

LEADEN RODING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Tuesday 18th October 2022 at Leaden Roding village hall.

Present: Cllr Phil Sutterby (Chair), Cllr Mike Whitehead (Vice Chair), Cllr Jim McIntock.

Members of the public: 2

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Ann Bush, District Cllr Mrs Susan Barker

2. COUNCILLOR RESIGNATION

Between meetings the clerk received an email from Cllr Wareham submitting his resignation. The Chairman proposed at vote of thanks to Cllr Wareham for his work and commitment to the Parish Council during his time as Parish Councillor.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR THIS MEETING

None

4. MINUTES

The minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of Tuesday 6th September 2022 were proposed by Cllr McIntock as a true record, seconded by Cllr Whitehead and carried unanimously. The minutes were signed by Cllr Sutterby.

5. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Although absent Cllr Barker reported to the Chairman that various maps had been studied since that last meeting to ascertain whether a footpath opposite the school was ever recorded and at this time has not been able to find any record.

6. PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

6.1 The Chairman reported that between meetings the litter pick which he organised proved successful with 11 bags of litter collected from around the village.

7. PUBLIC QUESTIONS/CONCERNS

7.1 A resident stated it has now been approximately 5 years since Chalks Green was fenced to deter Travellers and since then it has become an eyesore with weeds growing high. He was concerned that it has become dangerous for people, especially children, to walk along Lees Chase as the weeds were higher than pedestrians and walkers could not be seen by cars driving along Lees Chase. He asked Parish Councillors if they had any objection to him approaching the owner as a neighbour to request that he cut the weeds back for safety reasons at no cost to the owner. Parish Councillors present had no objections to the resident doing this and it was felt that this helpful approach might be a good idea; it was thought that, if given permission, other neighbours might join him to make the green tidier, more accessible to the public and safer for people walking along Lees Chase. Cllr Whitehead stated he would assist the resident with the cutting if allowed by the owner.

7.2 A resident expressed concern that an events company has advertised an upcoming Halloween event as Warwicks, White Roding. She stated that an event held in Fyfield by the same events company had left lots of litter for residents to clear. The Chairman stated that as Warwicks falls under the Parish Council for White Roding we have not been consulted regarding this event.

8. CLERKS REPORT

8.1 Damaged soakaway at the corner of Dunmow Road and Holloway Crescent – not yet fixed, the clerk has reported again (see above).

8.2 Damage to footpath at entrance to Holloway Crescent by Finale driveway – Cllr McIntock reported that he has not witnessed flooding in this area recently but will continue to monitor.

- 8.3 Blocked drains outside 10 Holloway Crescent have been reported – Cllr McIntock reported that he has not witnessed flooding in this area recently but will continue to monitor.
- 8.4 At the last meeting the clerk asked Cllr Barker if she has an update from Cllr Scott regarding looking into why the installations of a VAS sign on the approach to the school which was shelved after being approved by Highways and included in the Local Area Panel projects budget about two years ago and was then removed stating that there was nowhere to place the VAS sign safely as the footpath on Dunmow Road is too narrow. Recently the Parish Council has been advised by the same Highways Officer that a VAS sign can be installed at the same site at the expense of the Parish Council. Cllr Barker has not yet received any information but will ask again – no update from Cllr Barker at this time.
- 8.5 Field opposite the school - a resident clearly remembers a footpath to the right of the field in the past– at a previous 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. At a previous meeting Cllr Barker reported that she had 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 asked the resident to provide evidence that this was an official footpath and she will then seek advice, this evidence has not yet been provided – see above District Councillors report.
- 8.6 The damaged village sign outside Bridge Cottages, Stortford Road previously reported to Highways – not yet fixed.
- 8.7 The damaged sign outside the fire station which has previously reported to Highways has been examined three times by Highways representative but not yet been fixed – not yet repaired, Parish Councillors expressed concerns that the small part of the post still in the ground is a health and safety risk – the clerk has not been updated at this time.
- 8.8 The clerk has received an email regarding the damaged road sign opposite the village hall to reported to Highways (ref 2794153). Highways state they have investigated and risk-assessed the issued and have concluded that it is not as serious as many other issues reported and will not be taking any further action on it.
- 8.9 Overgrown trees on Dunmow Road on the approach to the school have not yet been cut.

9. FINANCE

- 9.1 Cllr Whitehead proposed that the following cheques be issued, this was seconded by Cllr Sutterby and carried unanimously.
 £17.00 to Leaden Roding Village Hall Trust – hire of hall
 £320.00 to R.C. Bell – printing of Leaden Reading (September 2022)
- 9.2 Cheques for £442.77 have been received from both the Village Hall Committee and Social Club Committee for expenses incurred for the Platinum Jubilee event, the cheques have not been time banked at this time.
- 9.3 Bank reconciliation:

Balance brought forward 06.09.2022		Curr. a/c	12,341.05	
		Dep. a/c	345.01	12,686.06
	Total			
<u>Add:</u>	Receipts	Precept		3,250.00
	Total			
<u>Less:</u>	Payments			0.00
Balance carried forward 18.10.2022				<u>15,936.06</u>

These cumulative funds are represented by:

Current Account balance	15,591.05
Deposit Account balance	<u>345.01</u>
	15,936.06
Less outstanding cheques	1,588.53
Plus credits to account	<u>885.54</u>
	<u>15,233.07</u>

9.4 The clerk stated that, due to problems with signatories on the bank account which, until resolved, means a new cheque book cannot be issued, she is using as few cheques as possible resulting in some payments still outstanding. Once a new cheque book is issued, payments will be cleared quickly.

10. PLANNING APPLICATIONS^{3m}.

10.1 The following decision to determine the Certificate for Lawfulness for Proposed Works was made by Uttlesford:

14 Lordswood View – loft conversion with rear facing dormer and front roof windows - Approve Certificate of Lawfulness.

11. FOOTPATHS

10.1 Cllr Sutterby reported:

The following issues are still outstanding.

Footpath 5 – bridge over river Roding in need of repair – this bridge is now accessible but the full repair has not yet been completed.

12. REVIEW OF POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

12.1 Code of Conduct – Parish Councillors confirmed the existing policy remains unchanged.

12.2 Standing Orders - Parish Councillors confirmed the existing policy remains unchanged.

12.3 Complaints and Procedures - Parish Councillors confirmed the existing policy remains unchanged.

12.4 Financial Regulations - Parish Councillors confirmed the existing policy remains unchanged.

12.5 The Chairman proposed the policies and procedures listed above remain unchanged, seconded by Cllr Whitehead and carried unanimously.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

13.1 It has come to light that the Parish Council bank account signatories and authorisations have not been updated since that last amendment was submitted, this problem was noticed when she was applying for a new cheque book. She has emailed the bank requesting them to look into this and is awaiting a reply.

13.2 The clerk read a letter of condolence sent to His Majesty King Charles II from the Parish Council following the death of his mother, Queen Elizabeth II.

13.3 The clerk reported that, following the death of the Queen she attended several online meetings regarding protocol to be followed after the death of the monarch most of which did not affect our Parish Council or meetings scheduled. She also ensured the St George flag at the village hall was raised and lowered according to protocol after the Queen's death and during the period of mourning.

13.4 The clerk reported that there is to be a drop-in session to be held at the village hall on 2nd November 2022 held by the Ride London team to discuss any concerns raised regarding Ride London 2023 which will again be going through the village. It is thought that access in and out of the village will be less restrictive as last year but

there are still lots of organising to be completed, the drop-in session will be Phase one of the consultation with the public.

13.5 The clerk reported that she has received an email from a resident which was copied to Cllr Barker, Cllr Scott MP Kemi Badenoch, Essex Highways and Essex Police stating her concern regarding dangerous driving on Dunmow Road at School drop off and pick up times when school traffic is queuing to enter the school grounds. Cllr Barker has replied to the resident stating that all parties are aware of the problem and it will be discussed at the next Highways Panel meeting.

13.6 The clerk also received an email from Mr Rarety, the school headmaster requesting permission for parents to park in the village hall car park at drop off and pick up times. The clerk has passed this to the Village Hall Committee for their consideration.

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

Tuesday 6th December 2022

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