

HIGH EASTER PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
held via Zoom on Monday 2nd November 2020

Present: Cllrs Nigel Boreham, Andrea Davis, Robert Lodge (Chair), Neil Reeve, Janet Robinson, Paul Sutton, Jo Windley and the Clerk Allison Ward

County and District Cllr Susan Baker (leaving after item 20/102)

0 Zoom connections during the meeting from members of the public

20/98 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – None, all present.

20/99 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS FOR THIS MEETING – None.

20/100 PUBLIC FORUM – Nothing to report.

20/101 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING of 5 October 2020 were approved by the Parish Council as a correct record. They will be signed by the Chairman at the earliest opportunity.

20/102 COUNTY AND DISTRICT CLLRS REPORT

County Cllr Barker began by updating the meeting on the decision by Essex County Council (ECC) to go into tier 2, a decision made in the hope it would help to contain the spread of the virus in the County. ECC has received extra funding as a result and this will go directly to support families and businesses who are struggling as a result of Covid.

Following recent correspondence on surface water flooding in The Street, Cllr Barker confirmed she has argued for a site visit and received confirmation that this will now take place. In addition, Cllr Barker suggested an application is submitted for a slot at the next available Highways surgery; Cllr Barker will forward the application form for the Clerk to complete and return.

As District Cllr, Cllr Barker confirmed Uttlesford has made new commercial investments which will provide future income to underpin other funding sources and continue to ensure services are maintained.

In commenting on the Stansted Airport inquiry which is due to start in January, Cllr Barker notes the concerns raised by local communities on the timing during the pandemic and added that it is the inspector that sets the timetable. Exact plans are still to be confirmed, however generally throughout recent months the use of Zoom has proved an effective way for the wider community to take part, often in a more inclusive way than previously. Cllr Barker added that the recent publication of additional information could lead to either Uttlesford or Stop Stansted Expansion demonstrating that there is too much new data to consider in the time available before the start of the inquiry and Uttlesford is giving careful consideration to this; however, the final decision is for the inspector.

County and District Cllr Barker leaves the meeting

20/103 CLERK'S PROGRESS UPDATE and CORRESPONDENCE

Community led planning, following the circulation of a second draft information sheet to the Parish Council, Cllr Lodge suggested an on-line response is developed to make it easier for residents to respond. Various options have been investigated and in conclusion an option has been developed on the existing website which has been tested satisfactorily by Cllrs, this has led to some minor amendments to the questions. The information sheet will be circulated in the coming month.

There is ongoing correspondence between residents, the Parish Council and County Cllr Susan Barker re flooding in The Street, see agenda item 20/102. The clerk raised a complaint form with Essex County Council re lack of engagement in progressing this issue to the satisfaction of all parties.

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 Robert Lodge (Chairman Parish Council)

Essex Highways has notified of a Temporary Traffic Regulation Notice for High Easter Road on 12 November for 3 days. The closure is required for the safety of the public and workforce whilst Affinity Water undertakes new water connection. There are further additional road closures in and around the parish as Gigaclear continue to lay cables underground as part of their fibre wifi programme.

Uttlesford has launched the new Local Plan process, it begins with an extensive community engagement programme which is due to run until Spring 2021. At the heart of the process is a Community Stakeholder Forum that includes several representatives of local groups and organisations from across Uttlesford. The Forum will start a conversation on a wide range of topics (such as climate change, healthy lifestyles, and homes) and its meetings will be available to watch online. Following each meeting a mini consultation will open on that topic. Residents are encouraged to view further information at this link and to respond,
https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/new-local-plan?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Two new rubbish bins and a larger dog waste bin have been ordered for the playing field. The two waste bins are delayed until later in the month. Cllr Boreham and Cllr Lodge will install the replacement dog bin including relocating to inside the car park to avoid the support post being knocked by the grass and hedge cutting.

20/104 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

The Clerk had carried out the monthly safety check on the play equipment, the following were highlighted as requiring attention and notified to Cllrs prior to this meeting; small nut missing on upper fixing on one baby swing, Cllr Boreham has replaced; gate is still squeaking, Cllr Boreham has oiled; the old bin needs removing from the entrance gate, Cllr Lodge has removed.

Cllr Windley continues to follow up footpath issues with the Essex Public Rights of Way officer, current issues are footpaths 18, 23, reinstatement of cross-field paths and the poor surface condition of byway 71.

Cllr Robinson confirmed the village hall committee will contact the Parish Council to review plans to agree ownership and responsibilities re drainage; Cllr Lodge added the Parish Council is willing to provide support and assistance.

Cllr Boreham confirmed the work necessary to build up the earth bund for the slide, will be delayed until Spring 2021 when the conditions allow the works to be completed.

20/105 PLANNING

20.105.01 – Applications

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| Application No | UTT/20/2519/HHF |
| Location | Folks and Crows, School Lane |
| Development | Proposed demolition of existing conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension and an open porch canopy to front elevation, replacing existing porch |

Cllr Sutton proposed no objection to this application, this was seconded by Cllr Davis with all in agreement.

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| Application No | UTT/20/2649/HHF |
| Location | The Willows Acreland Green |
| Development | Proposed first floor rear extension and oak canopy over existing front door. Upgrading of existing windows. |

The Parish Council noted the previous history and recent applications for the site, see decisions, in conclusion Cllr Sutton proposed no objection to this application, this was seconded by Cllr Robinson with all in agreement.

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|----------------|---|
| Application No | UTT/20/2648/FUL |
| Location | Gladden House Bishops Green |
| Development | Proposed conversion of existing barn to residential dwelling. |

The Parish Council agreed there was no objection to the principle of the conversion of the existing barn, however Cllr Sutton proposed a comment is submitted with the following concerns,

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- a. The shared access - This new proposal is for a significantly larger property which will share a single access with the adjoining property. A property of the size proposed is likely to generate additional vehicle movements onto a priority route where the access is on a dangerous bend.
- b. Increase in height - Given the openness of the surrounding countryside, the Parish Council is concerned with the increased height proposed and the visual impact this will have from the rear of properties in the vicinity. This was seconded by Cllr Lodge with all in agreement.

20.105.02 – Decisions

Application No UTT/20/2187/PDE
 Location The Willows, Acreland Green
 Development Proposed single storey rear extension - extending 5.84m from rear wall, maximum height 2.96m and height to eaves 2.96m
 Decision No objections

Application No UTT/20/2174/CLP
 Location The Willows, Acreland Green
 Development Single storey side extension with a pitched roof
 Decision Proposed approve certificate of lawfulness

Application No UTT/20/2186/PDE
 Location 6 Boreham Court
 Development Proposed single storey rear extension - extending 3.6m from rear wall, maximum height 3.16m and height to eaves 2.33m
 Decision Application required

Application No UTT/20/2168
 Location Brown's Barn, School Lane
 Development Proposed outdoor swimming pool with associated landscaping
 Decision Conditional Approval

20.105.03 – Notification was received that application UTT/20/1208/PIP would be considered by the Uttlesford Planning Committee on 28 October. In consultation with Cllrs Davis, Reeve and Robinson it was agreed Cllr Reeve would make a statement on behalf of the Parish Council at the meeting. The Planning Committee refused the application.

20.105.04 - Uttlesford is consulting on an update to the Statement of Community Involvement. This is a planning document that enables the public to know how and when they will be involved in the planning process. It is being updated now to support the new Local Plan process and to address those elements of the previous statement that are suspended in response to government restrictions due to Covid. The closing date for responses is 9 December, the Parish Council noted the new statements commitment to engage with local groups and individuals during the Local Plan process; it agreed not to submit a response to the consultation.

20/106 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY PLANNING

The Clerk had prepared a draft Covid risk assessment for an act of remembrance at the war memorial on Sunday 8 November, this had been circulated in advance of the meeting. It has also been sent to Uttlesford District Council who have confirmed acceptance and to Essex police, a response is pending. Cllr Lodge proposed that the Parish Council accepts the risk assessment, pending any requests from Essex Police, this was seconded by Cllr Reeve with all in agreement.

Cllr Windley had carried out maintenance to the war memorial garden area and replanted the tubs. It was noted that dog fouling has occurred around the war memorial and not been cleared up. The meeting went on to consider arrangements for the event.

20/107 MANAGEMENT PAVEMENT PARKING CONSULTATION

The Parish Council discussed the consultation and concluded their support for option 2, *'legislative change to allow local authorities with civil parking enforcement (CPE) powers to enforce against 'unnecessary obstruction of the*

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pavement'. Cllrs considered what they saw as '*unnecessary obstructions*' and were of the view usually residents and visitors are considerate to all road and footpath users when parking along The Street especially at the narrower sections. They suggested a definition of '*unnecessary obstruction*' to be where more than 2 wheels of a vehicle were on the pavement. Cllrs were not in support of option 3 which would see a parking prohibition throughout England. The Clerk to respond to the consultation with these views.

20/108 FINANCE

20.108.01 The following cheques were proposed for payment by Cllr Davis, seconded by Cllr Windley with all in agreement.

| PAYMENT TO | VALUE |
|--|------------|
| Allison Ward - Parish Clerk October 2020 inc Zoom subscription for month | £ 280.63 |
| P Brown – Playing field grass cutting for 2020 season | £ 1,410.00 |
| Allison Ward – Bin Shop, new bins for playing field, inc VAT | £ 471.83 |

20/109 ITEMS CARRIED FORWARD, tree planting.

20/110 DATE OF NEXT MEETING scheduled for Monday 7 December 2020 at 7.30pm, the meeting will be via Zoom.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.