

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 15th January 2019

Present: D.Clayden, P.Sutterby, Mrs G Essex, J.McLintock, M.Whitehead Mrs A Ringrose, Cllr Barker and 9 members of the public.

Minutes of the last meeting of 4th December 2018 - P. Sutterby stated that when Footpaths were discussed at the last meeting he stated that overgrown vegetation on Footpath 28 from Cloghams Green to Cut Elms Cottage has now been cut. The minutes were then agreed and duly signed.

Public questions/concerns addressed to the Parish Council

A resident requested that Cllr Barker requests again that Highways clear the drains on the A1060 through the village as there is visible vegetation in the drains which is obviously hampering the flow of rainwater. Cllr Barker will chase.

Residents expressed their concern regarding the fencing of Chalks Green, apart from the aesthetic look 2 deer have been killed when trying to run through the area. M.Whitehead requested that Essex County Council ask the owner of the green to take the fencing down as no permission from the Secretary of State had been sought; he was told that the request needs to be made by Cllr Barker. Cllr Barker stated she was happy to do this. After discussion it was decided that before the request is made the Parish Council would prefer Cllr Barker to write to the landowner asking that a compromise could be made regarding the fencing with shorter posts without wires. Cllr Barker will write to the owner in the next couple of days.

Residents living in Willow Tree Cottage, Cloghams Green, who pay a peppercorn rent to the Parish Council for a small area of land beside their property asked who is responsible for the upkeep of trees on the land. The clerk will find out from the Tree Officer at Uttlesford.

Residents asked who is responsible for the pond at Leas Chase as they would be willing to clear this to make a better environment for wildlife. It is not certain at this time who is the owner; another resident volunteered to try to find out.

A resident asked for an update regarding her request for a playground at the village hall site, the clerk informed her she has passed her request to the Village Hall Committee at a recent meeting and they would get in touch with her directly. A school governor present stated that he had requested consideration from the school that residents use their play equipment but, as expected, the school felt this was not a viable option.

A resident expressed concern for the amount of litter left in various places in the village. The clerk will put an article in the next edition of the Leaden Reading and put up posters in the village.

A resident expressed concern that despite contacting Uttlesford to report trees dangerous to horse riders which need to be cut in Longstead Lane, this still has not been done. Cllr Barker will make the request to Highways.

Clerk's report.

- A1060 speed limit – awaiting implementation – this is in the Highways budget for 2019/20.
- Puddle outside King William House – still ongoing.
- Drainage problems on Stortford Road – still ongoing (see above).

- Request for yellow lines between Long Hide and the School – awaiting implementation.
- VAS sign on Dunmow Road – awaiting decision for implementation or alternative option.
- The clerk apologised for the oversight at the last meeting of requesting consideration of a gift voucher for Mr Moore for his continued litter picking in the village. After discussion it was decided that the clerk purchase a £30 voucher for P. Sutterby to give to Mr Moore.
- Between meetings it was decided that instead of a letter, P. Sutterby would speak to the owners of the shop with the request to clear rubbish accumulated at the front. The owners are in the process of contacting companies to clear the discarded items but are concerned with the cost involved. It was felt it was the responsibility of the shop owners to have this cleared; the Parish Council would monitor this.
- The clerk reported that at this time there is no news from Uttlesford regarding a village green skip this year. When information is received, she will email Parish Councillors between meetings if necessary.
- Damaged sign on Stortford Road – this was reported but not yet repaired, the clerk will chase.

Finance:

The clerk was given authority to pay: -
 £17.00 to Leaden Roding Village Hall Trust – hire of hall for today's meeting

Planning Applications:

The following planning applications were circulated between meetings:

5 Brownlows Close, Demolition of rear conservatory. Erection of single storey extension and conversion of garage to habitable accommodation – *no objections providing this is acceptable to close neighbours.*

The decision to determine the following planning application has been received -
 4 Lordswood View, two storey side extension – Refused.

Footpaths.

P. Sutterby reported:

- 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)

Cllr Barker will look into both of these problems as they were first reported in October 2018.

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.

See above.

Parish Precept.

The clerk circulated finance details for the last two financial years for Parish Councillors' reference. Discussion took place regarding funding for any action which might need to be taken regarding the fencing of Chalks Green but it was felt that a sum at this time would be difficult to calculate. After further discussion it was unanimously agreed that the Parish Precept for the financial year 2019 to 2020 should be £6,500.00.

Code of Conduct.

The clerk emailed Parish Councillors a copy of the suggested Code of Conduct advised by Uttlesford for adoption. As P. Sutterby had not been able to access his copy the clerk read the proposed changes. After discussion it was proposed by J. McLintock that the Parish Council should adopt the new Code of Conduct, seconded by M. Whitehead and carried forward. The clerk will inform Uttlesford.

Any other business:

1. P. Sutterby expressed concern that whole slices of bread left for birds at the village sign is attracting rats. The clerk will erect a sign discouraging people to leave bread at the site.
2. P. Sutterby stated that fly tipping has again occurred in Lords Wood on High Easter Road, this has been reported to Uttlesford.
3. P. Sutterby stated that an untaxed and uninsured pickup truck parked on High Easter Road outside the shop has been reported to Uttlesford for removal.
4. P. Sutterby stated that he has arranged for the first litter pick of the year to be on Saturday 16th March.
5. P. Sutterby stated that the date for the Annual Assembly is set too late as it need to be set within 10 day of the election. The clerk will look into this and change the date if necessary.
6. Various other documents were circulated for Councillors' attention outside the meeting.

Date of the next meeting: Tuesday 5th March

Future meeting dates
 Tuesday 21st May (Annual Assembly)
 Tuesday 16th July
 Tuesday 3rd September
 Tuesday 29th October
 Tuesday 10th December

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.20pm.