

Minutes of the Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 20th September 2017 at Greenstead Green Village Hall at 7.30pm.

These are draft minutes and yet to be agreed by the Parish Council.

Present.

Cllr. Thelma Ardley.

Cllr. Chris Butler

Cllr. Bill Dixey.

Cllr. William Fossick

Cllr. Paul Foster. Chairman.

Cllr. Derek Mason. Vice-Chairman.

Cllr. Pat Wickes.

Amanda Degnan – Clerk to the Parish Council.

Cllr. Jo. Beavis. County Councillor.

Together with 8 members of the public.

78/17 Apologies for absence. Cllr. John O'Reilly-Cicconi. District Councillor

79/17 Declaration of interests. None.

80/17 (a) To approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved. **(b) Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.** 69/17 BDC have put notices up regarding Fly Tipping in Russell's Road. Cllr. Fossick reported that Gretton Frost will not be submitting a bill for the repairs to the village sign as he has done it for the village. Oak post – Cllr. Butler still to do. It was noted that the planning application for 2 Forge Cottages was refused by BDC due to "its prominent appearance on the street scene". Oak Road -no decision, ECC raised no objections, Halstead Council objected. 66/17 Cllr Mason had received two quotes for the repairs to the play equipment but volunteers had come forward to help Cllr. Mason with the repairs. Therefore Cllr. Mason, with help from volunteers, will do them. Cllr Fossick reported he had spoken to Cllr. O'Reilly-Cicconi about the lack of a Local Plan.

81/17 Public comment. The Chairman, Cllr. Foster, reminded the public that this was their only chance to comment in the meeting and that only in exceptional circumstances would they be allowed to speak at any other time during the meeting. It was also noted that Public Comment was for 15 minutes only. The Chairman added that he would be opening the meeting to public comment during Item 87/17. The following points were raised: Footpaths – Path leading to Crowbridge Farm, which is part of the Halstead circular walk, the paths have holes and the bridge is broken. This had been reported previously by the resident to

Highways. The footpath by Shardhills leading up to Gosfield Nature Reserve has been ploughed up and needs to be reinstated. **Action:** Photos to be sent to Clerk. Clerk to report to Highways.

Trees – Oak Tree near Post Box needs to be trimmed as does the one outside the front boundaries of 7/8 Crocklands. **Action:** Clerk to check if they have TPO's on them.

82/17 District Councillor's report. In the absence of the District Councillor there was no report. **County Councillor's report.** Cllr. Beavis reported that she is now the Chair for Highways. She will set up a meeting with the Chairman and Clerk to discuss Greenstead Green items. She has toured the Halstead Division and found a lot of Highway issues and reported them. She is also hoping to set up training for the Halstead division regarding Highways. An invitation should be sent out before Christmas. Cllr. Beavis also reported that she is the Vice-Chair for Health.

83/17 (a) To agree the accounts for payment. (b) To approve the petty cash payments.
Approved.

84/17 Planning and Braintree District Council Planning applications.

Planning no: 17/01637/LBC. Wards Farm Gladfen Hall Road. The Parish Council agreed 'No comment'.

Application No 17/01665/REM: Land South of Oak Road, Halstead, Essex. This had arrived after the Agenda had been published and with the Chairman's discretion was included in the meeting. After a brief discussion the Parish Council agreed to object and make the following comments:

1. They are not happy that the affordable housing is all in one area furthest from the access. They would prefer there to be more integration on the site.
 2. Councillors were concerned that the access in and out of the site was very tight and narrow in places, particularly around Three Gates Close and the White Horse Road area. They would like the applicant to explore whether the road and access can be made slightly wider possibly by redesigning some of the landscaping at the access point to the site.
 3. The Councillors would like to see some kind of restriction put in place to prevent right hand turning along Oak Road.
- a) Any other planning items. Cllr. Dixey reported that the Sudbury Road development had been passed with access from Churchill Avenue.
 - b) Street names for the Oak Road development. The names provided by Cllr. Ardley had been accepted by both BDC and the developer. Cllr. Ardley produced a further list of names which the Clerk will pass onto BDC. **Action:** Clerk to pass new names onto BDC.

85/17 Children's Play Equipment at the Playing Field. Update. The Parish Council had been awarded Cif funding of £3500 for play equipment. A quote for £4831.30 had been received from Sovereign Play for a Burmah Bridge, Stepping Stones, Basket Swing Seat, Grass Guard and associated works. Councillors were concerned over the costs of the associated works but had no problems with the equipment. After some debate it was decided to obtain some

additional quotes from elsewhere. Cllr. Fossick will approach his friend who deals with play equipment. **Action:** Further quotes to be obtained. Cllr Fossick to speak to friend about play equipment.

86/17 Moveable football goalposts at the Playing Field. Update. Have received money from Cllr O'Reilly-Cicccone's fund. Goalposts are on order. Old goalposts to be removed.

Action: Cllr. Mason and Butler to remove old goalposts on Saturday 23rd September 2017.

87/17 To discuss the proposed boundary changes relating to the Oak Road development.

This was also opened out to residents to discuss. The proposal, as part of the Community Governance Review public consultation by Braintree District Council, is to move the boundary so that the Oak Road development which currently comes under Greenstead Green would instead come under Halstead. During the Community Governance Review Committee meeting in July it was recommended the boundary should be moved. The Parish Council need to come to a decision on this. The Chairman, Cllr. Foster, felt there were 3 options.

1. Agree to the proposal – logical as the residents will look to Halstead.
2. Oppose – they should stay with Greenstead Green.
3. Accept that over time they will become part of Halstead but over 6-7 years. The proposal to move the boundary is premature better to see the development built out then change. Why? Receive the rates. This is what happened at Black Notley.

Both Councillors and residents expressed concerns about possible costs to the Parish with having to provide extra services. There was a possibility that an extra Councillor would be needed to represent the area and it was felt that it was better to accept the proposal.

Decision: Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish Council unanimously agreed to accept the proposed boundary change.

88/17 Greenwatch. Update on meetings to reduce speeding in the village. Cllr. Mason provided an update on this. £850 had been raised at the Quiz Night. Stisted Parish council has agreed to share their speed gun with Greenwatch on the understanding that they help towards the cost of maintenance and recalibration. 30 mph stickers for wheelie bins can be purchased at £1.20 each, BDC do not endorse these 30mph stickers but other villages use them. Training day for the Speed Gun is 26th September, 2pm at Greenstead Green Village Hall. Halstead in Bloom have donated 2 tubs and hanging baskets, Clive Baker has donated plants. The bench by the post box is being refurbished. Other events organised include another Quiz Night and a Preloved Sale. They have about 20 to 30 people at the meetings.

89/17 Update on Website. Cllr. Mason. Cllr Mason reported that funding had been received for equipment and that he is applying for further funding to pay for the cost of designing the website, manning it and training. He had spoken to Stisted about their website, which was a free website they had designed, and discovered from them that they now had someone building them a new one as the old one was difficult to use. Cllr. Mason is happy to liaise with James who will design the website template once the grant has been received. James can then tell the Councillors what information he needs from them to put on it. Minutes and agendas need to go on. This may need a separate meeting to discuss the content of the website. It was noted that it is Government policy that there must be a website. It was agreed that Cllr. Mason apply for more funding for the website design and liaise with James.

90/17 State of two hedges in Russell's Road. White Ash Green items. Cllr. Ardley. Already covered.

91/17 Footpaths report. Covered in the Public session.

92/17 Playing Field Management Committee report. Nothing to report.

93/17 Village Hall Management Committee report. It was noted that it will cost about £660 to replace the coin meter with one that will take the new pound coin.

94/17 Neighbourhood Watch. Update. Jean Hastings. None

95/17 Feedback from external meetings. Cllr. Mason had attended Stisted Parish Council meeting and noted they had received a grant for a Defibrillator. Cllr. Butler has a defibrillator at the Nursery which they are happy to go outside for the village to use but need a box to put it in. He has received a quote for a box and has got a site for it. Cllr. Mason said he was happy to supply an electrician free of charge to fit the electrics. He will send Cllr. Butler an email with the details of Community Heartbeat Trust who provide the grant. **Action:** Cllr. Mason to forward email to Cllr. Butler.

The Chairman, Cllr. Foster, reported that he had attended a meeting on Superfast Broadband on 25th July 2017. County Broadband were promoting Essex's Superfast programme. BT have been installing fibre in the county. There had been criticism of the Superfast website, which they acknowledged, with wrong speed estimates and dates for when areas were going live.

96/17 To note any items of correspondence. The Clerk distributed the correspondence.

97/17 To consider any items of urgent business. (Chairman). The next meeting in November to be moved to the 22nd. Agreed. **Action:** Clerk to check the hall is available.

The dates for the 2018 meetings were agreed. **Action:** Clerk to inform the Booking Clerk of the 2018 dates.

Signed.....

Chairman – Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish Council.

<p>Amanda Degnan – Clerk to the Parish Council. 8 Nuns Meadow, Gosfield. 01787 274992. amanda@degnan.com.</p>
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