

HIGH EASTER PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
held in High Easter Village Hall Monday 1st April 2019

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

County and District Cllr Susan Barker

2 Members of the public

19/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllr Andrea Davis and accepted by the Parish Council.

19/02 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS FOR THIS MEETING – Cllr Robinson declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in agenda item 19.08.01 as joint owner of the property Newell Cottage.

19/03 PUBLIC FORUM

The meeting was notified that the village fete will take place on 29th June with proceeds of the event going to the village hall. Please spread the word and any volunteers to assist would be welcome.

19/04 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING of 4th March 2019. Cllr Lodge proposed that the minutes be accepted as a correct record, this was seconded by Cllr Boreham with all in agreement. The Chairman signed the minutes.

19/05 DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Barker outlined the proposal in the Stansted planning application section 106 agreement in relation to Stansted Community Trust and suggested it is not as favourable as current arrangements, especially for the small village groups who have historically applied to this fund. Whilst funding will continue to be provided by MAGs the proposals are that the total grant value will be £150k per annum; 50% of this will go directly to parishes, £50k being allocated to a special project and with admin costs of £5k, this will leave only £20k for local groups and organisations.

Cllr Barker was asked for an update on the 40mph speed limit beyond Boreham Court and confirmed it is due to be implemented in this financial year, although as yet there is no date.

Cllr Boreham explained to Cllr Barker the situation with the new roundabout at the top of High Easter Road and how it doesn't allow large vehicles to safely navigate. Cllr Boreham and Cllr Lodge were asked to supply evidence and details to Cllr Barker who will then discuss with Essex Highways.

Cllr Barker leaves the meeting

19/06 CLERK'S UPDATE & CORRESPONDENCE FOR CONSIDERATION

The village litter pick will take place on Saturday 13th April (please note change of date) meeting at 10am in the village hall car park.

Nominations for Parish Council are open until 4pm on Wednesday 3rd April, nomination packs are available from the Clerk.

The Green Waste service schedule has been issued and will start on Saturday 6th April. A vehicle will be in the village hall car park between 11.30am and 12.30pm.

The mobile Post Office opened on 19th March and a service is available every Tuesday morning between 9am and 11am.

Signed
 Robert Lodge (Chairman Parish Council)

County Broadband responded to the Parish Councils plans for an update and confirmed, *'Our plan is to build a network to each and every property within the parish of High Easter. We are currently undertaking a detailed survey and plan of the network to do just that across the village. Once that has been completed we will be in a much better place to determine if there are going to be any areas where we are not going to be able to get to, but to reiterate our initial plan says we can get to the whole parish and that is what we intend to do.'* Subsequently they have confirmed they *'hope to start work in July subject to the survey report'*.

A first aid course arranged by the Village Hall Committee and supported by the Parish Council will take place on Saturday 4th May in the village hall, places can be booked via the Village Hall Committee.

Outstanding actions – website changes to include village hall, repairs to footpaths around the village hall.

19/07 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Boreham inspected the playground for March 2019, there are no new issues. However, concerns were raised with the gate from the highway into the playing field which is generally open and not secure, this allows young children to run out onto the road. The Clerk was asked to look at possible solutions to reduce this risk.

A resident had raised concerns with obstructions on verges which are on the white lines, Cllr Boreham will speak to the property owners.

19/08 PLANNING

19.08.01 Applications

Application No	UTT/19/0650/FUL & UTT/19/0651/LB
Location	The Hill, Chelmsford Road
Development	Proposed barn conversion to a 3 bedroom residential property with the insertion of a first floor

Cllr Sutton proposed that the Parish Council has no objection to this application, this was seconded by Cllr Reeve with all in agreement.

Application No	UTT/19/0652/HHF
Location	The Hill, Chelmsford Road
Development	Proposed annexe to the north-west corner of the property.

Cllr Sutton proposed that the Parish Council has no objection to this application, this was seconded by Cllr Reeve with all in agreement.

Application No	UTT/19/0649/HHF
Location	Briar Bank
Development	Enlargement of existing first floor dormer to provide larger en-suite bathroom to master bedroom (Re-submission of application granted consent under UTT/14/1871/HHF).

Cllr Sutton proposed that the Parish Council has no objection to this application, this was seconded by Cllr Lodge with all in agreement

Application No	UTT/19/0580/HHF
Location	9 Gepps Close
Development	Single storey rear extension

Cllr Sutton proposed a comment expressing concerns over the size of the extension and the impact on the neighbouring property. This was seconded by Cllr Reeve with all in agreement.

Cllr Robinson leaves the meeting

Application No	UTT/19/0438/HHF
Location	Newell Cottage, The Street
Development	Proposed rear conservatory

Cllr Sutton proposed that the Parish Council has no objection to this application, this was seconded by Cllr Lodge with all in agreement.

Cllr Robinson returns to the meeting and 1 resident leaves the meeting.

Please note the following application is made under agricultural development and not open to general comment.

Application No	UTT/19/0538/AG
Location	Poplars Farm
Development	Erection of an agricultural store

19.08.02 Decisions

Application No	UTT/18/3417/PAP3Q
Location	Games Farm, High Easter Road
Development	Prior Notification of change of use of agricultural building to 2 no. dwellings
Decision	Prior approval not required

19.08.03 Walnut Cottage (formerly Homely), The Street – The plans for the garage in 1978, confirm its location was approved at the rear of the property; the Parish Council continues its discussions with Uttlesford.

Cllr Lodge confirmed the owner of the property had visited him late that afternoon and briefly outlined the unexpected issues with the building and that it was now considered unsafe. The resident left some plans which the Parish Council were able to view. However, as no application has been submitted it was not possible for any formal comments to be considered at this stage, although it was noted the plans do not restore the building to its previous state and do not include the garage. Cllr Sutton asked that the Parish Council draws to the attention of the Planners the building control application reference UBR/19/0246/DOMBN for this property.

19.08.04 The Secretary of State has made a decision not to call in the Stansted Airport planning application to increase passenger numbers. His reason for not intervening was that *'the application does not involve issues of more than local importance'*. Stop Stansted Expansion have issued a statement to say that it will commence legal proceedings to challenge the Secretary of States decision. *Still need to approve the S106 contributions, which could mean further delays. S106 didn't go to committee.*

19/09 PLAYGROUND and PLAYING FIELD

19.09.01 The Parish Council considered the tender responses, after which Cllr Lodge proposed that Paul Brown is contracted to cut the playing field for 2019, this was seconded by Cllr Boreham with all in agreement.

19.09.02 Following the withdrawal of the current contractor, only one response has been received for the Jubilee Meadow contract. This contractor has submitted a response to both tenders and has suggested they are not in a position to split the work. This item will be carried forward to the next meeting to allow further discussions following the decision in 19.09.01.

19.09.03 Cllr Boreham confirmed that he is able to source additional bark at c.£62 per bag and the meeting suggested it was appropriate to purchase 10 bags. Cllr Boreman proposed that the bark is procured as discussed, this was seconded by Cllr Lodge with all in agreement.

Signed
Robert Lodge (Chairman Parish Council)

19.09.04 The Clerk confirmed the following works had been completed; repairs to the fencing around the play area, repositioning the goal post, replacing the wooden gate post for the gate into the Jubilee Meadow, installing posts along the field edge to restrict vehicle access to the playing field.

19.09.05 Stansted Airport, in raising the importance of biodiversity and ecology in the local area have offered to present the Council with one or more silver birch tree saplings as a gift to celebrate local biodiversity and help open a conversation about the importance of protecting the environment. Cllr Lodge proposed that the Parish Council requests 20 saplings to be planted in the Jubilee Meadow and playing field. This was seconded by Cllr Reeve with all in agreement.

19/10 HIGHWAYS

The Parish Council confirmed the positions of the proposed hamlet signs for Stagden Cross, Clerk to update Essex Highways.

As recorded in 19/05, the 40mph buffer zone beyond Boreham Court remains on the Essex Highways list for installation in 2019/20.

The Clerk continues to chase for an update on whether Essex Highways will replace the VAS sign on The Street which no longer works.

19/11 FINANCE

19.11.01 Cheques for Approval

<i>PAYMENT TO</i>	<i>VALUE</i>
Allison Ward - Parish Council March 2019	£ 252.33

The following cheques were approved between meetings

<i>PAYMENT TO</i>	<i>VALUE</i>
Nightingale Landscaping Ltd – Grass cutting 2018	£ 335.00
Uttlesford District Council – Green waste service 2018	£ 1,122.00
Helix Ironwork Ltd – replacing fence panel around play area (inc VAT)	£ 753.60
G P Slater – posts on playing field and misc repairs	£ 1,451.76

19.11.02 The Clerk presented the draft report of the receipts and payments for 2018/19 showing a draft closing cash balance at March 2019 of £26,869. This is subject to final reconciliations and will be presented to the next meeting for formal approval,

19.11.03 The Clerk confirmed the Parish Council does not meet the criteria in 2018/19 of a small Parish Council as its income exceeds £25k following the transfer of the HESI fund. It is therefore not able to exempt itself from an external audit and its Annual Return will need to be forwarded to the external auditors.

19/12 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA to include approval of the Annual Return and parish lunches 2019/20.

19/13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING scheduled for Thursday 9th May 2019, please note this is a change of date to that originally published. It will be the first meeting of the newly formed Parish Council. The meeting will begin at 7pm with the Annual Village Meeting and be followed by the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council. The Clerk was asked to invite County Broadband to the meeting to update the residents on its plans.

TIME AND CLOSE OF MEETING 9.30pm