

## **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

**Present:** D.Clayden, P.Sutterby, Mrs G Essex, J.McLintock, Mrs A Ringrose and 7 members of the public.

**Apologies received from:** M. Whitehead

**Minutes of the last meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> May** were agreed and duly signed.

### **Public questions/concerns addressed to the Parish Council**

A resident stated the vegetation beside the pathway between the village hall and Holloway Crescent is in need of cutting, the clerk has already made this request to Uttlesford and will request this again if it is not cut in the next 2 weeks.

A resident stated that the Uttlesford Trailer visited Holloway Crescent recently, she stated that it did not appear to have many visitors. The clerk stated she had not been informed it was coming to the village and has not been given any information on the Uttlesford Trailer but assumes it is for the use of Social Housing Tenants. She will make enquiries from Uttlesford asking the frequency of the visits, why it visits and who is invited to make use of it.

A resident asked for an update on the request for a playground on the village hall site. The clerk explained that she is aware that the Village Hall Committee has requested that the organiser supplies a business plan before any decisions can be made. If planning permission is submitted the Parish Council will become involved but until that time it is in the hands of the Village Hall Committee.

A resident requested an update of any decisions made regarding the fencing of Chalks Green. This will be discussed later in the meeting (see below).

### **Clerk's report.**

- A1060 speed limit – the extension to the existing speed is to be formally advertised towards the end of the financial year so that funding can be agreed for the installation to start in the early part of 2019/2020 financial year.
- Puddle outside King William House – still ongoing, the clerk provided photographic evidence of the problem and Cllr Barker expects this to be repaired shortly under the Highways Repair Scheme.
- Drainage problems on Stortford Road – the gullies have been jetted recently; it appears there is some improvement but will be monitored after further rainfall.
- Request for yellow lines between Long Hide and the School – the yellow lines have now been installed on a stretch for road from Long Hide towards the school but does not appear to go as far as the school resulting in a part clear footpath for pedestrians but there is a gap where parents are still parking on the pavement. The clerk will report this problem with a view of getting the yellow lines extended to the school gates.
- VAS sign on Dunmow Road – improvements to the speed limit signage is due to be installed towards the end of the summer.

- There is now just a small amount of rubbish to be cleared from the front of the village shop so the area has improved, it is hoped that the clearance will be finalised shortly.
- Request for hedge on Dunmow Road opposite Longhide to be cut – this has not yet been cut, the clerk will request an update.
- Financing of footpath repairs in Holloway Crescent – this review by Uttlesford is ongoing.
- The clerk made a request that residents refrain from dumping garden waste in ditches in the last edition of the Leaden Reading.
- The clerk reported that the road by the post box on Dunmow Road is in need of repair.
- The clerk provided photographic evidence that the footpath outside Rossdene is crumbling, this should be repaired shortly under the recent Highways Repair Scheme.
- The clerk made a report to Essex Police regarding motor bikers speeding through the village, she has requested a police presence particularly on Sunday mornings.

### **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 (Jun 2019).

£211.20 to MD Landscapes – grass cutting (inv. 125)

£211.20 to MD Landscapes – grass cutting (inv. 23)

£105.60 to MD Landscapes – grass cutting (inv. 98)

£675.00 to Mrs T.E. Bell – Clerk's ½ year salary

### **Planning Applications:**

No planning applications or decisions have come to the attention of the Parish Council since the last meeting.

### **Footpaths:**

P. Sutterby reported that at this time there is high vegetation on and beside footpaths in the village which could be due to funding cuts to farmers. This should improve after crops have been harvested.

Any footpath problems can be reported by contacting Phil Sutterby or by telephoning 0845 6037631 or by emailing [www.essex.gov.uk/highways](http://www.essex.gov.uk/highways).

### **Fencing of Chalks Green:**

Between meetings D.Clayden, P.Sutterby, J.McIntock, Mrs Essex and the clerk attended a site meeting with Mr Collins to discuss a way forward regarding the fencing of Chalks Green. At the site meeting the clerk made it clear that the Parish Council did not have any decision making powers to insist the fence should be removed but after discussion with Mr Collins could make suggestions on what they felt would be a way to improve the outlook of the green for all residents of the village. At the site meeting Mr Collins stated he was happy to remove the fencing if necessary but would prefer for it to remain on the side of the road by Chalks Farm. He has arranged for the green to be cut towards the end of August. He also confirmed his offer to

lease the green to the Parish Council for a peppercorn rent of £1 per year with a view to reviewing the lease every 5 years.

After discussion at this Parish Council meeting it was unanimously agreed that as there is still some question over the legality of the fence and the ditch the Parish Council would not take over the maintenance of the green. However, they are willing to consider funding or part funding the cutting/maintenance of the green on a yearly basis. With regard to the fencing of the green it was decided that the Parish Council would prefer Mr Collins to remove all wires and cut down the posts by half if possible. This decision was proposed by D. Clayden, seconded by Mrs Essex and passed by a majority of Parish Councillors present. M. Whitehead was not present at the meeting so could not vote on this decision but emailed his views that all fencing and wires should be removed.

**Any other business:**

1. The clerk informed Parish Councillors that the Essexinfo net, the web host for the village website, is being decommissioned in March 2020 so a new web host will need to be sought. This is a free service; the clerk will gather information regarding other free web hosts in the coming months
2. The clerk has received a letter from Saffron Walden Member of Parliament, Kemi Badenoch informing of new Government funding for the improvement and repair of village halls, she will pass this to the Village Hall Committee.
3. The clerk has received an email from Uttlesford Election Team informing that due to significant strain on the resources of the council due to European Elections taking place very close to District Elections they are not able to send invoices for the cost of the District Elections at this time, they should be sent out in September.
4. Various other documents were circulated for Councillors' attention outside the meeting.

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| <b>Date of the next meeting:</b> | Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September |
| <b>Future meeting dates</b>      | Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> October  |
|                                  | Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December |

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm.