

Ugley Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Virtual Meeting held at 7.00pm on 14 September 2020.

Present:

Cllr. Nick Shutes (Chairman), Cllr. David Cross (Vice-Chairman),
Cllr. Matt Francis, Cllr. Clayton Powter, Cllr. Roger Pryor,
Cllr. E Reay and Mrs. Louise Johnson (Parish Clerk).

Members of the Public: 0

The meeting opened at 7.00pm.

1. **Apologies for Absence.** Cllr. Nick Bowers and District Cllr. J Loughlin.
2. **Declarations of Interest.** None.
3. **Open to the public.** None present
4. **Signing of the Minutes**
The minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2020 were confirmed as a true and accurate record. Minutes will be signed later.
5. **Planning Application**
UTT/20/2226/HHF Removal of existing extensions and erection of single storey extension to create pool room. Harewood, Snakes Lane, Ugley. **No Objections.**

UTT/20/2273/FUL Demolition of the existing dwelling and construction of 2 detached dwellings. Newlands Cottage, Ugley Green. **It was agreed that the developer had addressed most of the previous objections, therefore, the Parish Council had no comment.**
6. **Traffic, Aircraft, Verges and Litter**
The closure of North Hall Road is causing an increase in traffic on the Patmore End Road leading into Elsenham. The road was not built for this amount of traffic, in places it is single carriageway only, and the road and verges are deteriorating. People that are using this road are not familiar with it and instead of slowing down for the blind bend are tooting their horns. Cllr. Gooding said he would bring up this issue at the next Highways Panel meeting and ask if a road sign can be erected on the bend stating, 'Slow Down dangerous bend'. Cllr. Gooding said he would also inform Highways about the number of potholes and damage to the verges along this road. Cllr. Shutes reported that a large slab has fallen into the river and any heavy rain could then flood the road causing more damage. Cllr. Gooding said he would flag this up to try and get the slab removed. Cllr. Gooding would also

investigate, whether Highways could spread salt on the road, if required during the winter months.

The aircraft noise from Stansted Airport seems to have increased. This could be for many reasons, one being, as the airport resumes its scheduled flights, the noise is more noticeable in comparison to the few planes that were taking off and landing during the recent lockdown. The Parish Council do not have powers to reduce aeroplane noise level.

The village litter pick had to be cancelled this year due to covid-19 and therefore there is more litter about than previous years.

7. Clerk's Report

The Chequers Public House has been reported to UDC's Enforcements for unauthorised change of use of land. The Public House is no-longer open, but there are many parked cars in the car park with price tags displayed on them.

Cllr. Francis changed the setting on the Ugley Parish Council's website, allowing the Parish Clerk admin status.

The appeal for the Stansted Airport planning application is to start on the 10 January 2021, it is scheduled to last for ten weeks. The airport is also asking UDC to pay their expenses, which if they are successful, would cost UDC a large amount of money.

UDC's Enforcements have now been given permission to visits enforcement issues and Planning Officers can visit planning application sites. Members of the office staff will not be going back for some time and will continue to work from home, this is because the Council Offices in Saffron Walden are not conducive with following the Government Covid-19 guidelines. UDC will continue to hold meetings via Zoom for many more months.

As UDC have invested wisely and have raised enough money to allow Councillors to have £2,000 each to donate to worthy causes in their ward. Cllr. Loughlin is to donate £500 to Ugley Parish Council.

8. Financial Report

Cash Statement for July 2020 Circulated.

Payments for signing

Balance brought forward	<u>£7,667.13</u>
N Shutes	£ 24.00
E. Corrs	£ 444.00
Hilbery Turf	£ 192.00
Norton Subscription	£ 59.99
Hilbery Turf	£ 96.00
Total	£ 815.99
Grand Total	£6,851.14

9. Essex County Councillor's report

Cllr Gooding explained that North Hall Road was closed for the safety of road users, as the bank and the structure around it has collapsed. The road was due to reopen in October 2020, but this now looks unlikely. Traffic-lights, allowing single line traffic has been ruled out by Highways as not being a safe option.

95% of children in Essex are now attending schools after the extended break. A lot of parents have now decided to home educate their children. On one day 130 families informed the schools that their children would not be returning. If, however, the parents change their minds, they would have to apply to the school again, and may not get their first choice

There is a slight growth of Covid-19 in Essex, but still only twenty per hundred thousand, the peak areas are moving around Essex.

A member from UDC has been sending out letters almost suggesting that District Councillors can overrule County Policy. The member is acting ultra vires and does not have the authority. Highways issues must go through Cllr. Gooding or the Highways Panel.

ECC have a scheme this year where each member receives £10,000 to spend in their divisions, Cllr Gooding has 13 parishes to administer. So, if the Parish Council has anything they would like to purchase for the benefit of the Parish, Cllr. Gooding would be happy to fund it.

Cllr. Powter is going to look at the village bus shelter, as it had been reported that the felt is coming away on the roof, this may be something that the funding could be used for.

- 10.** Any Other Business (no decisions can lawfully be made under this item).
Cllr. Pryor congratulated Cllr. Shutes on the excellent job that had been carried out on cleaning the ponds in the village.

- 11.** Meeting Closed at 8.00pm.

The next Parish Council meeting is to be held on Monday 26 October 2020 at 7.00pm, via Zoom.

Signed