

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 17th July 2018

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

Apologies received: M Whitehead and Cllr Barker

Minutes of the last meeting of 29th May 2018 were agreed and duly signed.

Public questions/concerns addressed to the Parish Council

A resident again complained about block drains on the roads in Leaden Roding, she has complained to Essex County Council who told her the drains had been cleared but she did not believe this is the case. During the dry spell it is difficult to assess the drainage on the roads, it appears during rainfall there is water collected at the sides of the roads which is inconvenient to dog walkers and any pedestrians at that time, it soon clears when it stops raining. It was explained to the resident that most of the roads in Essex also have this problem and although the clerk has reported this, unfortunately Leaden Roding does not have any precedence over other villages. It is assumed by the Parish Council that as complaints about drainage is minimal it is assumed priority for Highways funds for the majority of residents in the village is the repair of potholes. The Parish Council will monitor the situation when in rains and request the Highways clear the drains.

A resident complained about the uneven footpath outside King William House where a large puddle forms when it rains. This has been reported several times to Highways and the Parish Council has been informed that this was not severe enough to be repaired. However, the Parish Council believes this is a problem which should be addressed and the clerk will again request this is repaired.

A resident again requested that the footpath on Dunmow Road towards Aythorpe Roding is cleared of weeds as people with pushchairs cannot access this easily. The clerk in again report this.

Clerk's report.

- Traffic calming request on B184 Dunmow Road – Highways have informed the clerk that it was hoped that they would be in a position to discuss the possibility of funding a VAS on the approach to the school on the validation of being completed in time for their March meeting but this was not the case. Highways will look to progress this at the next funding opportunity. The clerk will continue to chase a decision.
- Service area outside the shop –Mrs Essex contacted the landlord of the car showroom over concerns raised regarding cars from the showroom being parked in and around the service area, she was informed there is no contract agreed regarding how many cars should be on the forecourt at any one time. After discussion it was felt that the cars parked in the service area have recently decreased, this will be monitored.
- Possibility of an extension to the 30 mph on the A1060 at Leaden Bridge – Highways have informed that clerk that they have not been able to progress with an extension due to not being able to physically install the signage in a compliant position for sight lines. As an alternative they have been looking at improving the approach to the village to inform drivers to slow down. Funding is an issue for improvements with projects in the 2018-19 programme being working on at the moment. Rissa Long from Highways suggested that

she would be happy to meet with representatives from the Parish Council on site to look at possible measures. The Chairman and P. Sutterby agreed to meet with her; the clerk will arrange a meeting as soon as possible.

- The reported problem of the collapsed drain outside King William House has now been fixed.
- The clerk purchased 10 litter pickers which she has passed to P. Sutterby. She has requested funding from Cllr Barker for this purchase.
- The rotting post at the entrance of Cloghams Green has been fixed by a resident of Cloghams Green.
- The clerk informed Parish Councillors that the Parish Council website is now up and running. She invited Parish Councillors to make suggestions regarding any information they would like to add.

Finance:

The clerk was given authority to pay: -

- £17.00 to Leaden Roding Village Hall Trust – hire of hall for today’s meeting
- £280.00 to R.C. Bell – printing of the Leaden Reading (June 2018)
- £211.20 to MD Landscapes – grass cutting (Inv No. 1238)
- £105.60 to MD Landscapes – grass cutting (Inv No. 1194)
- £95.90 to Vivantage – purchase of 10 litter pickers
- £675.00 to Mrs T.E. Bell – clerk’s ½ year salary
- £550.00 to Mrs T.E. Bell – set up, training and maintenance of village website (part of grant from NALC)

Planning Applications:

The clerk has received a letter from Planning Enforcement informing of an allegation that a breach of planning control may have taken place at 3 Holloway Crescent (non-porous hardstanding to the front of the property). They confirm an investigation has been carried out and a decision was made to close the file as no evidence of a breach has been found. The Parish Council were unaware of this allegation.

The following planning application was circulated for Parish Councillors comments:

Land to the rear of 3 Holloway Crescent – erection of two 2 bedroomed flats with associated parking. Parish Councillors concerns were:

- A bungalow would be more ideal, there would be no problems of overlooking. There is a question over whether the whole plot is privately owned or whether the owner retained half of the original garden and either purchased/encroached the rest of the plot from Council owned land.
- This site would be suitable for a bungalow but not flats. Local residents’ opinions should be considered.
- This is not suitable for the surrounding houses.
- The development is too big for the site. The front elevation on the plans show this could be turned into a 4 bedroomed house at a later date.

- We do not need more flats; a bungalow would be more in keeping with the surrounding buildings.

Footpaths.

P. Sutterby stated that vegetation is getting high on footpaths but will improve once crops in the fields are cut.

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 will request that the Highways Rangers cut all vegetation in the village which is obscuring any traffic signs including those at Leaden Close and on the A1060.
2. P. Sutterby will request that residents of the homes at Redwings trim the laurel hedge at the front of the properties.
3. P. Sutterby stated that he will arrange another litter pick for Saturday 25th August where all are invited to join in.
4. The clerk will request that Uttlesford cut overgrown vegetation in the path between the village hall and Holloway Crescent.
5. Various other documents were circulated for Councillors' attention outside the meeting.

Date of the next meeting: Tuesday 4th September
Dates for future meetings: Tuesday 30th October
Tuesday 4th December

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm.