

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 4th December 2018

Present: D.Clayden, P.Sutterby, Mrs G Essex, J.McLintock, M.Whitehead and 10 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr Barker

Minutes of the last meeting of 30th October 2018 were agreed and duly signed.

Leaden Roding Parish Councillors co-opted Mrs Ann Ringrose as Parish Councillor; Acceptance of Office and Registration of Interest forms will be completed after the meeting.

Public questions/concerns addressed to the Parish Council

A resident who previously requested the possibility of a children's playground in the village attended the meeting, she has given a list of names of parents who would be willing to take on the responsibility of the building, maintenance and upkeep of a playground to the clerk and has suggested the preferred site would be an area of grass at the village hall. She was told that while the Parish Council would assist in finding funding for a play area (which in usual terms would have to be matched by fundraising for the project), the permission to use the village hall site lies with the Village Hall Committee. The clerk suggested the resident obtains full names and addresses of those interested in organising the project and she will pass this on to the Village Hall Committee at their next meeting in January 2019. The clerk suggested that another option might be to ask the school if there is a possibility for residents to use the play equipment at the school after school time which could prove a cheaper and more instant option, a school governor at the meeting will raise this with the school but was doubtful that this would be a viable option. A resident stated that disused refrigerators and other items left outside the village shop is an eyesore and a danger to pedestrians and users of the shop. The clerk will approach the landlord of the shop to request the area to be cleared.

A resident complained of dog owners not clearing up after their dogs in Holloway Crescent, the clerk stated that anybody witnessing dog owners not clearing up should report this to the Animal Warden at Uttlesford and they will be prosecuted.

Clerk's report.

- A1060 speed limit – awaiting implementation.
- Puddle outside King William House – still ongoing.
- Drainage problems on Stortford Road – still ongoing.
- Leaden Close dove problem – this is still ongoing; Cllr Barker and the resident are in communication to try to resolve this.
- Request for yellow lines between Long Hide and the School – awaiting implementation.
- VAS sign on Dunmow Road – awaiting decision for implementation.

Finance:

The clerk was given authority to pay: -

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

£105.60 to MD Landscapes – grass cutting (Inv 1380)

£280.00 to R.C Bell – printing of Leaden Reading (Dec 2018)
 £675.00 to Mrs T.E.Bell – clerk's ½ year salary

Planning Applications:

The clerk has received notification from the Planning Enforcement Team that an alleged breach of planning control has been reported at 8 Leaden Close – roofing extension exceeding permitted development allowance. An investigation has found that there was no breach therefore no further action will be taken. The Parish Council were unaware of this complaint.

The following planning applications were circulated between meetings:

Old Rectory, Stortford Road, proposed detached outbuilding – *no objection although it looks as if this outbuilding could easily be modified to make it into another dwelling.*

4 Lordswood View, Two storey side extension –

- *Complete and utter overdevelopment. Do not let this go ahead. States no existing hedges to be removed on the plan but also states 'replace existing laurel trees with a mix of hornbeam, hazel and holly' – how would they do this without removing trees, hedges etc?*
- *This is a case of overdevelopment without any consideration for others living nearby. I strongly suggest a site visit by experienced members of the Planning Committee, essential in fact. How many more extensions will materialise on this property in the future? Consideration should be given for existing hedges and trees.*
- *The property is big enough already, application states no hedges to be removed but the plans state they will change.*
- *A site visit is definitely needed as the plans do not appear to be a true reflection of the positioning of the house and trees. There is also an oil tank positioned very near to the narrow road where residential and service vehicles drive very close, is this adhering to safety rules? With other extra rooms added would there be more cars on the property with little parking facilities already?*

Footpaths.

P. Sutterby reported:

- Footpath 28 – from Cloghams Green to Cut Elms Cottage, Keers Green -overgrown vegetation has been reported and is awaiting inspection (Report No. 2587637)
- Bridleway 20 – from Meghills to the Wash – fallen trees reported and awaiting inspection (Report No. 2593026)
- Footpath 11 – from Sewerage Works past the oak tree to Longstead Lane – high vegetation has been reported and is awaiting inspection (Report No. 2593029)
- P. Sutterby reported that a new footbridge with handrails has been erected between Longhide and the school.

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

Fencing of Chalks Green.

Between meetings Cllr Barker received a complaint regarding the fencing of Chalk Green. It appears the green has changed ownership (although registration at this time does not confirm this) and the present owner has fenced the green leaving gaps for access for walkers.

M.Whitehead has also looked into the ownership and entitlement to fence the green and has himself made a request of assistance from Cllr Barker. M.Whitehead will request in the first instance that Essex County Council move to enforce the removal of all fencing, posts and wire. Essex County Council state that, if requested, they will write to the landowner requesting that they remove the fencing, pointing out that it is an offence to enclose a Common or restrict access to it, unless they have formal written consent from the Secretary of State and there is no record of this. If the landowner does not cooperate then the Parish Council may wish to consider making a case to the County Court, as they have the power to make an order for the removal of the fence.

Any other business:

1. Parish Councillors jointly completed a survey requested by Essex Highways.
2. The Clerk reminded Parish Councillors that the decision for the Parish Precept will need to be agreed at the next meeting, she will prepare information regarding expenditure over the last two financial years to be accessed for reference.
3. Mrs Ringrose requested an update on the proposed 30mph extension on Stortford Road, the clerk explained that although this has been agreed, the extension will not be implemented by Highways until at least the next financial year depending on other more pressing issues in the county.
4. The clerk will arrange dates for 2019 Parish Council meetings as soon as she receives information from the Village Hall bookings clerk and inform Parish Councillors of the dates. These have now been arranged (see below).
5. The clerk will report a damaged road sign on Stortford Road approaching Ongar Road.
6. The clerk informed Parish Councillors of a meeting in the Council Chamber, Saffron Walden on Wednesday 23rd January regarding housing for local residents. She will book places for Parish Councillors intending to attend the event.
7. The clerk read an email regarding a revised Code of Conduct which Uttlesford encourage Parish Councils to adopt. The clerk will send the email to Parish Councillors for discussion at the next meeting.
8. The clerk stated that the Christmas bin collection has been revised – she has put this information on the village website.
9. Various other documents were circulated for Councillors' attention outside the meeting.

Date of the next meeting:	Tuesday 15 th January
Future meeting dates:	Tuesday 5 th March
	Tuesday 21 st May
	Tuesday 16 th July
	Tuesday 3 rd September
	Tuesday 29 th October
	Tuesday 10 th December

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.