

# LEADEN RODING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at Leaden Roding village hall.

**Present:** P.Sutterby (Chair), M.Whitehead (Vice-Chair), Mrs Bush, J. McIntock, D.Wareham and District Councillor Susan Barker.

**Members of the public:** 2

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR THIS MEETING

None

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022 were proposed by the Chairman as a true record, seconded by Cllr Bush and carried unanimously. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS/CONCERNS

4.1 A resident expressed her concerns when she witnessed a parent who had collected a young child from Rodings School walking a fair distance in front of the child, then without looking at the child, crossed Dunmow Road with the child doing the same at a distance behind him, the resident was very concerned that if there were cars in the vicinity an accident would have occurred. The Chairman asked the clerk to contact the headmaster to express these concerns and ask if he would request that parents be more vigilant with regards to road safety when dropping off or collecting children.

5. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

5.1 Cllr Barker was very pleased to report that 2 local landowners have dug up to 6 feet of ditches by the church searching for drainage pipes to try to alleviate the flooding problems on Stortford Road. The work they have done appears to have resolved the flooding problem at this time. The clerk will email the landowners to thank them.

5.2 Cllr Barker stated that an application for an extension of the 30-mph speed limit on Dunmow Road towards Aythorpe Roding has now been submitted to the Local Highways Panel.

5.3 Cllr Barker reported that for the next financial year Council Tax has increased from 3.09% to 4.4% per household. She stated that low-income households will be able to claim rebates of up to £150.

6. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

6.1 Cllr Bush reported that the heating in the flats in 5 to 15a Holloway Crescent is not working at this time. Residents tried calling the emergency telephone number to report this but there was no reply. The clerk will email Uttlesford to enquire if there are any changes on how Uttlesford Council tenants report problems in an emergency.

6.2 The Chairman reported that there were no knives handed in at the recent Knife Amnesty organised at Leaden Roding Fire Station recently.

6.3 After discussing with the Headmaster at Rodings School, the Chairman reported that during speed testing by police assisted by some of the school children on 19<sup>th</sup> January, a number of people were stopped with 5 drivers due to be prosecuted.

6.4 The Chairman confirmed that, as advertised, the Green Waste skip visited the school layby, Dunmow Road for the first time this year on 6<sup>th</sup> March (see below).

6.5 The chairman reported that after recent storm damage a tree blown over into Dunmow Road opposite the Granaries was made safe and then removed within 24 hours.

- 6.6 The Chairman reported that builders' vehicles were being parked on the grass at the entrance to Leaden Close but after a polite notice put on the vehicles by a resident, this seems to have stopped.
- 6.7 Cllr Wareham stated that vehicles from the car show room blocking the pavement outside the showroom are again proving to be a problem. Photos of the vehicles are being taken to report to the police and the Uttlesford Policing Team.
- 6.8 The Chairman stated that the clothing bank located at the Fire Station since 2015 has, to date, collected 10 tonnes of clothing which has raised £1,972.00 for charity.
- 6.9 The Chairman has been asked to host a defibrillator training evening in early May on behalf of Aythorpe Roding and High Roding Parish Councils, Leaden Roding residents will be welcome to attend.
- 6.10 The Chairman has arranged a village litter pick for Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April meeting at 9.00am at the village hall.

## 7. CLERKS REPORT

- 7.1 The clerk reported the first meeting to organised village celebrations for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee has recently taken place. Representatives from the Parish Council, Village Hall Committee and Social Club Committee were all in attendance. It was decided to organise a bring-your-own evening picnic on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June from 4.00pm. An ice cream van will be in attendance to serve a free ice cream to all attendees, there will be live music, a Jubilee cake to be shared, games, the bar will be open, teas and coffees will also be available. The evening will finish with the lighting of a Jubilee Beacon at 9.45pm. The clerk will pay all invoices from Parish Council funds and then split the final total between the three committees.
- 7.2 Damaged soakaway at the corner of Dunmow Road and Holloway Crescent – not yet fixed, the clerk to report again.
- 7.3 Damage to footpath at entrance to Holloway Crescent by Finale driveway – reported but not yet repaired
- 7.4 Blocked drains outside 10 Holloway Crescent have been reported but not yet cleared.
- 7.5 The clerk has asked that Uttlesford remind residents of Holloway Crescent not to park on entrance road to Willow Green as it obstructs access for emergency vehicles – this will be monitored.
- 7.6 The clerk has enquired as to whether Highways are able install a VAS sign on the approach to the school on Dunmow Road and if so, the cost – no reply at this time.
- 7.7 The clerk has requested that the 30mph signs on Dunmow Road be extended further towards Aythorpe Roding. Cllr Barker has confirmed this has now been submitted to the Local Highways Panel for consideration.
- 7.8 The clerk confirmed that local police officer Russ Hinkins will be attending the Parish Council's Annual meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> May to discuss concerns/answer questions on police matters. The clerk requested that Parish Councillors email her any questions they have for him so she will collate and pass on to PC Hinkins in advance so he can research any answers if necessary.
- 7.9 Field opposite the school, a resident clearly remembers a footpath to the right of the field in the past– at the last Parish Council meeting it was reported that Cllr Wareham found that public footpaths cannot be changed unless it has been agreed by the County Council or Central Government. Cllr Barker referred this to Public Rights of Ways for advice and was told there was never a footpath at the location. As the resident was adamant a footpath was there years before, Cllr Barker will seek further information.
- 7.10 Between meetings the clerk was emailed from Uttlesford, a list of dates for 2022 Green Skip visits. This year the visits are proposed for 30 minutes every 2 weeks instead of the monthly visit for an hour as in previous years. As Uttlesford requested

an acceptance of the timetable promptly Parish Councillors unanimously decided to once again fund the green skip visits for 2022 accepting the timetable of 30-minute visits once a fortnight. The clerk has advertised the timetable on the village notice, board, village website and the March edition of the Leaden Reading.

- 7.11 The clerk received a letter of thanks from the Cllr Bush on behalf of her son and his family, one of the joint winners of the Christmas lights competition:

*My son Keith of 1 Leaden Hill Cottages has asked me to write to you with regard to the Christmas Lights competition in the village.  
He would like to express his thanks to the Parish Councillors who judged the competition and awarded him joint first prize. He said that he always enjoys the challenge of seeing exactly how many lights he can put on his property!!  
He would like to express his thanks to the Leaden Roding Village Hall Trust Committee for the £25 prize which he received and to let you know that this money has been donated by him to the charity MIND to help with the good work they do with regard to help they give to people with mental health issues.  
I personally, as a Parish Councillor, would like to say that it was once again a pleasure to see the village so "lit up" at Christmas. Some of the displays could be seen for miles. Certainly ensured that Leaden Roding was noticed. What a lovely impression people travelling through the area would get.*

## 8. FINANCE

- 8.1 The Chairman proposed that the following cheques be issued, this was seconded by Cllr Bush and carried unanimously.

£17.00 to Leaden Roding Village Hall Trust – hire of hall

£2, 244.00 to J Kenney Services – grass cutting fee for 2021.

£560.00 to Uttlesford District Council – Green skip visits in 2021

£48.00 to Rural Community Council for Essex – annual subscription

- 8.2 The clerk reported that prior to the above payments being made the Parish Council bank balances are: Current account - £14,705.87  
Deposit account - £344.83

## 9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The following planning application was circulated to Parish Councillors between meetings for comments:

5 Brownlows Close – Demolition of rear conservatory, erection of single-story rear – *no objections*

New Cottage, Dunmow Road – Proposed erection of 1 detached dwelling including alterations to existing vehicular access – *Parish Councillors' comments were:*

- *Access of vehicles onto a busy road particularly if vehicles need to reverse out due to lack of space.*
- *Entry and exit from parking area onto a busy road.*

- 9.2 Between meetings a 'Prior Notification' was brought to the Parish Council's attention for Barn adjacent to Chalks Farm, High Easter Road, although the Parish Council had not been given details by Uttlesford, the Parish Council was given the opportunity to give comments. *Parish Councillors' comments were:*

*Leaden Roding Parish Councillors have concerns regarding the entrance / exit to the property as it is directly on a blind bend as you come into the village. Although the application states "existing entrance / exit", could you please look into when this entrance/exit was approved as for many years there did not appear to be an entrance there at all but since the land has been made ready for development the owner has installed a gate and has taken the shrubbery away to widen the access. Although the piece of land is just within the 30mph limit Parish Councillors think it would prove very dangerous to exit plot.*

## 10. FOOTPATHS

### 10.1 Cllr Sutterby reported:

The following issues are still outstanding.

Footpath 1 - bottom of Longsted Lane, the footbridge detached from concrete base.

Footpath 5 - Leaden Hill, timber is rotting on the bridge over the river (ref 2711562).

Cllr Barker will continue to look into both issues as they have been outstanding for some time.

## 11. RIDE LONDON – WEEKEND OF 27<sup>TH</sup> TO 28<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2022

### 11.1 The Clerk has spoken to one of the organisers of Ride London and reported the following details:

- On both days the race/ride will go through Leaden Roding causing road closures.
- On Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> it is the ladies' elite race which will cause rolling road closures throughout the route of the race and it is expected that the road through Leaden Roding will be closed between 12pm and 1pm for approximately 20 minutes.
- On Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May the event is a family ride with a bigger impact on the roads which will be closed for most of the day. At this time, it is expected that the road through Leaden Roding will be closed at approximately 7.00am and will reopen at approximately 3.00pm.
- The event is definitely going to take place. Essex County Council have agreed to host the event without public consultation.
- Negotiations are taking place for the event to be televised.
- The family ride is expected to raise £12,000,000 for charity and is at no cost to the tax payer. It is also expected to bring trade to local businesses along the route.
- Leaflets with information about the weekend closures will be delivered to every household on the route but not to the homes on the side roads off the village. The Parish Council can ask for more leaflets to deliver ourselves if we feel the event has not been advertised enough beforehand.
- Over the weekend before the event, representatives will tour the route leaving leaflets on cars parked on the route explaining that the cars will be removed if they are parked there the following weekend.
- The only route out of Leaden Roding when the roads are closed are from High Easter Road.
- The organisers are happy to host a meeting nearer the date to discuss the event if the Parish Council think necessary
- The Ride London website can be accessed to gain more details and will continue to be updated as more information is advertised.

## 12. CLEARING OF SHRUBS/HARDCORE/RUBBISH FROM GRASS VERGE FROM BROWNLOWS CLOSE TO OPPOSITE THE CHURCH – STORTFORD ROAD.

### 12.1 The clerk presented a quote from J Kenney Services of £4,280.00 for:

Cutting back the overhanging vegetation and scrub around the area opposite the Village Shop, back to the main hedge line. Clear all arisings and rotovate, stone bury and return the ground back to grass, including seeding throughout. Clear the roadway along to the houses from the bend of all the debris laying in the grass from the currently cut grass to the fence boundary. Removal of all arisings, rotovate and level and reseed throughout. From the houses to opposite the Church, cut back the overhanging vegetation hard to re-establish the verge, again to be prepared and seeded. If accepted the work could be carried out in mid-March. After consideration it was unanimously decided to accept the quote. The clerk will contact J Kenney Services to arrange a date to start.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 13.1 The Clerk has reported to Highways the damaged sign outside Bridge Cottages, Stortford Road which appears to be caused by the recent high winds.
- 13.2 Cllr McIntock reported that Ongar Road – approximately 100 metres from the junction of Stortford Road is flooded with rain water appearing to be draining onto the road from adjacent fields. It appears the landowner has been examining the problem so hopefully it will be resolved soon. The clerk will monitor the flooding and report to Highways if necessary.
- 13.3 The clerk reported that she has received notice from Highways Streetwork Team of the intended closure of Wash Road, due to commence on 16<sup>th</sup> March for 3 days. The closure is required for the safety of the public and workforce while Gigaclear undertake repair ducting.
- 13.4 The Chairman reported a Highways sign by the Fire Station blown down during the recent storm.
- 13.5 Cllr Barker has invited 2 representatives from our Parish Council to a meeting with Cllr Lee Scott – Essex County Councillor for Highways - to discuss Highways matters between 5.30pm and 7.30pm on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April at Foakes Hall Dunmow. Other representatives from local Parish Councils have also been invited. The Chairman will attend and if no other Parish Councillors are available the clerk will fill the second place.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND FUTURE DATES FOR 2022.

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021(Annual meeting)

Future meetings:            Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2022  
   Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2022  
   Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022  
   Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.45pm.