

Ugley Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 24 February 2020.

Present:

Cllr. Nick Shutes (Chairman), Cllr. David Cross (Vice-Chairman),
Cllr. Nick Bowers, Cllr. Matt Francis, Cllr. Clayton Powter, Cllr. Roger Pryor,
Cllr. Elizabeth Reay and Mrs. Louise Johnson (Parish Clerk).

Members of the Public:

6 plus
District Cllr. Janice Loughlin,
Essex County Cllr. Ray Gooding.

The meeting opened at 7.00pm.

1. **Apologies for Absence.** None.
2. **Declarations of Interest.** Cllr. Shutes declared a pecuniary interest on agenda item number 8, meeting with the developer's Gladman, Cllr. Shutes wife owns part of the land that Gladman are trying to develop.
3. **Open to the public.**

On the 9 February 2020 there was a mini crime wave though the village of Ugley green, with 15 separate incidents reported to the police. This relates to nearly a third of all the properties in the village suffering some form of vandalism.

The police data was not recorded correctly due to Ugley's postal address being Bishop's Stortford. According to the data there were 17 incidents in Bishops Stortford and 3 in Ugley. However, Bishops Stortford had 5 incidents, and Ugley Green had 15.

It took the police over 1 hour to respond, by which time the culprit(s) had gone.

The police are continuing to look into the matter. Cllr. Ray Gooding asked for any further information to be sent to him, as he is liaising with the Chief Constable of Essex Police.

Cllr. Loughlin has asked the police if the PCSO, newly appointed to Elsenham, Stansted and Henham, could drive through Ugley on her way to the villages to give Ugley village a police presence.

One resident asked about setting up a speed watch team, the Parish Clerk is to send her the information.
4. **Signing of the Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 January 2020 were confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.
5. **Essex County Councillor's Report**

Essex County Council have set their 2020/21 budget at £992 million. This relates to a council tax increase of 1.99% plus a 2% increase for social care. £2 million will go to schools, with the largest part going to social care. The budget plans also include a £1million commitment to helping families that are just getting by and who may need extra support, making sure children across Essex enjoy the best start in life. £5 million has been allocated to enable action on climate change.

Essex Youth Service, which helps young people get the most out of school, work and life has been voted one of the best top 6 in the country.

Cllr. Gooding left the meeting.

6. District Councillor's Report

The Stansted Airport application to increase the passenger numbers from 35 million per year to 45 million per year, which would have meant an increase in the number of flights, was rejected on 24 January 2020 by UDC's Planning Committee, by 10 votes to 0 with 2 abstentions.

UDC's new Local Plan has been found 'unsound' by the Inspectors. UDC also, do not have a five-year housing supply, it currently stands at 2.68 years, this leaves the door open for developers.

UDC now must decide on whether to continue with the plan and make changes or start again with a clean sheet. £6 million has already been spent on the Local Plan, and it's going to take at least a further £3-£5 million to correct it.

Cllr. Loughlin has written a response to the Fairfield planning application, stating the problems with the infrastructure in the area, and the poor air quality.

Cllr. Loughlin had received a letter from Gladman asking for a meeting regarding their planning application in Bedwell Road, Ugley. Cllr. Loughlin has refused to meet them, as a member of UDC Planning Committee she cannot hold meetings with any prospective developer.

7. Planning Applications

- a) **UTT/20/0378/HHF & UTT/20/0379/LB** Proposed single storey rear extension. The Hermitage, Snakes Lane, Ugley. **No Comment.**
- b) **UTT/20/0383/HHF** Proposed side porch. The Chase, Pound Lane, Ugley. **No Comment.**

Appeal Decision

- c) **APP/C1570/W/19/3230897** 1 Detached dwelling and garage. Land adjacent to Maughan's, Fieldgate Lane, Ugley Green. **Allowed.**
- d) **APP/C1570/Y/3239922** replacement of 4 windows. 4 The Square, Cambridge Road, Ugley. **Dismissed.**

8. The Fairfield Appeal

Proposal, Ugley Parish Council pay £500 towards the cost of engaging the services of a planning consultant to defend the Fairfield planning application appeal. Cllr. Cross proposed, Cllr. Shuts seconded; the vote was carried unanimously.

9. Update on Website – Cllr. Frances

Due to EssexInfo closing on 31st March 2020, Cllr. Frances has setup a new website for Ugley Parish Council, <https://ugleyparishcouncil.info/> at a cost of £23.46, Cllr. Shuts thanked Cllr. Frances.

Cllr. Shutes leaves the meeting.

10. Clerk's Report

It was agreed that Ugley Parish Council would hold a meeting with Gladman developers on the Bedwell Road planning application, jointly with Elsenham Parish Council. The Parish Clerk will also ask Henham Parish Council if they would like to attend the meeting. Further information will be circulated to all Councillors when details are finalized.

Cllr. Shutes re-enters the meeting.

Two blocked drains have been reported to Highways. One in North Hall Road near the junction with Patmore End Road, the second is on the B1383 near the turning to Bollington Hall.

Grass cutting at the Church

In previous years Ugley Parish Council have paid 50% towards the cutting of the grass in the cemetery. This year however, that annual invoice was £2,560, an increase of £1,110; this invoice included extra clearance work. After a discussion it was decided that Ugley Parish Council would pay £725, the same amount that had been paid the previous year.

Proposal, Ugley Parish Council pay £725 to Ugley Church for grass cutting. Cllr. Shutes proposed, Cllr. Pryor seconded; the vote was carried unanimously.

11. Financial Report

Cashflow – Circulated.

Cash Statement as on February 2020 - Circulated.

Balance brought forward	<u>£8,952.76</u>
Henham PC	£ 500.00
Ugley Village Hall	£ 144.00
Total debits	£ 644.00
Total	£8,308.76

12. Any Other Business (no decisions can lawfully be made under this item).

It was agreed to hold a village litter picking day on Saturday 21 March 2020, meeting at 10am in the Village Hall car park. The Parish Clerk is to put posters on the notice boards and to advertise it on the Parish Council's website.

Cllr. Bowers is to thank Mr. and Mrs. Poulter on behalf of the Parish Council, for their help with the Christmas lights.

An incorrect road sign has been erected by Highways. On the B1381 the sign correctly reads 'width restriction 6 feet 6"', but near the junction by The Chequers public house leading to Patmore End, a sign has been erected saying 'Hight restriction 6 feet 6"', the Parish Clerk will inform Highways.

The wheelie bin for the collection of crisp packets has been modified and placed in the car park of the Village Hall. Cllr. Reay will now inform residents on Facebook.

13. Meeting Closed at 9.05pm.

The next Parish Council meeting is to be held on Monday 30 March 2020 at 7.00pm, in the Ugley Village Hall.

Signed