

Ugley Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 14 January 2019

Present:

Cllr. Nick Shutes (Chairman), Cllr. David Cross (Vice-Chairman), Cllr. Betty Francis, Cllr. Jean Reay and Mrs. Louise Johnson (Parish Clerk).

Members of the Public:

District Cllr. Janice Loughlin.

The meeting opened at 7.00pm.

- 1. Apologies for Absence** Cllr. Roger Pryor, Cllr. David Hilton, Cllr. Tony Turner and Essex County Cllr. Ray Gooding.
- 2. Declarations of Interest.** Cllr. Betty Francis declared an interest on item 6, planning application UTT/19/0025/FU, this is her neighbouring property.
- 3. Open to the public.** None present.
- 4. Signing of the Minutes**
The minutes of the meeting held on 10 December 2018 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- 5. District Cllr. Janice Loughlin report**
A sustainability appraisal, which forms part of the local plan, has been published by UDC. A consultation will be held when members of the public will be able to have their say. The consultation will run from 14 January 2019 for six weeks.
UDC still anticipates submitting the local plan to the Secretary of State on or before 24 January 2019.

A motion has been proposed with UDC Scrutiny Committee, calling for an independent investigation into the Council's handling of the recent Stansted Airport Planning Application. The Scrutiny Committee meeting is to take place on Tuesday 15 January 2019.

Complaints have been made on UDC's decision to loan funds of over £4 million, to Aspire Ltd to carry out work on a building at the Chesterford Research Park of which UDC hold 50% shares. Cllr. Loughlin stated that UDC had to look for new revenue as the Government is removing core funding and Councils are encouraged to invest. The profits so far have been very good.

The local elections will take place on 2 May 2019. During the period of purdah, which starts on 26 March 2019, the day the Returning Officer gives notice of the election,

and finishes the day of the election, candidates should not deal with controversial issues, any answers to questions must be factual and not party political.

A planning application for 9 new dwellings has been submitted on Land South of the Farmhouse, Old Mead Road, Henham.

Rissa Long from Essex County Council Highways, is holding her next meeting at UDC on 7 February 2019. Cllr. Loughlin asked that members email her with any highway problems they would like her to present at the meeting.

6. **Planning Applications**

a) **UTT/18/3447/HHF** Single storey rear extension. The Paddocks, 29 Bedwell Road, Ugley. **No objection.**

b) **UTT/19/0025/FUL** Erection of a detached dwelling and garage. Land adjacent to Maughans Field Gate Lane, Ugley.

Ugley Parish Council objects to this application for the following reasons:

This development is proposed in the heart of a rural village, down a narrow country lane. If this development is approved it could set a precedent for further developments turning this quiet lane into an urban road.

This development is in a very rural location, and would have a detrimental effect on the wildlife. This area is the habitat to an abundance of wildlife including, great crested newts, badgers and hedgehogs. – **Policy GEN S7 Nature Conservation**

Ugley Parish Council strongly feels the negative effect this house would have on the surrounding areas, far out ways the need for this dwelling.

7. **Clerk's Report**

The bus shelter on Cambridge Road by the Village Hall has been re-roofed and vegetation has been cleared. Sue Haydon from UDC agreed that this is a good project to speed the £500 from the Home Bonus.

Next year's budgets were discussed. It was agreed to ask for a precept for 2019/20 of £6,100, this equates to an increase for a band D household of £0.41p per year, the equivalent of 1.49%.

Cllr. Shutes and the Parish Clerk, signed the Precept Upon Charging Authority.

It was agreed for the Parish Clerk to send out tenders for this year's grass cutting contract. This will include the Ugley Village Green the grass verge adjacent to the B1383 next to the Chequers Public House and the verge in front of Cllr. Turners house.

Essex County Council (ECC) is consulting on a proposal to close a third of their public libraries and transfer others to community ownership. A public consultation will be open from 29 November 2018 until 20 February 2019. ECC say that the use of Stansted Library has declined, however, these figures were recorded when the library was operating from the back of a van, with limited advertising. ECC is looking to close or transfer to local volunteers 40 out of their 74 libraries.

8. **Financial Report**

Cashflow – Circulated	
Payments requiring authorisation;	
BACS L Johnson	£ 27.58
BACS L Johnson	£ 569.67
BACS HM Revenue	£ 142.20
101035 Ugley Village	
Hall Committee	£ 104.00
101036 R McKean	£ 49.99

Balance brought forward **£8878.12**

BACS L Johnson	£ 27.58
BACS L Johnson	£ 569.67
BACS HM Revenue	£ 142.20
101035 Ugley Village	
Hall Committee	£ 104.00
101036 R McKean	£ 49.99

Total £ 893.44

Bank Balance £7,984.68

9. Any other Business

Cllr. Shutes asked if all the Councillors proposed standing again for the Parish Council in May 2019, all present said they would.

Cllr. Cross stated the problems that Giggaclear are causing while laying broadband in the village. The company are digging up roads in order to lay the cables, but are not repairing them to a satisfactory condition and leaving the roads in a very poor state, one resident even had his electric cut off.

Dellows Lane is still due to be repaired this financial year, Mr Robinson has now asked for documents regarding the repair work under the Freedom of Information act.

The meeting finished at 7.50pm.

Next meeting is on Monday 25 February 2019 at 7.00pm, in the Ugley Village Hall.

Signed