

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 17th January 2017

Present: D.Clayden, P.Sutterby, Mrs G. Essex, M.Whitehead, and 6 members of the public.

Apologies: J.McIntock

Minutes of the last meeting of 13th December 2016 were agreed and duly signed.

Public questions/concerns addressed to the Parish Council

A resident asked for an update on the repair of the footpaths in Holloway Crescent. The clerk read an email from Uttlesford stating that their surveyor informed them that some repairs were carried out at the end of September; Uttlesford enquired whether there were more recent complaints. The clerk has informed Uttlesford that there were complaints received after September and she was aware that a resident of Holloway Crescent also intended to complain to Uttlesford since September. The clerk has requested that, although the Parish Council is aware that the footpaths in Holloway Crescent may not be any worse than other footpaths in the village, that the surveyor investigate again to make a decision as to whether the footpaths are in need of repair or not.

Clerks report.

- After seeking support from Cllr Barker the clerk has received an acknowledgement from Uttlesford Waste Aware following the request for regular emptying of the re-instated litter bins at the shop and the bus stop or larger bins to be erected at the shop as the one there at this time does not appear to have the capacity needed. Waste Aware are awaiting clarification on how best to improve collections from the litter bins and will reply as soon as possible.
- The requested barrier by the flats in Holloway Crescent which should have been erected some time in November has not been completed; the clerk has now been informed this will be erected towards the end of January.
- The clerk has requested that Uttlesford look into the repair of the whole of the footpaths in Holloway Crescent, see above.
- A request has been put forward to Highways to look into the possibility of traffic calming measures outside the school in Dunmow Road – no further update.
- Dog fouling – the clerk has now reported the offending dog owner to the Animal Warden.
- The need for repositioning the road sign at the roundabout has been reported to Highways.
- The clerk has requested that Highways look at ways of improving the parking area outside the shop so it is not used as a slip road.
- The clerk has now had news of the prices and times for the green waste skip for 2017. Prices and times will remain the same as 2016. After discussion Parish Councillors decided to continue with the service.

Finance:

The clerk was given authority to pay: -

£17.00 to Leaden Roding Village Hall Trust – hire of hall for today's meeting

£200.00 to Leaden Roding PCC – donation to church insurance (see below)

Planning Applications:

The following planning applications were circulated between meetings:-

Aythorpe House, Brownlows Close – single and two storey side extension – no objections.

Parish Precept.

Again this year due to Council Tax Benefit being abolished and Council Tax Support Discounts replacing it, the amount requested by Parish Councils will be given by part Precept and part grant. Parish Councils need to work out the amount that is required and then apply just for the Precept, the grant will be credited automatically when the Precept is given allowing the full amount to be collected by Parish Councils.

The clerk circulated finance details for the last two financial years for Parish Councillors reference. Discussions took place regarding village enhancement – it was agreed to budget for village enhancement again this year, specifically to cut back hedges and grass verges in the village. After further discussion it was agreed that the Parish Precept for the financial year 2017 to 2018 should be £6,285.00, this will be increased to £6,500.00 when the grant is received.

Footpaths.

P. Sutterby reported that the ongoing problems listed below are being treated as low priority:

Footpath 8 opposite the church – footbridge is broken – job No. 2496708.

Footpath 38 Dunmow Road – marker post down – job No. 2496710.

Footpath 15 High Easter Road – Finger post missing – further investigation required.

Any footpath problems can be reported by contacting Phil Sutterby or by telephoning 0845 6037631 or by emailing www.essex.gov.uk/highways.

Any other business:

1. The clerk read a letter from Mrs Golding requesting the Parish Council consider paying for the 2016 summer cutting of Chalks Green. Parish Councillors were concerned that this was not requested soon after the green had been cut in the summer. After discussion it was decided that the Parish Council would pay £75 being half of the cost. It was also decided to approach Mrs Golding to meet to discuss a way forward in making an agreement for the payment of the cutting of Chalks Green for future years.
2. P.Sutterby expressed his concern regarding the recurrence of the flooding on the B184 beyond High Roding. The clerk will report these concerns to Highways.

3. P. Sutterby reported that another litter pick has been arranged for Saturday 11th February, weather permitting.
4. D.Clayden suggested that as the Parish Council has not had any request from St Michael's church this year for a donation towards the cost of the church insurance that Parish Councillors consider donating £200 to the church. After discussion it was unanimously agreed to make the donation.
5. Since Highways changed the street light at the zebra crossing on Dunmow Road, a neighbouring house has had the light streaming into their window at night. The clerk will request the Highways adjust the light.
6. Various other documents were circulated for Councillors' attention outside the meeting.

Date of the next meeting: Tuesday 7th March 2017

Dates of future meetings: Tuesday 16th May 2017
Tuesday 18th July 2017
Tuesday 5th September 2017
Tuesday 7th November 2017 (to be amended)
Tuesday 12th December 2017

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm.