

# LEADEN RODING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at Leaden Roding village hall.

**Present:** Cllr Phil Sutterby (Chair), Cllr Mike Whitehead (Vice Chair), Cllr Jim McIntock.  
District Cllr Mrs Susan Barker.

## **Members of the public: 3**

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Mrs Ann Bush

### 2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR THIS MEETING

None

### 3. MINUTES

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022 were proposed by Cllr McIntock as a true record, seconded by Cllr Whitehead and carried unanimously. The minutes were signed by the Chairman, Cllr Sutterby.

### 4. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

4.1 Cllr Barker reported that at the Council elections taking place in May 2023, photo ID will be required by every elector attending polling stations to enable every them to vote. Information regarding the new arrangements will be advertised before the election; it expected this new requirement will lead to more postal votes being made.

4.2 Cllr Barker stated that residents who do not have the facility to use gas (as is the case in Leaden Roding) are due to receive a £200 oil allowance which will be credited through electricity bills. It is unsure at this time how and when this will be paid.

4.3 Cllr Barker stated that Council rents are due to rise in the next financial year. She reported that heating charges tenants pay directly to Uttlesford are also due to rise quite considerably. Cllr McIntock asked if Council tenants are eligible for the £200 oil allowance if they pay directly to Uttlesford. Cllr Barker was unsure of this but will enquire from Uttlesford.

4.4 Cllr Barker reported that Essex County Council will raise 2023/24 Council Tax by 3½ percent which is 1½ per cent below the maximum limit set by the Government. Uttlesford have decided to raise by 3 per cent which is the maximum limit for District Councils.

### 5. PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

5.1 The Chairman reported he and Cllr Whitehead had walk around the village on an evening of Christmas week to judge the Christmas lights competition. Two main prizes of £25 each were awarded along with 4 additional prizes of wine or chocolates. The recipients of the prizes were very happy to receive them. It was decided to run the competition again next Christmas.

5.2 The Chairman reported that on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January police were in the village checking speeding on Dunmow Road with a number of drivers fined for speeding.

5.3 The Chairman reported that the trial Post Office agency at the shop has now finished and will not become permanent.

5.4 Cllr McIntock reported that Ride for London 2023 will again come through Leaden Roding. The Village Hall are hoping to obtain status as an official stop on the route. If accepted, grants from Ride London along with profits for sales of refreshments will be put towards the refurbishment of the toilets in the village hall.

### 6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS/CONCERNS

None

## 7. CLERKS REPORT

- 7.1 The clerk has not received any feedback regarding the VAS sign originally on Highways Local Panel but removed which Cllr Lee Scott was looking into. The Parish Council will ensure this is looked into if the opportunity arises to install a VAS sign in the village.
- 7.2 Field opposite the school – no further evidence has been received regarding a previous footpath in this field.
- 7.3 Between meetings the Chairman has cut back some of the branches which were obscuring the 30mph signs on Dunmow Road on the approach from Dunmow.
- 7.4 The clerk reported that as the majority of Parish Councils were not in favour of contributing to Highways Rangers work, she has received an email stating that the Highways will not keep the service going.

## 8. FINANCE

8.1 Cllr Whitehead proposed that the following cheques be issued, this was seconded by Cllr McIntock and carried unanimously.

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

£320.00 to R.C. Bell – Printing of Leaden Reading (Dec 2022)

£25.00 to Mrs T. E. Bell – cash donation towards Christmas lights competition

8.2 Ongoing problems with the bank account are stopping debits going ahead at this time but the clerk has been assured that this will be resolved within the next couple of weeks.

Bank reconciliation:

Current account balance: 15,591.05

Deposit account balance: 345.01

15,936.06

Less outstanding cheques: 2,906.05

Plus outstanding credits: 885.54

13,915.55

## 9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

9.1 The following planning applications were circulated between meetings for Parish Councillors' comments:

New Cottage, Dunmow Road – Conversion and extension of existing garage including raising of roof to create ancillary domestic use – *Parish Councillors comments were: continued concerns as to the vehicular entry and exit to and from the property onto a busy road if tenants increased due to the increase in ancillary space for domestic use.*

Old Rectory, Stortford Road – Proposed first floor side extension and replacement conservatory room with first floor private access for balcony – *no objections.*

Old Rectory, Stortford Road – Extension and reconfiguration of existing pool house to provide additional accommodation – *no objections.*

17 Leaden Close – First floor side extension and two storey rear extension -*No objections.*

5 Brownlows Close – Demolition of rear conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension and conversion of existing garage to habitable accommodation – *No objections.*

5 Brownlows Close – Detached garage and alterations to garden wall – *No objections.*

9.2 The following planning applications have been determined by Uttlesford:

Land rear of 3 Holloway Crescent – Proposed detached bungalow and garage – Conditional approval

5 Brownlows Close – Proposed single storey rear extension to replace existing conservatory, conversion of existing garage to habitable space, new detached garage and associated works including new area of hardstanding and alterations to garden wall – Refused.

9.3 An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State against the decision by Uttlesford on the following planning application:

5 Brownlows Close – Proposed single storey rear extension to replace existing conservatory, conversion of existing garage to habitable space, new detached garage and associated works including new area of hardstanding and alterations to garden wall.

## 10. FOOTPATHS

### 10.1 Cllr Sutterby reported:

The following issues are still outstanding.

Footpath 5 – bridge over river Roding in need of repair – this is still awaiting repair; it is hoped that the repair will be finalised when the weather improves.

## 11. PARISH PRECPT SETTING FOR 2023/24

11.1 The clerk presented the financial report for the period of April to December 2022. The closing balances at the end of December 2022 are £14,607.55 with approximately £3,479.00 in outstanding payments to be made.

11.2 The Parish Council considered the draft budget for 2023/24. After discussion Cllr McIntock proposed the precept remain at £6,500.00. As the bank balance is high it was decided that although there are parish elections during the coming financial year, if a contested election needed to be held, the cost could be met. This was seconded by Cllr Whitehead and carried unanimously.

11.3 The Chairman signed the precept form for the clerk to submit after the meeting.

## 12. CODE OF CONDUCT

12.1 Between meetings the clerk circulated the new Code of Conduct adopted by Uttlesford in November 2022, after discussion Parish Councillors decided to, once again adopt the updated Uttlesford code. Cllr Sutterby proposed the parish council adopts the new Code of Conduct, this was seconded by Cllr Whitehead and carried unanimously.

## 13. CARAVAN AT CHALKS GREEN.

13.1 It was expected that the owner of Chalks Green would attend this meeting but he informed the clerk that he was unable to attend. It is hoped that a resolution can be made soon to enable the caravan to be removed.

## 14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

14.1 The Chairman asked the clerk to arrange for the village flag to be removed at this time to preserve against bad weather. The clerk will arrange for this.

14.2 The clerk read a thankyou card received from King Charles after the Parish Council sent condolences to him following the death of his mother, Queen Elizabeth II in September 2022. The clerk will publish this in the next edition of the Leaden Reading.

14.3 The clerk is beginning to receive information regarding the Parish elections in May. She will email them on to Parish Councillors for their information as she receives them.

## 13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND FUTURE DATES FOR 2022.

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2023  
Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023  
Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023  
Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2023  
Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm.