

MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Tuesday
14th May 2024 at Leaden Roding village hall.

Present: Cllr Phil Sutterby, Cllr Mrs Ann Bush, Cllr Jim McIntock, Cllr Jeanette Norfolk, Cllr Geoff Todd and District Cllr Susan Barker

Members of the public: 1

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN
Cllr Norfolk proposed that Cllr Sutterby be re-elected Chairman for the forthcoming year, this was seconded by Cllr McIntock.
2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN
Cllr Norfolk proposed that Cllr Todd be elected Vice Chairman for the forthcoming year, this was accepted by Cllr Todd before being seconded by Cllr Bush.
3. ELECTION OF PARISH REPRESENTATIVES
The following representatives were elected for the year 2023/24:
Village Hall Trust - Cllr McIntock
Public Transport - Cllr Bush
Tree Planting - Cllr Todd
Footpaths - Cllr Sutterby
Road Safety - Cllr Norfolk
Essex Police - Cllr Norfolk
4. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
None
5. DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR THIS MEETING
None
6. APPROVAL OF ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN (AGAR)
 - 6.1 AGAR Return 2023/2024
 - 6.1.1 The meeting considered the current system of internal control, including monitoring of finances and agreed that these were satisfactory.
 - 6.1.2 The Chairman proposed that the Parish Council approves the Annual Governance Statement (Section 1 AGAR) for the year 2023/24 as prepared by the clerk. This was seconded by Cllr Bush and carried unanimously.
 - 6.1.3 Cllr McIntock proposed that the Parish Council approves the Annual Accounting Statements (Section 2 AGAR) for the year 2023/24 as prepared by the clerk. This was seconded by Cllr Norfolk and carried unanimously.
 - 6.2 The Chairman proposed that Leaden Roding Parish Council exempts itself from a limited assurance audit as it meets all the criteria for claiming exemption as set out in section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015. This was seconded by Cllr McIntock and carried unanimously.
 - 6.3 Allison Ward, the Clerk for High Easter Parish Council has just completed the internal audit, her report will be circulated, and any points considered.
7. MINUTES
 - 7.1 The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of Tuesday 5th March 2024 were proposed by Cllr Bush as a true record, seconded by Cllr Norfolk and carried unanimously. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.
8. PUBLIC QUESTION/CONCERNS
 - 8.1 The resident present discussed his concern regarding the ongoing problem of rubbish accumulating in a garden of a Council owned property in Holloway Crescent. He stated that there is no improvement despite sending photographic evidence to Uttlesford. The clerk reported that following the last meeting she contacted Uttlesford to report that the

resident has been using electricity and storing more rubbish in the empty council home next door, she received an email from Gina Holt from Uttlesford Housing stating that she has secured the empty property and made sure the electrics were off, she stated she could not see any visible wires but it did look like someone has been accessing the garden. She stated she has now ensured that the locks have been changed, the windows closed and the garden secured. Although Uttlesford state they are trying to support the resident, Parish Councillors are not convinced that they are doing enough to support other residents in the area who are experiencing burning, vermin and general untidiness in the vicinity. Cllr Barker requested the clerk supply her with the correspondence she has had from Uttlesford to enable her to try to give her support with this problem.

9. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

9.1 Cllr Barker reported that the next iteration of Uttlesford's Local Plan is due late July.

9.2 Essex County Council are in debates regarding education in Essex where results show there is need for improvement.

9.3 Essex County Council is working with providers for funding for parents to go back to work.

9.4 Essex County Council are in discussions regarding the proposed erection of pylons for the new 112-mile powerline running from Dunston, near Norwich to Tilbury which will run through the Writtle/Roxwell side of Chelmsford.

9.5 Cllr Barker confirmed that the extension to the 30mph limit on Dunmow Road is still on the Highways list but it could be some time before it is implemented due to low budgets.

10. PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

10.1 Cllr Norfolk asked for an update from Cllr Barker regarding blocked drains on the road at Leaden Hill where flooding is causing concern for local residents. Cllr Norfolk also stated that due to the road surface being uneven, water sits on the road after heavy rain. Cllr Barker will ask for the gullies to be inspected.

11. CLERKS REPORT

11.1 Ongoing unsocial behaviour from a resident in Holloway Crescent (see 8.1 above)

11.2 The clerk reported that the Village Hall will again be an official stop for Ride London to raise much needed funding for the ongoing maintenance of the hall. She was also aware that the school and church will combine to fundraise at the event too. The Chairman will organise a litter pick straight after the event to ensure no litter is left in the village after the official Ride London cleanup.

11.3 The Clerk received a letter of thanks from the church following the donation made.

11.4 The Clerk tried to look into the building/development in Leaden Woods but was not very successful with obtaining any details. She found that the part of the wood concerned is under the management of Red Rock Forestry but they were reluctant to discuss any details.

11.5 Extension of 30mph limit on Dunmow Road – see 9.5 above.

11.6 The clerk received the free photograph of the King which was a lot larger than expected and nicely framed. She has asked for permission for it to be hung in the village hall and this has been granted, Cllr Todd has agreed to do this.

12. FINANCE

12.1 Cllr McIntock 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

£229.92 to EALC – annual subscription

£562.37 to Clear Insurance Management Ltd – annual insurance

£2,244.00 to J Kenney Services – grass cutting for year 2023

13. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

13.1 The following planning application was received from Uttlesford for Parish Councillors comments:
Old Rectory, Stortford Road – Extension and configuration of existing pool house to provide additional accommodation (resubmission of earlier application) – *No objections.*

13.2 The following planning applications were submitted to Uttlesford without any comments requested from Parish Councillors:
Rodings Central Primary School, Dunmow Road – Proposed provision of lighting for all weather pitch.

Rossdene, High Easter Road – 2 metre crown reduction to 1 beech tree

13.3 The clerk has received a letter from Uttlesford stating an allegation has been made that a breach of planning control may have taken place at 8 Leaden Close. Uttlesford confirmed an investigation into the matter has been carried out and a decision made to close the file as no breach has been made and the development conforms to permitted development. The Parish Council were not aware of this allegation.

14. FOOTPATHS

14.1 Cllr Sutterby reported the first two issues below are still ongoing:

Footpath 5 – opposite Leaden Hill Cottages – problem reported with ref 3626969

This repair will be undertaken with a nonspecific timescale – listed for repair.

Footpaths 28 between cricket pitch and Cut Elms Cottage – problem reported with ref 3139090 – listed for repair.

Vegetation on Bridleway 20 at Longstead Lane has been reported – ref 2915775

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

15.1 The Chairman was disappointed that there were no volunteers for the village litter pick arranged for Saturday 20th April. It was decided that the clerk request the next one is advertised on the Leaden Roding Village Hall and Social Club Facebook page and on the village website.

15.2 The clerk reported that an intended closure of Ongar Road, Great Dunmow is due to commence on 13th May for 4 days while Affinity Water undertakes new connection.

15.3 The clerk has been given details of a proposed live music licence at Ashfields Carriage and Polo Club, Great Canfield. It is unsure why this was sent to Leaden Roding as it is not an adjoining village.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND FUTURE DATES FOR 2024:

Tuesday 9th July 2024

Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Tuesday 15th October 2024

Tuesday 3rd December 2024

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm.