on the agenda, explaining that several properties in the village have 'Elm' in their name, and would like to propose that more Elm trees are planted in the village to replace those lost to the Dutch Elm disease.

Disease resistant species are available and we need to look at where to buy from, and where to plant the trees. It was thought this could be part of our marking The Queens 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday, although they could not be planted until October.

Resolved - Vicky will look into the cost, it was agreed that we could start with 6 trees.

**100. WEBSITE**

Since our last meeting there have been some changes made to our website. This is still an ongoing project and further improvements and additions have yet to be made. It was agreed that we should keep administration within the parish council.

**101. HIGHWAYS**

Many of the pot holes through the village have been marked, and some filled in. Some of these we had reported, but ECC have marked all defects for infill before the road is re-surfaced. We have received notice from ECC Highways for re-surfacing of the roads in Great Hallingbury (and other roads in Uttlesford) in three phases. Works are due to begin on 7<sup>th</sup> March Phase One - pre-surface patching works; Phase Two - Surface Dressing; Phase Three - reinstatement of white lines.

The works apply to Church Road from the A1060 to the B1256; New Barn Lane for its entire length and Woodside Green roads.

At present Affinity Water are also doing repairs in the village, with traffic lights in place at Tilekiln Green. There are also traffic lights near the old railway bridge at Start Hill while repairs to the bridge are being undertaken.

Resolved - that the Clerk asks Highways if repairs will also be carried out at 'Bedlars Green Lane' to the pot holes by the greens.

**102. AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

Andrew reported that there are no further developments at present.

**103. LOWER THAMES CROSSING ROUTE CONSULTATION 2016**

Highways England is consulting on options for a Lower Thames Crossing; a new road crossing of the River Thames connecting Kent and Essex. Details on this consultation, as received on 28<sup>th</sup> January, had been distributed to all Councillors.

On discussion it was agreed that we are too far removed from the area that will be affected by the construction to make comment.

#### **104. DEVOLUTION IN ESSEX**

Information on devolution in Greater Essex had been distributed in January.

Recognizing the importance of locally made decisions, the Government has invited areas to put forward their ideas and proposals on how locally devolved powers could benefit residents. This led to 15 Council Leaders in Great Essex signing to express an interest in the principle of devolution, and how we can work together to explore how to use new devolved powers to benefit residents. There is no blueprint for devolution, and different regions across the country are considering differing areas they would like to see devolved.

I have not received any further details on Greater Essex as yet, but there is a great deal of information on the website covering the work streams that are being taken forward. If we want to put forward any ideas or comments we can contact the leaders of the devolution programme or Cllr Howard Rolf, Chief Executive UDC and Chairman of the Essex Leaders Group.

Resolved - on discussion that, since it appears at present that the leaders of District Council's are more active in looking at how devolved powers can be used, we have no constructive comments to submit at this time.

#### **105. CORRESPONDENCE**

UDC are once again operating Garden Waste collections, with the offer of a free bin on joining the scheme before 11<sup>th</sup> March. An article on this had been put in the Spring edition of Highlights.

Uttlesford Community Travel had sent a request for funding. We had however sent a donation in November of £100.

The next Parish Forum will be held on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March in the Council Chamber at UDC offices. It will begin at 5pm.

Resolved - that the Clerk finds out more on Uttlesford Community Travel and how we might be able to use this service.

#### **106. POST BOX BEDLARS GREEN**

As requested by Cllr Barlow, the Clerk had re-opened our communication with Royal Mail to request the post box be reinstated. A copy had also been sent to Sir Alan Haselhurst M.P. and it is from him that a reply had been received. He was not pleased with the communication he had received from Royal Mail and was to chase them up to reply to me as they had not yet done so.

#### **107. GREENS**

Further to the notice nailed to the Bedlars Green notice board about cutting of the green, Henry Bexley informed the Chairman that the greens are not being cut at present. However, a following email says that Bedlars and Tilekiln are cut two or three times a year, generally after the wild flowers have gone over in July. This is to help preserve some of the more rare species that grow on our verges and greens.

#### **108. FINANCE**

The following payments were made during the period 12<sup>th</sup> December 2015 to 12<sup>th</sup> February 2016:

	£
Gt Hallingbury Village Hall - donation	1,000.00
HMRC - tax November	8.40
Crest Computer Services - computer rescue	97.00

F. Townsend - Norton renewal (half cost LH)	32.49
F. Townsend - net salary Nov - month 8	275.70
- expenses Nov	67.37
SLCC - membership (half cost LH)	74.50
UDC - Election expenses 2015	103.37
F. Townsend - net salary Dec - month 9	275.70
- expenses Dec	53.95
HMRC - tax December	8.40
St. Giles PCC - grant towards new boilers	2,000.00
EALC - Transparency training	20.00

### **Income**

None at time of writing agenda.

### **Balances**

Business Premium Account	12,927.27
Community Account	5,011.13
Gratuity Account	1,750.41

Approved by all Cllrs.

## **109. PLANNING**

### **Application decisions (the Council's comments are shown in brackets)**

<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Site and Development</u>	<u>Decision</u>
UTT/15/3365/HHF	Erection of two storey front extension, front porch canopy and single storey rear extension part replacing conservatory under construction. Removal of ground floor front bay windows and erection of rear boundary fence. Woodside House, Woodside Green.	Consent

(While the building is large, the proposed extensions would not create an unsightly visual impact, nor increase the footprint to a great extent. Therefore no objections were raised.)

UTT/15/3691/HHF & UTT/15/3692/LB	Proposed single storey rear extension. 90 Woodside Green.	Consent (no obj.)
UTT/15/3763/DFO	Details following outline application UTT/15/3785/OP for the erection of 1 no. dwelling - details of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale. Land East of Cedar Cottage, Church Road.	Withdrawn (no obj.)

### **Applications dealt with by the Planning Working Group:**

<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Site and Development</u>
UTT/16/0200/FUL	Erection of 1 no. detached dwelling with garage. Land East of Cedar Cottage, Church Road.

No objections raised.

**Applications to be dealt with at this meeting:**

<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Site and Development</u>
UTT/15/3785/FUL & UTT/15/3786/LB	Change of use and conversion of redundant farm buildings to 5 no. holiday lets and 1 no. dwelling, and new 6 bay cart lodge. Woodside Green Farm, Woodside Green.

No objections raised.

UTT/16/0422/HHF	Proposed erection of detached garage block with store above. Old Tithe Hall, Start Hill.
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No objections raised.

**110. MEMBERS REPORTS**

**Cllr Alan Pinnock** - Concern on erosion of the greens at Bedlars Green. Suggested posts to stop parking but this could lead to problems with parking and would make the road narrow for the dustcart or other service vehicles.

**Cllr Tom Streeter** - There is a new map on the superfast Broadband website which show that we should be getting the fibre optic service in Great Hallingbury, although not until 2017/2018.

**Cllr Vicky Wing** - The Litter Pick was successful and we would like to do more but not sure how often. Cllrs suggested that we do this in September after ECC have cut the grass verges and the litter will be visible. We must ask UDC to clear identified sites that we are unable to reach. Vicky suggested a special pick on the Flitch Way path on the opposite side to the Audi Garage.

Vicky also reported that, further to her previous enquiries at the Hatfield Heath doctors surgery to help availability to our village, she may be asked to join the group working on appointments.

**Cllr Mark Bloomfield** - Concern on the entrance to the new house at Bedlars Green which appears to be getting wider, and there are many pot holes in the road. Should we write to ask him to define his driveway?

Painting of the phone box was mentioned and Alan Pinnock offered to do this.

**Cllr David Barlow** - Reported that work on the pond is ongoing, with the work in the water finished for now to allow the newts to breed. Maintenance on the green around it will be carried out in better weather.

Resolved - that the Clerk asks UDC to clear problem areas of litter; and that Vicky will speak to the resident in the new house at Bedlars Green about his driveway.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Signed.....

(Chairman)

Date.....