

# **Parish Council of Ugley**

## **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Ugley held on Monday 25 March 2024 at 7.00pm, in the Ugley Village Hall**

### **Present:**

Cllr. Nick Shutes (Chair), Cllr. Roger Pryor (Vice-Chair),  
Cllr. Clayton Powter, Cllr. Matt Francis, Cllr. Jonathan Harding,  
Cllr. Elizabeth Reay and Mrs. Louise Johnson (Parish Clerk)

### **Members of the Public:**

ECC Cllr. Ray Gooding

- 1. To receive and approve apologies for absence:** Cllr. Nick Bowers and Cllr. Janice Loughlin.
- 2. Declarations of interest:** Cllr. Shutes declared a pecuniary interest on number 7.1 on the agenda, **UTT/24/0543/OP** Outline planning permission with all matters reserved except access for the erection of up to 240 houses, Land North of Bedwell Road.
- 3. Approval of the Minutes.**

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 26 February 2024 were approved and signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record.
- 4. Essex County Councillor's Report.**

The government has allocated £12.5 million to ECC for 20 additional crews to repair potholes in the county. March is always the season for potholes, but this year it has been especially bad. This is a national problem.

Social Care continues to receive the lion share of the council tax. One council spending 80% of their annual budget on adult social care.

Some parents of children with special needs are taking councils to tribunals to get the care their children require. The judges always assess the needs of the child, but their ruling is not always deliverable, spaces for children with special needs are limited.

Judges understand the issue with prisons being full and will take this into consideration when sentencing. But for children with special needs the judge will always rule that the child gets the best care for their needs, and this, very sadly, is not always possible.

ECC spend about 65-70% on Adult Social Care, this amounts to 20-30 million being spent on 0.1% of the population.

It is very difficult to find permanent housing for adults with learning difficulties. Often they are moved from one place to another, which doesn't help them establish friends.

Recently ECC has purchased 15 flats in Waltham Abbey for adults with learning difficulties to live with assisted care.

**Cllr. Shutes left the meeting.**

## **5. Planning application.**

**5.1. UTT/24/0543/OP** Outline planning permission with all matters reserved except access for the erection of up to 240 houses with public open spaces, landscaping and sustainable drainage system and vehicular access point, North of Bedwell Road, Ugley.

Deadline for representations to UDC is 4 April.

This application, also by Gladman, on the same site, was refused by UDC Planning Committee in April 2021. The Appeal was heard via Zoom 14 - 24 September 2021 and dismissed 25 October 2021. Noise was the determinative factor for the previous application being refused, the noise coming from the motorway and the railway line. As noise was the determinative factor for the previous application, it would make sense to object to this application on the grounds of noise again.

It is unusual for noise to be an issue in this area, and it becomes very technical very quickly, therefore Elsenham and Henham PC's have agreed to engage a noise consultant Stephen Gosling from 24acoustics Ltd. At a cost of;

- Review latest submission - £1500+VAT.
- Prepare a report for submission to UDC - £5400+VAT.

This application is half in Henham and half in Ugley with impact also on Elsenham. Gladman changed their design to deal with the noise mitigation by proposing three-storey houses with the kitchen and bathroom on the motorway side, and the living room and bedrooms on the other side away from the motorway. The three storey houses would then act as a barrier to the other properties on the site. The children's play areas are currently shown on the plans as being in an area too noisy to build on.

It was agreed Ugley Parish Council should object to this application. A development of 240 houses could mean approximately another 400 cars using Pound Lane.

It was agreed to ask Elsenham and Henham Parish Councils if Ugley Parish Council could join them in their response of objecting on the grounds of noise giving a contribution of £500 towards the cost of employing a noise expert.

### **Appeal decision.**

**5.2. UTT/23/1213/FUL** proposal for 4 dwellings with associated car ports and landscaping works. Land to the north of The Forge, Cambridge Road, Ugley.

#### **Appeal refused.**

**This was refused on grounds of loss of employment, the effect on the character and appearance of the area, The principle of residential development in this location and living conditions for existing and proposed occupants.**

## **6. Clerk's Report.**

A thank you goes to Matthew Robinson for an excellent job repairing the Dellows Lane signpost.

It was agreed to donate £200 to the Henham, Elsenham and Ugley Scouts to go towards sending scouts and leaders to the Australian Jamboree at Maryborough, in January 2025. This is a wonderful opportunity for young people.

## **7. Financial Report**

Cash Statement, March 2024

Brought forward	£8,733.44
St Peter's Church	£500.00
Total	£8,233.44

Any Other Business (no decisions can lawfully be made).

- 8.** Cllr. Powter is concerned about the bus shelter on Cambridge Road, it seems to be leaning over to one side. Cllr. Powter said he would investigate further.
- 9.** The meeting finished at 7.55pm.