

# Ugley Parish Council

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 29 February 2016

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

**Members of the Public:** 0, Essex County Cllr. Ray Gooding.

The meeting opened at 7.00pm

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr. R Pryor, Cllr. T Turner, District Cllr. Janice Loughlin.

2. **Declarations of Interest:** None.

3. **Open to the public:** None present.

4. The minutes of the meeting held on the 18 January 2016 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

5 **Superfast Broadband**

There had been no further correspondence from Mr. Andy Skelton, who was due to attend this meeting and give an update on pursuing the instalment of high speed broadband in the village. It was therefore agreed that although unfortunate, nothing more could be achieved at this time.

6. **Clerk's Report**

Ugley Parish Council had received a payment of £208.37 from EALC; some of the funds are to purchase a new printer/scanner. It was agreed to purchase a HP Envy printer at £59.99 plus £15 for 3 years insurance cover, with a monthly plan of £1.99 to cover the ink for up to 50 pages per month.

7. **Plans Received**

**UTT/16/0277/FUL** Proposed removal of existing stable block and erection of new stable block. Green Farm, Ugley. **No Comment.**

An email had been received from Mr. Richard Pascoe asking what the Parish Council views would be if he were to ask for planning permission for a number of residential units on land between Henham and Newport. The Parish Clerk is to reply to Mr Pascoe stating that before the Parish Council could form any views more information was needed, namely what kind of residential units and how many; also pointing out that the Parish Council have limited influence with planning applications and ultimately the decision belongs to Uttlesford District Council.

**Cllr. D Hilton joined the meeting.**

8. **Finance Report**

Cashflow circulated, there were no questions.

Statement balance brought forward                      £6,691.73

### **Income**

|                      |   |                   |
|----------------------|---|-------------------|
| Interest             | £ | 00.26             |
| HM Revenue & Customs | £ | 256.97            |
| EALC                 | £ | 208.37            |
| <b>Total</b>         |   | <b>£ 7,157.33</b> |

### **Payments**

|              |            |   |                 |
|--------------|------------|---|-----------------|
| 101007       | L Johnson  | £ | 541.56          |
| 101008       | HM Revenue | £ | 135.40          |
| 101009       | UDC        | £ | 103.37          |
| 101010       | L Johnson  | £ | 21.26           |
| <b>Total</b> |            |   | <b>£ 801.59</b> |

**Balance brought forward** **£6,355.74**

Represented by

|                          |           |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Community account        | £4,282.60 |
| Business Premium account | £2,073.14 |

The following cheques and payments were approved for signing;

|        |                  |   |        |
|--------|------------------|---|--------|
| 101011 | Amenity Services | £ | 200.00 |
|--------|------------------|---|--------|

**Essex County Councillor Ray Gooding joined the meeting.**

9. Any other Business (no decisions can lawfully be made under this item).  
Cllr. D Cross pointed out that officers at UDC had now made an initial draft assessment on the sites that had been put forward for the New Local Plan. The site situated behind the Chequers Public House was considered by officers to be, 'unsuitable for development as the area is characterised as open countryside and would not contribute to sustainable patterns of development'.  
The application for planning permission to build one bungalow on this land was to be heard by an officer at UDC on 15 March 2016, it was anticipated that the officer would consider these comments when making his decision.
10. Cllr. B Francis reported that she had contacted Essex Highways to report the dangerous unlit post in the centre of the road at the junction of Sworders Auctioneers on the B1383. Highways replied that the work had been carried out in October 2015, Cllr. B Francis stated that it had not; Highways then said it had been referred to the Street Lighting Department. Cllr. B Francis contacted the Street Lighting Department, who denied any knowledge, but said they would send a maintenance man to repair it; this work has still not been carried out.
11. Cllr. D Hilton reported the flooding in Snakes Lane, Highways officers came and inspected the situation, but as they couldn't find the drain that was blocked, they left without rectifying the problem. Cllr. D Hilton however has a reference number and will pursue this with Highways.
12. It was agreed to send Cllr. T Turners letter regarding large vehicles going through Ugley Green, to District Commander Craig Carrington at Essex police.

13. Cllr. N Shutes had received concerns from Mr. N Bowers regarding the potential flooding with his property. The Parish Clerk is to write a letter to Mr. Bowers advising him to contact the Environmental Agency at UDC, who should send an officer out to assess the situation, and find where the problem lies.

14. **County Councillor's report.**

Cllr. R Gooding reported that ECC had increased the council tax by 3.9%; the increase includes a Social Care Precept of 2% which the Government had introduced from 2016/17 to allow Councils with adult social care responsibilities to help meet the increasing demand for these services.

Essex Highways are having their budget cut from £8 million to £4 million. The £4 million will however go to Highways maintenance; this should help the more rural roads and pavements in the area.

There is £364 million in the budget to spend on new schools for the next three years; which includes £88 million going towards special schools.

Children centres are changing the way they are run; with some centres reducing their opening times, but with more officers going to visit the families in their homes, this will make sure that families get the help they need.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.20pm

Next Meeting; Annual Parish meeting Monday 11 April 2016 at 7.00pm, followed by Ugley Parish Council Meeting, both to be held in Ugley Village Hall.

Signed

Chairman