

HIGH EASTER PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
held in High Easter Village Hall on Monday 5th July 2021

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

3 Members of the public (leaving during the meeting)

Ulrike Maccariello – Hastoe Housing Association (leaving after agenda item 21/54)
 Sophie Robinson – Hastoe Housing Association (leaving after agenda item 21/54)

21/52 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllr Robert Lodge (holiday) and accepted by the meeting. The meeting was chaired by the vice-chairman.

21/53 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS FOR THIS MEETING – None

21/54 PUBLIC FORUM

Cllr Sutton welcomed Sophie Robertson and Ulrike Maccariello from Hastoe Housing Association who provided an update on the affordable housing development.

Sophie confirmed work has begun on site and is scheduled for completion in February 2022. Hastoe hope to be able to hold an information session in the village hall around October/November which will be a final opportunity to provide details on how people can apply for one of the four rental homes. Hastoe expect to ask Uttlesford for tenancy nominations in December if works go to plan.

All tenancy nominations come from Uttlesford and applicants must be on the housing register to apply, see this link which will take you to the registration form, <https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/article/5308/I-want-to-apply-for-a-Council-or-Housing-Association-Home>. When registering it is important to make it clear you are interested in one of the High Easter properties as local connections will apply. When the properties are available they will be advertised on the Home Option website which is the method applicants must use to apply for one of the properties. Sophie agreed to notify the Parish Council when this will happen in order that residents can be advised. The Clerk will place details of how to apply on the notice board and website.

Questions and responses are summarised as follows,

1. It is essential those interested are on the Uttlesford housing register. If there is no difference between individuals in terms of eligibility it will come down to how long you have been on the housing register, so applying as soon as possible is important.
2. The local eligibility criteria are set out in the s106 agreement and remain with the scheme throughout. They are
 - a. Been permanently resident in High Easter for at least 2 years.
 - b. No longer resident in High Easter but has been so resident for at least 3 years during the past 5 years
 - c. Is either in permanent employment in High Easter and has been for a minimum of 2 years and is working for a minimum of 24 hours per week or having close relatives, (i.e., parents, grandparents, children, siblings); living in High Easter who have lived there for at least 5 years.

If there was insufficient interest from the parish, those from the nominated adjoining Uttlesford parishes have an opportunity to be considered before the net widens to anyone in Uttlesford.

3. Hastoe will contact those who have previously completed expression of interest forms to update them on the plans and timeframes.
4. The process requires applicants to bid. Uttlesford advertise on the Home Choice system and applicants select the property they want to be considered for. Uttlesford will assess based on local connection and then if there is more than one applicant Uttlesford will assess who is in the greatest housing need and then finally if required it will come down to who has been on the housing register the longest.

The Parish Council noted there have been recent attempted breaks-in at the site, although none have been successful, and residents are asked to be vigilant and report any concerns to the police.

Cllr Sutton thanked Ulrike and Sophie for attending.

(2 residents leave the meeting)

Signed
 Robert Lodge (Chairman Parish Council)

21/55 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING of 7th June 2021. Cllr Sutton proposed that the minutes be accepted as a correct record, this was seconded by Cllr Reeve with all in agreement.

21/56 COUNTY AND DISTRICT CLLRS REPORT

County and District Cllr Susan Barker sent apologies to the meeting.

Cllr Reeve provided a brief update on Uttlesford matters,

- a. In late June, a motion of no confidence at Uttlesford made by the opposition parties was a political stunt which did not go anywhere with no points or evidence being provided.
- b. The sites put forward for housing and employment by members of the public and other bodies is due to be published in July.
- c. The Economic Recovery Plan has been approved and details the plans to help local businesses and residents recover post Covid.
- d. Uttlesford have submitted an application to the High Court to appeal the decision by the Planning Inspector to allow the MAGs application for increasing passenger numbers at Stansted. The application from MAGs on costs is pending and could range from zero to £1.5m.

21/57 CLERK'S PROGRESS UPDATE and CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

Essex has confirmed the order to re-direct the footpaths south of Haydens Farm, the new routes come into force on 24 June and the old routes cease on 1 July. For exact details please see the order on the village website alongside the village footpath map.

The Clerk has continued to investigate ongoing concerns with vehicles accessing footpath 108 and 109 without permission from the landowner. The Parish Council confirmed their support for a solution that would allow controlled access, i.e., a drop-down bollard. The issue remains land ownership of the footpaths at The Street access, residents' suggestions that Essex Highways have suggested a bollard on the pavement are supported, however it has not been possible to track this application to. The Clerk to discuss options with the farm landowner.

Cllrs are invited to attend a Local Plan meeting on 28 July re call for sites and next steps, Cllr Boreham, Cllr Reeve and Cllr Sutton all expressed an interest in attending and the Clerk will forward their contact details.

Cllr Boreham will arrange for footpath 87 to be cut after a request from resident and confirmation this is not a footpath included on the Essex Highways cutting programme.

Cllrs noted the current footpath map needs updating following various changes, however the meeting is aware of further proposed changes around Garnetts Farm and will wait for these before updating the map. Orders to divert footpaths have been added to the website alongside the footpath map.

21/58 CLLRS REPORTS

Cllr Sutton confirmed it is 20 years since his first Parish Council meeting as a Cllr in July 2001, the meeting congratulated Cllr Sutton on 20 years' service and commitment to High Easter.

The Clerk completed the playground inspection there were no new concerns.

Cllr Windley confirmed new footpath issues forwarded by residents have been reported. Cllr Windley noted the footpath markers around Haydens have not yet been replaced, the Clerk will chase with the PROW officer.

Cllr Windley raised concerns with the green triangles around the village particularly at Lofty Green which had now almost disappeared. The Clerk will speak to County Cllr Barker for assistance on what if anything can be done to protect them.

Cllr Davis confirmed she will attend a Stansted Airport Watch (SAW) meeting next week. Cllr Davis went on to confirm SAW will not be providing financial support to the Uttlesford High Court appeal, however it would be providing evidence and support focused on climate change if the appeal progresses.

Cllr Robinson asked if the dog fouling signs on the playing field could be replaced as they are in poor condition, Clerk to arrange. A discussion continued on the increasing dog fouling in the village. Cllr Reeve suggested paint marking dog fouling had been used in other parishes and proved to have some success, Cllrs agreed to try this, and the Clerk was asked to purchase paint and a stencil.

Signed
Robert Lodge (Chairman Parish Council)

21/59 PLANNING

21.59.01 – New Applications - None

21.59.02 – Decisions

Application No UTT/21/0932/LB
 Location Cock and Bell House, The Street
 Development Retention of the removal of a chimney, Upper section of chimney breast removed, Aerial, Fire back and surround Replacement sash window, Repairs to studwork and render, Replacement casement windows.
 Decision Conditional Approval – Please note the condition is that the aerial is removed within 2 months of the approval, by 28 August 2021.

Application No UTT/21/1225/HHF
 Location 4 Bishops Green Villas, Bishops Green
 Development Rear ground and first floor extension
 Decision Refused

Application No UTT/21/1421/FUL
 Location Punch Bowl, The Street
 Development Erection of storage barn measuring 7.5m wide by 15m in length
 Decision Refused

Application No UTT/21/1422/HHF
 Location Pleshey Grange, Grange Road Pleshey
 Development New wooden entrance gates, brick piers and short section of wall either side
 Decision Refused

21.59.03 – The appeal has begun against Uttlesford’s refusal of application UTT/20/1937/FUL Homely, Section 73A Retrospective application for the demolition of existing property and proposed erection of new dwelling. This will be a written appeal and the Planning Inspector is inviting additional comments by 22nd July. Cllr Sutton proposed the Parish Council submits a further response confirming its original objections remain, and provides the evidence obtained from Heritage England together with a summary of the subsequent discussion at the planning committee meeting held in March 2021 which led to the withdrawal of a further application. This was seconded by Cllr Reeve with all in agreement..

21.59.04 – Notice has been received of a householder appeal against Uttlesford’s refusal of application UTT/20/3087/HHF The Old Manse ‘Proposed garage extension with a single storey pitched roof. Erection of detached cart lodge at the front of the property’. As this is a householder appeal there is no opportunity to submit further comment. Cllr Sutton proposed the Parish Councils comments on this application are not withdrawn, this was seconded by Cllr Reeve with all in agreement.

21/60 WELCOME PACK FOR NEW RESIDENTS

Cllrs discussed the content that has now been added to the village website and agreed some additional information including defibrillator, mobile library services, local police contact and village hall social, as well as changes to the order.

Cllr Windley to provide the Clerk with the draft letter for circulation to Cllrs, the intention is this would be given to new residents along with a copy of the village map and Parish News.

(1 resident leaves the meeting)

21/61 VILLAGE MAINTENANCE JOBS

21.61.01 – The Clerk has purchased new glass for the phone box (£14.40inc VAT) to replace the Perspex signage at the top. This will be re-lettered ‘Telephone’ and ‘Information’ by a local contractor. The Clerk has spoken to a resident who is assisting with shelving for the kiosk. There were some concerns that the door to the kiosk is difficult to open, Clerk to investigate.

Signed
 Robert Lodge (Chairman Parish Council)

21.61.02 – Cllr Lodge has asked the meeting to consider purchasing 5 bags of small gravel/stones c.£30 to place around the pump on Pump Green following the clearance of weeds; Cllr Davis proposed this as acceptable, this was seconded by Cllr Windley with all in agreement.

21.61.03 – There is no progress on putting the slide in situ as it is now not possible to take excess soil from the Hastoe site and an alternative plan is required. The Clerk will discuss with Cllr Lodge.

21.61.04 – The Clerk has contacted the football clubs with the proposal to shorten the football pitches for the 2021/22 season to allow the goal mouths to be repaired, responses are pending.

21/62 EVENT FOR THE OVERS

Cllrs discussed and are keen to organise an event in the early Autumn for residents, possibly an afternoon tea event. The Clerk was asked to speak to Cllr Lodge about using Lodges as a venue and if this was possible, obtaining a quote from The Snug before considering further.

21/63 QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

There will be an extended bank holiday from Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June 2022 which will provide an opportunity for communities and people to come together to celebrate the historic milestone. To date published information for consideration includes,

Thursday 2nd June - Beacons to be lit at 9.15pm. The Parish Council agreed to take part and the Clerk was asked to register.

Sunday 4th June – The Big Lunch. The Parish Council discussed possible options and were keen to hold a street party with possible use of the cricket pitch, and/or village hall and playing field. The Clerk to ask the village hall committee to reserve from Thursday 2nd June to Sunday 4th June and to check if there is any early information on road closures. The Parish Council to continue to include on future agendas for further consideration.

21/64 FINANCE

21.64.01 Cllr Robinson proposed that the following are approved for payment, (the schedule includes items approved at 21.64.03) this was seconded by Cllr Davis with all in agreement.

PAYMENT TO	VALUE
Allison Ward - Parish Clerk June 2021 inc. expenses for telephone kiosk glass	£ 280.64
Rural Community Council of Essex – Annual subscription	£ 72.60
High Easter Parochial Church Council – Grant churchyard	£ 300.00
Stansted Airport Watch – Annual subscription and grant	£ 250.00

21.64.02 The Clerk presented the quarterly accounts for the period April to June 2021 including an updated full year estimate. The current cash balance as of June 2021 is £26,364. There were no questions or concerns and the reports were accepted by the Parish Council.

21.64.03 The Parish Council had received two requests for grants which the meeting considered. Cllr Davis proposed that a grant of £250 is made to Stansted Airport Watch, this was seconded by Cllr Reeve with all in agreement. Cllr Sutton proposed that a grant of £300 is made to High Easter Parochial Church Council to assist with the churchyard maintenance, this was seconded by Cllr Robinson with all in agreement.

21/65 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA – Queens Platinum celebrations, event for the overs, Local Plan.

21/66 DATE OF NEXT MEETING scheduled for Monday 6th September at 7.30pm in the village hall, please note there is no ordinary meeting scheduled for August.

TIME AND CLOSE OF MEETING 9.15pm

Signed
Robert Lodge (Chairman Parish Council)