

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 21st May 2019

Present: D.Clayden, P.Sutterby, Mrs G Essex, J.McLintock, Mrs A Ringrose and 19 members of the public.

Apologies received from: M. Whitehead and Cllr Barker

Minutes of the last meeting of 5th March were agreed and duly signed.

Public questions/concerns addressed to the Parish Council

Concerns were raised by residents regarding an approach by a group of residents requesting that the Village Hall Trust consider donating a piece of village hall land for a proposed play area. The Chairman stated that although at this time this is a matter of the Village Hall Trust to discuss, if they were to donate land then a planning application will need to be put forward to Uttlesford and then considered by the Parish Council. Residents stressed the importance of their views being taken into account and emailed the Parish Clerk with their concerns between meetings; although at this time there is no involvement from the Parish Council, they requested that their objections be read at the meeting so Parish Councillors are aware of their objections. The clerk read three emails with objections and will retain them for future reference should a planning application be received.

Russell Collins attended the meeting to find a way forward regarding the fencing of Chalks Green. Between meetings he suggested to the clerk that he was happy for the Parish Council to pay a peppercorn rent of £1 per year for 25 years to maintain the land for village use. The clerk passed this suggestion on to Parish Councillors between meetings. At the meeting Mr Collins stated that his solicitor had informed him that 5-year Peppercorn Rent leases were more feasible and he again offered this option to Parish Councillors with the option to renew the lease after 5 years. Between meetings Mr Collins had received a letter from Essex County Council requesting that the fence be taken down, the clerk stated that this request was not instigated by the Parish Council but was an individual request from a resident. Mrs Essex suggested a way forward could be that the wire be taken away and the posts shortened, still keeping Travellers from accessing the green but it would look more aesthetically pleasing. J. McIntock was of the view that it should be removed altogether as this was the law. Various residents present had differing views. Mr Collins stated he was happy to remove the fence if this was the decision made as his only intentions were to deter Travellers from returning. The decision and cost of the digging of the ditch on the Leas Chase side was made by the previous owners of Chalks Green. The Chairman suggested that the Parish Council look into the logistics of taking on the Peppercorn rent and to arrange a site meeting with Mr Collins to find a way forward. The clerk will arrange a site meeting in the near future.

A resident complained of motor cyclists speeding through the village, usually on Sundays. The clerk will request a police presence.

Clerk's report.

- A1060 speed limit – awaiting implementation – this is in the Highways budget for 2019/20.
- Puddle outside King William House – still ongoing, Cllr Barker has requested this to be repaired in a separate Highways Repair Scheme (see below).
- Drainage problems on Stortford Road –this will be monitored after further rainfall.
- Request for yellow lines between Long Hide and the School – awaiting implementation.
- VAS sign on Dunmow Road – no further update, the clerk will request details from Highways.
- The clerk has purchased a £30 gift voucher for Mr Moore and P. Sutterby has given it to him between meetings.
- The majority of the rubbish accumulated at the front of the village shop has been cleared, with the rest hopefully following soon.
- The dates for the Green Waste Skip have now been received and published on the village website and notice board. They will also be advertised in the Leaden Reading.
- Damaged sign on Stortford Road – now repaired.
- Request for hedge on Dunmow Road opposite Longhide to be cut – this has not yet been cut, the clerk will request this again also requesting hedges and trees to be cut back on the approach to the Village from Dunmow as the visibility of road signs is being obstructed by overhanging foliage.
- Request for parking spaces in Holloway Crescent to be marked with white lines – this has been completed
- Financing of footpath repairs in Holloway Crescent – this is being reviewed by Uttlesford.

Finance:

The clerk was given authority to pay: -

- £17.00 to Leaden Roding Village Hall Trust – hire of hall for today's meeting.
- £200.85 to Essex Association of Local Councils – annual subscription.
- £395.29 to BHIB Ltd – annual insurance
- £594.00 to Uttlesford District Council – hire of green skip from April to December 2018
- £211.20 to MD Landscapes – grass cutting
- £30.00 to Mrs T.E. Bell – purchase of gift voucher (see above)

Planning Applications:

Decision for the appeal made to the Secretary of State against the decision to refused the following planning application:

5 Brownlows Close, Demolition of rear conservatory. Erection of single storey extension and conversion of garage to habitable accommodation

The appeal is dismissed in so far as it related to the alterations (the conversion of existing garage to habitable accommodation) and planning permission is granted for the conversion of the existing garage to habitable accommodation.

The following application was brought to Parish Councillors attention between meetings:
4 School Villas, Stortford Road – Change of use of existing garden shed to dog grooming salon/parlour – concerns were nuisance to residents caused by barking dogs, potential parking problems caused when dropping of and picking up dogs.

The decision to determine the following planning applications have been made by Uttlesford:
The Old Rectory, Stortford Road – proposed detached outbuilding – *refused*.
4 School Villas, Stortford Road – Change of use of existing garden shed to dog grooming salon/parlour – *conditional approval*.

Footpaths:

P. Sutterby reported:

Highways have installed new bridges with handrails on the following footpaths:

- Footpath 28 from Cloghams Green to Cut Elms Cottage, Keers Green
- Footpath 3 beside Rodings Primary School
- Footpath 10 opposite Bridge House, Stortford Road
- Footpath 11 from the sewerage works past the oak tree to Longstead Lane.

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.

Any other business:

1. P. Sutterby stated that residents are tipping garden waste into ditches in the village, particularly those close to Longhide. The clerk will ensure a notice is included in the next edition of the Leaden Reading ensuring all residents are aware of the monthly Green Waste skip.
2. P. Sutterby reported that the road in Dunmow Road by the post box is in need of repair, the clerk will report this to Highways.
3. P. Sutterby reported that Essex Police were in the village recently in positions in Stortford Road and Dunmow Road and cautioned a number of drivers for speeding.
4. Mrs Essex enquired if anyone had made an application to Strutt and Parker for assistance with maintenance of the village hall as a planning gain for homes built at Leaden Hall Farm which are now completed and ready for sale. Planning gain for these homes was discussed when the application was put forward and Strutt and Parker were agreeable at that time. The clerk will enquire whether the Village Hall Trust has applied to Strutt and Parker.
5. The clerk has received a request from Cllr Barker asking for any footpath repairs that need to be carried out, she has already earmarked the footpath outside King William House and has asked for a list any others which are in need of repair by 30th May. Mrs Essex stated that the footpath on the corner of Rosdene Avenue is breaking up. The clerk will report and send photographic evidence to Cllr Barker and asked Parish Councillors to let her know of any other problems with footpaths by 30th May.
6. Various other documents were circulated for Councillors' attention outside the meeting.

Date of the next meeting:	Tuesday 16 th July
Future meeting dates	Tuesday 3 rd September
	Tuesday 29 th October
	Tuesday 10 th December

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.25pm.