

Ugley Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 12 December 2016

Present; Cllr. Nick Shutes (Chairman), Cllr. David Cross (Vice-Chairman), Cllr. David Hilton, Cllr. Roger Pryor, Cllr. Jean Reay, Cllr. Tony Turner and Mrs. Louise Johnson (Parish Clerk).

Members of the Public: County Councillor Ray Gooding and District County Councillor Janice Loughlin.

The meeting opened at 7.00pm.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr. Betty Francis.
2. **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr. Pryor declared an interest on item 8 of the agenda planning application, The Cottage, Bollington Hall, Ugley.
3. The minutes of the meeting held on the 24 October 2016 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
4. **District Councillor's reports**
Cllr. Loughlin reported on the Local Plan which has been delayed until the New Year. This is to allow further evidence to be examined on the Chesterford site, as the inspector had stipulated that the new Local Plan must be evidenced based.
The Government is once again looking at devolution. This is moving powers away from Government to a more local level, Councils would merge and have more influence on the issues affecting their district, and it would therefore give Parish Councils greater power.
5. **Clerk's Report**
The lettering on the finger post by 'The Chase', in Pound Lane, has been blacked over. The Parish Clerk has reported this to Highways, who have said that this is not a priority and no further action is required. The Parish Clerk is to arrange for the work to be carried out by the Parish Council.
An email has been received from Mr Rob Platts regarding the overgrowth on the footpath, which runs from Ugley Village Hall through to and beyond the 'Chequers Public House'. Highways have cut back the opposite side of the road but not the footpath side. The Parish Clerk reported this to Highways on the 14th July 2016, the status on Highways web site reads, that this is still ongoing and that it is being scheduled to be carried out in line with their maintenance strategy.

A letter has been received from Rev Gary Townsend, thanking the Parish Council for their generous offer of £250 to help, if required, to fund the parish magazine.

A letter has been received from ELS asking for clarification on the route of Footpath 3 in Ugley. It was agreed the Parish Clerk would respond saying the public footpath follows the way that the finger post points, which is through the field to the east, and not through the garden of 2 Patmore End Cottages. The footpath has been in this

direction for many years and the village is happy with this and would prefer it not to be changed.

6. Plans

- I. **UTT/16/3217/HHF** Proposed two storey side extension. The Cottage, Bollington Hall, Ugley. **No objections.**
- II. **UTT/16/3396/LB** Demolition of rear porch and erection of replacement porch. Internal alterations to rear kitchen extension to create boot room/w.c. and enlarged opening between kitchen and dining room. Reinstatement of original ground floor window opening to side elevation. Replacement window to rear elevation. Internal alterations to create first floor bathroom. Park Cottage, Ugley Green. **No Objections**
- III. **UTT/16/331/OP** Outline application with all matters reserved except for access, for removal of existing buildings and erection of 2 new dwellings. Site South of Chestnut Cottage, Cambridge Road, Ugley. **Cllr. Loughlin is to call this application in. The access on the proposed development is on an extremely dangerous bend on a very busy major road.**
- IV. **UTT/16/3459/HHF** Proposed extension to existing dwelling with the link to existing stores and workshop, conversion of existing stores and workshop to residential accommodation. The Ashes Dellows Lane. **Ugley Parish Council objects to this application, it is over development on the site. This property and the neighbouring property use to be a single dwelling, this developer is constantly flaunting the planning rules and regulations.**

Decisions made by Uttlesford District Council

- V. **UTT/16/2556/LB** Replacement and repair work to the internal render and walls in the front living room, dining room and first floor bedroom. Hollyhocks Patmore End, Ugley Road, Ugley. **UDC Approved**

7. Financial Report

Cash flow circulated, there were no questions.

Statement balance brought forward	£8,005.08
Interest	£ 0.84
Total	£8,005.92

Payments

BACS	Hilbery Turf	£ 84.00
BACS	St. Peter's Fabric Fund	£ 400.00
101026	J Reay	£ 50.90
101027	CPRE	£ 36.00
Total		£ 570.90

New Balance **£7,435.02**

Represented by	
Community account	£ 359.70
Business Premium account	£7,075.32
Total	£7,435.02

Payment requiring authorisation;	
BACS Hilbery Turf	£ 84.00
BACS St Peter's Fabric Fund	£ 400.00

Precept

The precept for 2017/18 was discussed. It was agreed that Ugley Parish Council would be requiring a precept of around £6,250, this is to be finalised at the next Parish Council Meeting on 16 January 2017. UDC should be sending through a 'Ready Reckoner' within the next few days, this can work out the percentage increase and its effect on the council tax bill, the Parish Clerk will inform the Councillors of the percentage increase.

8. County Councillor's Report

Last year The Government announced that Councils which provide Social Care to Adults, would be allowed to increase their share of Council Tax by up to an extra 2% if it is all used to fund the increasing costs of Adult Social Care services. This year the increase could be 6%. Last year Adult Social Care service's budget was £500,000,000 across the county.

Young people in Essex have had a great year, as part of the Youth Service Citizenship a group of 7 young people from Uttlesford have produced a film about mental health, which won a national award. Young people taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh award gave 23 thousand voluntary hours to help other people. The number of qualifications gained by young people in Essex has trebled this year.

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

Cllr. Pryor reported that the 'Ugley' sign on the BI383 as you entered the village Stansted's direction, had been damaged beyond repair when a car collided with it. The car accident may have been caused by the water on the road, as the drain opposite is blocked and causes this part of the road to flood. The Parish Clerk is to report both to Essex Highways.

The dangerous unlit post in the centre of the road at the junction of Sworders Auctioneers on the B1383, has still not been repaired. Cllr. Gooding said that Highways were waiting for the electric company before any work could be carried out.

10. Cllr. Cross expressed his dismay in Uttlesford's Planning Committee allowing the new building in Lower Street to have planning permission without enough parking facilities. Cllr. Loughlin said she had been the only Councillor to vote against the planning application because of the lack of parking spaces.

11. Cllr. Turner asked if UDC had a litter picking team, as some of the verges in the village were covered in litter. Cllr. Gooding said that ECC have a litter picking team that they hire to UDC, but they only do the major roads.

12. Some of the privately owned hedges on Bedwell Road are encroaching onto the pavement and need cutting back to the boundary of the properties, as it is becoming increasingly more difficult for pedestrians to use the pavement. Cllr. Shutes said he would look to see which properties this involved with a view of either, the Parish Clerk writing to the residents asking them to cut back their hedges or, the Parish Council arranging for it to be done.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30pm

Next Meeting; Monday 16 January 2017 at 7.00pm, to be held in the Ugley Village Hall.

Signed

Chairman