

Ugley Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 15 June 2015

Present: Cllr. Nick Shutes (Chairman), Cllr. David Cross (Vice-Chairman), Cllr. Betty Francis, Cllr. David Hilton, Cllr. Jean Reay, Cllr. Tony Turner and Mrs. L Johnson (Parish Clerk).

Members of the Public: 0, Essex County Cllr. Ray Gooding, Uttlesford District Cllr. Janice Loughlin.

The meeting opened at 800pm

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr. Roger Pryor.
2. **Declarations of Interest** – None.
3. The minutes of the meeting held on the 18 May 2015 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
4. **District Councillor's Report.**
Cllr. Janice Loughlin won the recent election, becoming the Uttlesford District Councillor for Stort Valley and therefore representing Ugley Village. Cllr. Loughlin informed the meeting that she had been appointed to; Planning Committee, Standards Committee, Planning Policy Working Group and Performance and Audit working group.
Uttlesford District Council is currently carrying out a 'Housing Land Availability Assessment' as part of its preparation of a new draft Local Plan; at present UDC do not have a Local Plan therefore there are no restrictions on developments. There should be a decision by July 2015 by Officers on the Fairfield Development of 800 new Homes between Elsenham and Henham.
5. **Cllr. D Hilton signed the 'Declaration of Acceptance of Office'.**
6. **General Power of Competence.**
Proposal, Ugley Parish Council agree that at present the Council meet the criteria for eligibility and can now exercise the 'General Power of Competence'.
Cllr. N Shutes proposed, Cllr. J Reay seconded, the vote was carried unanimously.
7. **Standing Orders.**
It was agreed the model Standing Orders contained many rules that were not relevant to Ugley Parish Council. It was therefore agreed the Parish Clerk would put together a set of Standing Orders for Ugley Parish Council using the statutory requirements only, if this is agreed by all Councillors the Standing Orders would be adopted at the next meeting.

Cllr. R Gooding arrived at the meeting and apologised for being late

8. Constant Abuse of 6ft. 6ins. width restriction through Ugley Green.

This continues to be a problem, with no easy solution. One suggestion was to contact 'Driver Vehicle Standards Agency' (DVSA), this agency have an enforcement service which would be able to contact the offending companies. Cllr. Gooding is to liaise with Highways to try and arrange for the conflicting road signs in the village to be changed, making it clearer to drivers which routes they should be using. Cllr. Gooding stated that he believed when 'Golds Nurseries' in Elsenham was granted planning permission, there was an enforcement order which stated the routes vehicles must use; Cllr. Loughlin said she would investigate this.

Cllr. Shutes said he would like to attend the next 'Local Community Meeting' to see if the police could give any further advice and help.

9. AGM of the Ulltesford Association of Parish Councils.

Cllr. Shutes, Cllr. Cross and Cllr. Pryor attended the meeting. A presentation was given on the progress of superfast broadband. Unfortunately to meet their targets they are focusing on the towns and larger villages; it is unlikely to be installed in Ugley village in the near future.

10. Clerk's Report.

- a) It was agreed to participate in UDC Salt Bag Partnership Scheme for winter 2015/16; further salt would be required.
- b) It was agreed to nominate Cllr. J Reay to attend the Buckingham Place Garden Party, Cllr. J Reay, has served on the Parish Council for over 40 years, with many of those years as Chairman.
- c) The Councillors are to consider what the £750 donated from the New Home Bonus could be spent on to help the village.
- d) The Clerk informed the Council that she had written a letter on 29 April 2015 asking the residents of Chestnut Cottage to remove the boards they had placed over the ditch onto common land without authority; as the residents have still not complied with this request, it was agreed to send a further letter.

11. Plans Received.

- a) **UTT/15/1655/HHF** Proposed loft conversion and single floor link extension to connect garden room to main house. Retention of existing garage but roof rotated 90 degrees and a new infill extension to front to form entrance porch. 7 Patmore Fields, Ugley. **This application was not approved by Ugley Parish Council; the dormer windows at the front were out of keeping with surrounding properties it would also overlook the neighbouring property. Cllr. Loughlin said she would 'Call In' this application if officer's recommended it for approval.**
- b) **UTT/15/142/HHF** Proposed rear extension. Home Farm, Hall Road. **No objection**

Decisions made by Uttlesford District Council.

- c) **UTT/15/0121/HHF** Extensions to side of property to increase size of utility room and to the rear to increase size of family room. The White Cottage, Ugley Green, Snakes Lane, Ugley. **Withdrawn. Noted.**

12. Finance Report.

There were no cheques for signing
Cash Statement showed the following transactions;

Payments	100987 Insurance	£326.00
	100988 Hilberys	£156.00
Total		£482.00

Income	Vat Refund	£402.56
	Home Bonus	£750.00
	UDC precept Grant	£234.00

Total **£1,386.56**

Current Balance **£6,264.02**

13. Essex County Councillor Ray Goodings report

Cllr. Gooding had been contacted by a resident of North Hall Road with regards to reducing the speed limit on this road. Cllr. Gooding is going to propose it at the next Highways meeting, but did not think he could justify this road having a reduction. A resident who lives adjacent to Home Farm Trust, also contacting Cllr. Gooding regarding a neighbouring dispute; it was hoped that this had now been sorted out.

14. Any other Business (no decisions can lawfully be made under this item).

Cllr. Turner reported a van has been parked for a numbers of weeks on the grass verge near the bus stop along Cambridge Road. The grass contractor has been unable to carry out his duties; the grass is now growing around the car, this looks untidy and may encourage other vehicles to park on the verge; it was agreed for the Parish Clerk to write to the owner asking him not to park on the verge in future.

15. Work is currently being carried out on ‘The Ashes’ in Ugley Green, no plans to date have been seen by Parish Council; Cllr. Loughlin is to contact the Enforcement Officer at UDC with regards to unlawful planning.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.25pm

Next Meeting; Monday, 20 July 2015 at 8.00pm held in the Ugley Village Hall.

Signed

Chairman