

Minutes of the Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 11th July 2018 at Greenstead Green Village Hall at 7.30 pm. These are draft minutes and yet to be agreed by the Parish Council.

Present.

Cllr. Thelma Ardley.

Cllr. Bill Dixey.

Cllr. Derek Hambling

Cllr. Paul Foster. Chairman.

Cllr. Pat Wickes.

Amanda Degnan – Clerk to the Parish Council.

Together with 1 member of the public.

53/18 Apologies for absence. Cllr. Chris Butler, Cllr. Derek Mason. County Cllr. Jo. Beavis. District Cllr. John O'Reilly-Cicconi.

54/18 Declarations of interest. To declare any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in accordance with the Code of Conduct. There were no declarations of interest.

55/18 (a) To approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The minutes of the May AGM and the ordinary meeting that followed were duly approved.

(b) Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting. Skips at Anglian Water Site, Church Road: In the absence of Cllr. Butler there was no report on the meeting he had attended on 17th May with Anglian Water. It was noted that the Asbestos skip had been removed. **Action:** Skips and Asbestos to be placed on the September Agenda. **Perspex:** In the absence of Cllr. Mason there was no update on this matter. **White Ash Green:** No update. **Safety Matting:** In the absence of Cllr. Mason there was no update on this matter. **Fete:** Cllr Hambling reported that everything was ready for the 22nd July. The fete will start at 12pm until 4pm with music till 6pm. The grass is to be cut on the 17th July. It was noted that the hedge needed to be trimmed. **Action:** Clerk to contact MD Landscapes to see if they can cut the hedge before the fete. **Leftover roadwork signs on the corner of Crocklands:** The Clerk reported that she had contacted Essex County Council (ECC) Highways with regards to this matter. Highways have been out and removed their sign. The remaining two signs belong to Hirerlite and Mervyn Lambert who have been asked to collect their signs by ECC Highways. Ongoing. **Government Consultations regarding illegal encampments:** In the absence of Cllr. Butler there was no update on this matter. **Street Cleansing Agreement:** Greenwatch consulted its members and decided against being involved in this. Braintree District Council (BDC) have been informed. **Russells Road:** It was noted that a recent case of fly-tipping in the area had resulted in a successful prosecution by BDC of the culprits with a £1000 fine being imposed. The culprits were traced from paperwork left at the site.

56/18 Public comment. A resident reported that damp from the village hall was penetrating the house next door. It was noted that the roof or gullies may need to be investigated to find the cause of the problem. It was suggested that the resident send a note to the clerk so that she could pass it on to the Hall Committee.

57/18 District Councillor's report. No District Councillor present.

58/18 County Councillor's report. No County Councillor present.

59/18 (a) To agree the accounts for payment. The accounts for payment were duly approved.

(b) To agree to add Cllr. Hambling to the list of authorised signatures on the bank account.

It was unanimously agreed to add Cllr. Hambling to the list of authorised signatures on the bank account.

60/18 Planning and Braintree District Council Planning applications. Planning no: 18/00662/FUL Removal and replacement of shed and relocation of oil tank. Gatehouse Ashford Lodge Sudbury Road Halstead Essex CO9 2RR. After a brief discussion Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish Council made the following comments: "They have no objection to the shed. But, the proposed relocation of the oil tank gives us concerns as it does not comply with regulations in terms of its relocation and its proximity to the side of the shed and boundary fence."

Planning no: 18/01138/FUL Ground floor extension to rear of existing building. Ivy Cottage Grange Hill Greenstead Green Essex CO9 1QZ. The Parish Council unanimously agreed "No objection."

(a) Any other planning items. Community Governance Review update. Local Plan update. The Chairman, Cllr. Foster, provided an update on the following: **Community Governance Review:** This relates to the land at Oak Road (currently under construction) and off Sudbury Road (planning permission for residential use), currently within the Parish. Under the Community Governance Review it was proposed that both sites become part of Halstead. Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish Council had raised no objections to this. A meeting was to be held on 23rd July at BDC to discuss these items along with other sites and to seek approval for the changes. It is likely that the proposed move of the land to Halstead will proceed. **Local Plan:** There were two parts to this item. Part 1: The Garden Village Communities (including West Tey) has been prepared jointly with Colchester, Tendring and BDC. These proposals had been looked at by a Local Plan Inspector who was not satisfied that the plan was sustainable and felt further work was needed by the Councils involved. Part 2 sets out allocations for housing, employment and other uses within BDC's boundary. It includes residential and employment development at Straits Mill near Marks Hall Farm which has been earmarked for 1000 houses. This was now delayed due to the additional work needed on Part 1. It was also understood that the preferred route for the A120 goes south of Kelvedon while all the current plans use a different route so they will need to be redrawn to accommodate this change.

61/18 (a) RoSPA Play Safety Inspection Report. The inspection had taken place on 31st May. There were a few items which were amber but low risk. **Action:** It was agreed that Cllr. Mason should be asked to quote for repairs, apart from the table and bench, and to monitor the items.

(b) To agree to purchase a Picnic Table with the District Councillors grant. A picture of the proposed picnic table was circulated to the meeting. It was noted that it will have to be assembled. Proposal: Apply for the District Councillor’s grant and use to purchase a picnic table. Agreed. **Action:** Clerk to apply for grant. Bench to be placed on September Agenda. Clerk and Cllr. Mason to look at quotes for bench.

62/18 (a) To agree a timescale to review the Standing Orders. (b) To agree a timescale to review the Financial Regulations. (c.) To agree a timescale to review the Code of Conduct. Clerk, Chairman and Cllr. Mason to meet before September meeting to discuss. Clerk to circulate links to documents to Cllr. Mason. There was a brief discussion on NPI and PI codes of conduct and whether councillors should leave the room during agenda items relating to people they know. The previous chair had taken the view that they could remain so that questions could be asked for clarity, but it was accepted that the public might regard their presence as influencing the decision. The Chairman agreed to take a discretionary approach next time this issue arose.

63/18 To agree a timescale to review the updating of the Emergency Plan. The Chairman, Cllr. Foster, Cllr. Hambling and Cllr. Mason to meet to discuss this.

64/18. To agree to arrange the cleaning of the BT Box at Penny Pot. The Clerk had received a verbal quote of £40.00 to clean. Clerk to obtain a written quote from them.

65/18 To receive reports from outside bodies, training courses, Village Representatives, Parish Council Committees and Advisory Groups. Cllr. Hambling reported that Greenwatch have been using the speed gun. All planting has been completed and the water butt is now in place outside the village hall. They are looking at a new speed gun which takes a photo and transfers it to the Police. Cllr. Ardley had contacted Gosfield Speed watch to see if they would cover White Ash Green but has heard nothing as yet.

66/18 To note any items of correspondence. Circulated. It was noted that the Village Hall fee will be going up by £1.00. The Clerk had received an email from the new owners of Attwood’s Manor House which had been duly circulated to the Councillors. The email contained their proposals for the site and the councillors were, overall, supportive of the changes. They await the planning application with interest.

67/18 To consider any items of urgent business. (Chairman) Cllr. Dixey reported the support for the dog bin, at the lower end of the Cricket ground, Star Stile Lane, had rotted away. Clerk to report to BDC Dog Warden.

There being no further items to discuss the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Signed.....

Chairman – Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish Council.

Date.....

<p>Amanda Degnan – Clerk to the Parish Council. 8 Nuns Meadow, Gosfield. 01787 274992. greensteadgreenclerk@outlook.com. WWW. greensteadgreenpc.org.uk.</p>
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