

Ugley Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 16th March 2015

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

Members of the Public: Alexis Beeching.

The meeting opened at 800pm

- 1 **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr. J Salmon, Cllr. J Riche, Cllr. T Turner and Cllr. J Loughlin.
- 2 **Declarations of Interest – None.**
- 3 The minutes of the meeting held on the 26 January 2015 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
4. **Introduction from Janice Laughlin, the current District Councillor for Stort Valley Ward.** Cllr. J Loughlin had another commitment and was unable to attend the meeting.
5. **Introduction from Alexis Beeching prospective conservative candidate for Stort Valley Ward.**
Cllr. N Shutes explained that with the new boundary changes Ugley Parish are to be part of the Stort Valley Ward; this was now believed to be a positive move as the ward is made up of small Parish Councils.
Cllr. N Shutes welcomed Alexis Beeching to the meeting. Mrs. Beeching gave a short résumé of her life. If elected this would be her first position as a Councillor, in the future she would like to become part of the health and social care department within the council.
6. **District and County Councillors' reports**
No District or County Councillors were present.
7. **Boards across the ditch on Ugley Green - Cllr. T Turner.**
It was agreed that as Cllr. Turner was absent, this item would be placed on the next agenda. The Parish Clerk is to resource the legalities of making walkways on to common ground.
8. **Update on the list of Highways jobs**
At the last Parish Council meeting Cllr. Gooding was given a list of jobs that needed to be carried out around the village; these had all been reported to Highways but were still outstanding, some had been reported over 2 years ago.

As Cllr. Gooding was unable to attend tonight's meeting, this item is to be put back on the next meeting's agenda.
It would be polite and courteous of Highways to reply, even if it was to say that they were unable to carry out the work.

9. Clerk's Report

a) Auditor

It was agreed that Cllr. N Shutes would ask Mrs. Vicky Richardson if she would carry out the internal audit for 2014/15.

b) The Chase

English Heritage had informed the Parish Clerk that to have the property 'The Chase' registered as a listed building would be extremely difficult without the owner's permission.

c) Quotes for grass cutting 2015

It was agreed to accept the quotation from Hilbery Turf at £65 + Vat per cut.

d) Litter Picking Day.

The litter picking day is to be held on 21 March. Adverts have been placed on the village notice boards and in the village magazine. Uttlesford District Council (UDC) are due to pick up the full red rubbish bags on Monday 23 March in the Village Hall car park.

e) The 2015 election, extra meeting.

The nomination packs for Parish Council elections were handed out to all Councillors. Cllr. Reay agreed that she would return the completed forms to UDC. An extra meeting is to be held at 7pm on Monday 18 May, for all members to sign the 'Declaration of Acceptance of Office' as these have to be signed within 28 days of election.

10 Plans – Decisions made by UDC.

(i) UTT/14/3688/HHF Roof extensions forming flank gable and new dormer windows. Rosies Walk, Cambridge Road, Ugley, Essex, CM22 6HX. **Approved. Noted.**

(ii) UTT/14/3759/HHF Proposed porch and single bay garage. 1 Field Gate Lane, Ugley. **Approved. Noted.**

(iii) UTT/14/3634/FUL Erection of 1 four bedroom dwelling with associated landscaping. Sundown, Cambridge Road, Ugley. **Withdrawn. Noted.**

11 Finance Report

There were no cheques or payments approved at the meeting.

Ugley Parish Council have funds of £2,710, with a precept of £7,200 this makes a budget for 2015/16 of £9,910.

Provision of £2,000 had to be made in the precept in case Ugley had a contested election; this unfortunately has made an increase in the council tax for this year.

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

- 12.** Correspondence had been received from Mr. and Mrs. Oliver regarding the approval by UDC of a planning application that they felt the Parish Council should have objected to. The Parish Council sympathise with Mr. and Mrs. Oliver; it was agreed that had they contacted a member of the Parish Council explaining the situation the Parish Council would have given them their support. Some Councillors advised the meeting that they had at the time been unable to open some of documents on the Uttlesford Planning portal. The Parish Clerk is to write to Mr & Mrs Oliver explaining the Parish Council's procedures.
- 13.** Cllr. Hilton voiced his concerns about flooding in Snakes Lane. The drain under the road from the pond to the ditch is severely blocked. Additionally the culvert which serves as the source of Ugley Brook, leading north from the ditch is also blocked. Cllr. Hilton has written to Essex County Council and Mr. John Mitchel at UDC but has had no reply.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.25pm

Annual Parish Meeting, 27April 2105 at 8.00pm held in the Ugley Village Hall.

Annual Parish Council Meeting, 18 May 2015 at 7pm in the Ugley Village Hall

Next Council Meeting; Monday, 15 June 2015 at 8.00pm held in the Ugley Village Hall.

Signed

Chairman