

# Ugley Parish Council

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 18 January 2016

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

**Members of the Public:** 0, District Cllr. Janice Loughlin

The meeting opened at 700pm

1     **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr. D Hilton and Essex County Cllr. Ray Gooding

2     **Declarations of Interest** – None

3     **Signing of the Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 14 December 2015 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4.    **District and Councillors' Reports.**

Cllr. J Loughlin informed the meeting that Mr. Andrew Taylor is leaving, Mr. Taylor currently holds the position of 'Assistant Director Planning and Building Control' at Uttlesford District Council.

The government is to discontinue the 'New Home Bonus', it is also bringing in a rule that if Uttlesford District Council refuse a planning application which then goes to appeal and is accepted, Uttlesford District Planning Committee would be fined.

**Cllr. R Gooding sent the following report.**

I reported last month that the Comprehensive Spending Review was likely to have a detrimental effect on the position of the County Council. On 18<sup>th</sup> December the final details were publicised and it is true to say that Essex have suffered particularly badly in this process. The effect of this is that Essex will lose approximately £53 million from the 16/17 settlement and when the effect of the living wage from our providers is factored into this we will be approximately £90 million worse off. This represents 10% of our available revenue budget and will clearly have a significant impact on our ability to deliver other than statutory services.

We are currently seeking ways in which this impact of this can be mitigated. We have also written to David Cameron to express our views on this and Cllr. Finch, the Leader of the Council, is having a series of meetings with Greg Clark, the minister responsible for these issues. It is our hope that the Budget that the Council will issue in February will enable us to ensure that the impact of all this is minimised.

5.    **Broadband Update**

At the last Parish Council meeting held in December Mr. Andy Skelton was appointed 'Broadband Champion', he agreed to compose a letter to be sent to all residents in Ugley Parish asking if they were interested in pursuing high speed broadband to Ugley. As no further update on the situation has been received from Mr. Skelton, the Parish Clerk is to contact him.

6. **Letter from Mrs Corrigan**

Mrs. Corrigan has written to the Parish Council asking for any guidance and help on trees from a neighbour's garden which was having a detrimental effect on her garden. In situations like this, when the trees are on privately own land, Uttlesford District Council will not intervene and advise that she tries to resolve the issue by discussing the problem with her neighbour. The Parish Clerk is to write to Mrs Corrigan passing on this information.

7. **Clerk's Report**

The Chairman, Cllr. N Shutes and the Parish Clerk signed the 'Precept upon charging authority' form.

It was unanimously agreed to accept the quote for Hilbery Turf for the grass cutting contract for 2016.

The dangerous island in the centre of Cambridge Road opposite the junction of Saunders Art Auctioneers has been reported to Essex Highways under reference 2436996. The reply sent by Highways was 'This has been inspected and it does not meet our criteria to be fixed. We will continue to monitor it during our routine inspection'.

8. **Finance Report**

The following cheques and payments were approved for signing;

101007	L Johnson	£541.56
101008	H M Revenue	£135.40
101009	UDC	£103.37
101010	L Johnson	£ 21.26
Total		£801.59

**Cash Statement** - balance brought forward £7,749.73

Income Nil

Payments

101002	Ugley Village Hall	£ 80.00
101004	Chris Rix	£ 786.00
101005	Hilberys	£ 156.00
101006	CPRE	£ 36.00
Total		£ 1,058.00

Balance carried forward £ 6,691.73

Represented by

Community account £4,618.85

Business Premium account £2,072.88

Current balance (both Accounts) £6,691.73

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

Cllr. J Reay stated that she had been unable to contact the Gypies liaison office at Uttlesford District Council with regards to travellers in the layby by the bridge between Patmore Road and North Hall Road. Cllr. Loughlin said that this would now

be dealt with by the Enforcement Team and she would contact them on Cllr. Reay's behalf.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.50pm

Next Meeting; Monday, 29 February 2016 at 7.00pm held in the Ugley Village Hall.

Signed

Chairman