

Ugley Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held at 7.00pm, Monday 25 October 2021 in the Ugley Village Hall

Present:

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

Members of the Public:

1 plus County Cllr. Ray Gooding

- 1. Declarations of interest;** None.
- 2. To receive and approve apologies for absence.** Cllr. Clayton Powter and District Cllr. Janice Loughlin.
- 3. Open to the public.**
There were no questions.
- 4. Approval of the minutes.**
The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 13 September 2021 were approved as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.
- 5. District Councillor's Report.**
Cllr. Loughlin sent a report;
A new Chief Executive, Peter Holt, has joined the council. Gordon Glenday, Assistant Director Planning, has left the council and Roger Harborough, director of Public Services is retiring next month.

Stansted Airport Planning Application.

At the full council meeting on 5th October councillors voted not to continue to fight the MAG planning application (Stansted Airport), to increase passenger numbers to 43mppa.

In October 2019 the application was approved on the Chair's casting vote. R4U decided to try to overturn the decision on the grounds of climate change which was a material consideration. In January 2020 the application was refused by the planning committee, MAG appealed the decision. The appeal was lost. The administration then decided to apply to the High Court for permission for a judicial review The Honourable Mrs Justice Lang DBE refused permission on 3 grounds saying that the submission was 'unarguable.' The cost to the council/taxpayers has, so far, been £2.5 million.

At full council on 5th October, all opposition parties (Conservatives, Greens and Lib Dems) called for the resignation of the Leader and Deputy Leader of the

Council, the planning portfolio holder and the Chair of the Planning Committee as they were involved in the decisions which have cost the council so much and achieved nothing.

The motion was lost as the opposition were outnumbered. There may be an independent review of the handling of the application.

Planning.

The council commissioned a review of the Planning Service in 2020 from the East of England LGA. It was addressed in 3 strands, the first two addressing the preparations for the development of the local plan. The third addressed the council's development management service. It said that whilst the council has a good scheme of delegation for managing planning applications the number of applications referred to the committee for decision and the number of applications against officer recommendations are high.

On 4th October the council received a letter from The Director of Planning at the Department for Housing and Communities. It said that the authority may be liable for designation (taken over by government) for the quality of its decisions for major developments.

This may have repercussions for the planning committee who are elected and have always been told that officers recommend, and members have the right to disagree providing there are sound policy reasons for doing so.

Local Plan.

The technical studies on the sites brought forward in the call for sites for the new local plan are now on the council's website.

This does not mean that all the sites brought forward will be the sites chosen. There will be a lot more work to do before the final decision on the sites is made.

Essex County Councillor's Report.

The wires for the speed survey on Patmore End have been installed in two locations. One set within the main residential part of Patmore End and another set between the two bends further up the lane. The results of this survey intended to provide justification, or not, for a reduction of the 60mph current speed limit. However, policies say that to impose a speed limit of 30mph within Patmore End the "Built-up" section would need to be at least 300 metres long. Patmore End is only 165 metres from start to finish and the other sections, up to the double bend and beyond, have insufficient properties to justify a lower limit. So, if the speed limit was reduced there would have to be a waiver of the policy.

A previous request, a number of years ago, to make Patmore End into a 'Quite Lane' was rejected. However, Cllr. Gooding is happy to make another application. Making a road into a 'Quite Lane' only includes signage to say beware of walkers, cyclists and horse riders, it contains very little in way of restrictions that can be enforced if drivers fail to comply.

Cllr. Gooding is to ask Essex Highways to carry out further temporary repairs to Patmore End.

Cllr. Gooding is to contact Glenn Shaw at ECC with regards to the flooding and potholes in Snakes Lane.

Cllr. Gooding is arranging a visit to this area with Cllr. Lee Scott, ECC Highway Maintenance and Sustainable Transport, to show him the problems with the infrastructure around the villages in this area.

6. Planning.

Uttlesford Local Plan: Technical consultation on initial site assessments.

UDC have published the Call for Sites and have asked Parishes to check the information is correct. Ugley has 4 sites that have been put forward, land southeast of Homestead Farm, land at Bedwell Road, Bollington Hall Farm and Hascombe Farm. Councillors to look at the information and report any errors to the Parish Clerk, who will inform UDC.

Planning applications decided by UDC.

6.1. UTT/21/2247/HHF Proposed two storey side extension and new roof to entire building. Little Hudson Farm, Field Gate Lane, Ugley. **Approved.**

6.2. UTT/21/2268/HHF Proposed side extension to existing dwelling, with new garage to the rear of garden. Little Hudson Lodge, Field Gate Lane, Ugley. **Approved.**

6.3. UTT/21/2261/HHF Proposed conversion of second floor creating dormers to front and rear, proposed new front porch and new chimney. Ugley Hall Farm, Ugley Road, Ugley. **Approved.**

6.4. Appeal UTT/20/2273/FUL Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling and one new dwelling. Newland Cottages, Ugley Green, Snakes Lane, Ugley. **Appeal dismissed.**

6.5. Appeal UTT/19/2266/OP 220 new houses. Land North of Bedwell Road. **Appeal dismissed** on the grounds of unacceptable noise. It was disappointing however, that the inspector did not find the access route to the west via Ugley Green, Snakes Lane and Pound Lane to be a problem, she said these routes were not unsafe.

7. Clerk's report.

Potholes in Snakes Lane.

Cllr. Gooding to contact Glenn Shaw, Watercourse Regulation Engineer at ECC. Mr. Shaw last looked at the problem in March 2021.

Defibrillator.

Proposal, Ugley Parish Council spend up to £2,000 on purchasing a defibrillator. Proposed by Cllr. Shutes, seconded by Cllr. Pryor, the vote was carried unanimously.

8. Financial Report.

Cash Statement, October 2021

Total brought forward	£7,247.46
Precept Credit	£3,150.00
L Johnson	£ 610.05

H M Revenue	£ 152.40
101040 The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	£ 37.00
Balance in bank account	<u>£9,598.01</u>

The following payments were signed.

Cheque 101040 The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	£ 37.00
BACS L Johnson	£ 610.05
BACS H M Revenue	£ 152.40

9. Any Other Business (no decisions can lawfully be made under this item).
 Cllr. Gooding confirmed that when he drives Cllr. Lee Scott around this area the route will include Patmore End.
 Cllr. Gooding confirmed that he had informed Highways England that the acoustic panel on the M11 by the motorway bridge in Ugley needs repairing.

Meeting Closed at 8.10pm