

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Tuesday 3rd December 2024 at Leaden Roding village hall.

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

Apologies: 0

Members of the public: 2

1. MINUTES

1.1 The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Tuesday 15th October 2024 were proposed by Cllr McIntock as a true record, seconded by Cllr Bush and carried unanimously. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2.1 None

3. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

3.1 Cllr Barker reported that Highways have approached the owners of the fields where their hedges and trees are obstructing the visibility of Highways signs on Dunmow Road and asked them to cut them back.

3.2 Cllr Barker has been contacted by residents suggesting a speed indicator should be installed on the road approaching the school, she suggested Parish Councillors might look into the possibility of raising the Parish Precept to install one.

3.3 Cllr Barker stated that she has heard from residents expressing concerns regarding over-felling in Leaden Woods and the installations of buildings in the area. She stated that the Woodland Trust are very aware of this.

3.4 Cllr Barker reported that the White Paper on Devolution has been delayed from 4th December until the end of the year. Once published, Essex County Council will decide if they would like to participate in the programme which would have an impact on powers made by the Government moving to local decisions.

4. PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

4.1 Cllr Todd stated that he would remove the dead elm tree opposite the shop in shortly.

4.2 Cllr Sutterby reported that he has received complaints of dog fouling again in the village. He has made some laminated signs which he will install around the village to try to deter this. Cllrs McIntock stated that he has recently spoken to an offender requesting that they clean up.

4.3 Cllrs Sutterby and Norfolk attended a meeting arranged by Uttlesford to give Parish Councils information regarding Planning Enforcement issues. They both stated that they had gained good knowledge which would assist in planning issues moving forward. The clerk stated that she has heard from Uttlesford stating that, as the meetings held were well received and popular, they intend to hold more in the New Year.

4.4 Cllrs Sutterby, McIntock, Todd and Bush will meet at the village shop at 6.30pm on Monday 23rd December to tour the village to judge the Christmas Lights Competition. Prizes will be donated by Councillors and the clerk.

5. PUBLIC QUESTION/CONCERNS

5.1 Aythorpe Roding Parish Council Vice Chairman, Cllr Woodmore attended the meeting to express his concerns regarding speeding on Dunmow Road by the school and his concern regarding poor parking of parents picking up children from school. Parents are parking on the footpaths forcing children and parents to walk on the busy Dunmow Road, he is concerned that a child will be involved in an accident if this continues. He has contacted the school and Highways stating his concerns. Cllr Barker stated she will arrange for the Highways Liaison Officer to meet with the Chairmen of Aythorpe and Leaden Roding to

discuss the problem. Cllr Woodmore requested that the two Parish Councils combine to see if they can find a resolution to the problem, Cllr Sutterby stated he would be happy to join with Aythorpe Roding and would sign any necessary requests to Highways when they are drawn up by Cllr Woodmore. The Chairman has received an email from Highways stating that although they are restricted as to what can be done in terms of traffic calming as speed humps are not permitted on the B184, they will look at improving what is currently present at the location. Highways design engineers will look to see how to improve the visibility of the existing school warning signs by moving them to the other side of the existing village gateway signage. They will also look into the possibility of improving the existing 'SCHOOL' road marking. The existing warning signs on the approach will be reviewed in terms of the location and existing condition for replacement/relocation. They will also consider the use of larger repeater signs for the 30mph speed limit so that they are more visible to traffic as well as 30mph painted roundels on the carriageway at the site of the repeater signs. In addition, the design will include vegetation clearance around all existing signage on both approaches. Once the design work is completed Highways will share this with the Parish Council and, providing Highways Panel Members are in agreement this will be implemented in the 2025/26 scheme.

6. CLERKS REPORT

- 6.1 Ongoing antisocial behaviour from a resident in Holloway Crescent – rubbish still appears to be accumulating on the property, Parish Councillors are also concerned that rubbish is again building up in the garden of the property which could cause an access problem if there was a fire at the property.
- 6.2 Vegetation on Dunmow Road on the approach to the school from Aythorpe Roding – see 5.1 above.
- 6.3 The clerk has now located a contact for Whirlledge and Knott and will email requesting rubbish be removed from the field adjoining St Michaels Mead/The Goldings, Chelmsford Road.

7. FINANCE

7.1 Cllr Norfolk 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

£2,244.00 to J Kenny Services – village grass cutting (2024)

£1,590.00 to Uttlesford District Council – Garden Waste weekend service (2023)

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The following planning application was received from Uttlesford for Parish Councillors' comments:

Cumurah, Dunmow Road – Use of first floor area over existing garage (formerly Playroom) as a one-bedroom, single occupancy self-contained flat (revised application) – *no objections*.

1 Bridge House, Stortford Road – Damp proofing, re render house and replacement windows – *no objections*.

Dutch Barn adjacent to Langleys, Poplars Lane – Demolition of agricultural building and erection of two self-contained self-build dwellings and associated work (amended application) – *No objections*.

Land a Stortford Road, Leaden Roding – Erection of 2 detached dwellings – *no objections*.

3 Leaden Hall Cottages, Stortford Road – proposed replacement of rotten painted timber single glazed windows with heritage painted timber double glazed windows – *No objections*.

- 8.2 The following planning applications have been determined by Uttlesford:

1 Bridge House, Stortford Road – Damp proofing, re render house and replacement windows – *refused*.

The Granaries, Dunmow Road – Replacement timber windows and addition of one new window – *Conditional approval*.

Land East of Woodside Farm, High Easter Road – Proposed Certificate of Lawfulness for timber framed forestry building - Approve Cert of Lawfulness.

8.3 The clerk read an email from a part-owner of Leaden Woods regarding the over-development of the area, this was a request that the Parish Council join in the protection of the woodland area. Parish Councillors stated that they have given their views to Uttlesford regarding the overdevelopment and alerted the Enforcement Team with regard to development in the area and are awaiting the outcome.

9. FOOTPATHS

9.1 Cllr Sutterby reported:

Defective furniture on footpath 28 – this was first reported on 4th January (ref 2878383). Due to winter flooding the footbridge has moved downstream – the new bridge has now been reinstated but the old bridge remains downstream.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 10.1 Cllr McIntock reported that an oak tree in the front garden of a property in Holloway Crescent needs cutting as it is blocking a street light and also blocking light for bungalows closeby – Cllrs Sutterby and McIntock will speak to the resident.
- 10.2 Cllr Sutterby and the clerk have received notice that the Uttlesford Community Policing Team will be on patrol in the village on Sunday 8th December at 3.30pm, they will be based at the village shop where Parish Councillors or residents are welcome to speak to them. They state that in extreme cases of emergency they may be called away at short notice.
- 10.3 The clerk stated that the Parish Precept will need to be discussed and set at the next meeting – she will prepare finance details in advance so Parish Councillors can discuss a budget at the meeting.
- 10.4 The clerk is in the process of changing the Parish Council email address to a ‘.gov’ address as recommended in the Practitioners Guide 2023. There will be a fee for this depending on which web provider is used, local Parish Councils recommend Cloud Next with a fee of £100 per annum which is the cheapest option and works well. The clerk will give more details at the next meeting.
- 10.5 On 13th November Uttlesford took part in a rough sleeper count – the clerk was not made aware of any rough sleepers in the village so recorded a nil return.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday 14th January 2025
Tuesday 4th March 2025
Tuesday 13th May 2025
Tuesday 8th July 2025
Tuesday 2nd September 2025
Tuesday 14th October 2025
Tuesday 2nd December 2025

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