

**Minutes of the Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018 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. Bill Dixey.

Cllr. Derek Hambling

Cllr. Derek Mason. Vice-Chairman.

Cllr. Pat Wickes.

Amanda Degnan – Clerk to the Parish Council.

District Cllr. John O'Reilly-Cicconi.

Together with 5 members of the public.

**68/18 Apologies for absence** Chairman Cllr. Paul Foster, Cllr. Chris Butler, County Cllr. Jo. Beavis.

**69/18 Declarations of interest. To declare any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in accordance with the Code of Conduct.** None.

**70/18 (a) To approve the minutes of the previous meeting.** The minutes of the July meeting were duly approved.

**(b) Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.** Skips at the Anglian Water site, Church Road: These have been removed. Perspex for noticeboard: Cllr. Mason reported that he was finding it difficult to replace the Perspex as it is awkward to remove. Village Fete: this was very successful. Playing Field Hedge: The Clerk reported that she had contacted M D Landscapes to cut the playing field hedge, but they had explained that it could not be touched until after the nesting season. Temporary roadwork signs: these had now been removed. Cllr. Wickes reported that there were temporary signs needing to be removed from Burtons Green. Damp problem in the hall and neighbouring house: it was reported that the owner of the house had written to Cllr. Butler in his role as Hall Committee Chair. Cllr. Mason offered to survey the roof if it is the village hall which has the problem. Cheque signatory: Cllr. Hambling is yet to do this. Dog Bin, Star Stile: Repaired.

**71/18 Public comment.** A resident asked about the website. Cllr. Mason reported that on checking the website, he could only retrieve it by typing in the web address. He will contact James Gray to find out why it does not appear in search results. Cllr. Hambling had been approached by a resident regarding the lack of street names in the village which makes it difficult for delivery vehicles to operate. It was suggested that this might be something County Cllr. Beavis needs to be involved in.

**72/18 District Councillor's report.** District Cllr. John O'Reilly-Cicconi provided an update on the Local Plan and encouraged residents to contact Braintree District Council (BDC) to question BDC's decisions regarding the Local Plan. He also reported that DART 3 bus service were holding a meeting at Queens Hall, Halstead on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2018, 10.00-12.00. He also reported that Community360 provide grants for projects. Their Grants team can be contacted on [engagement2@Community360.org.uk](mailto:engagement2@Community360.org.uk). District Cllr. O'Reilly-Cicconi left the meeting at 20.05.

**73/18 County Councillor's report.** No County Councillor present.

**74/18 To agree the accounts for payment.** The accounts for payment were duly approved.

**75/18 Planning and Braintree District Council Planning applications. Applications can be viewed online at: [www.braintree.gov.uk](http://www.braintree.gov.uk).**

APPLICATION NO :18/01511/FUL Change of use from D2 to B1(a)/B8. Woodlands Health and Fitness Club Whitehouse Business Park White Ash Green Halstead Essex CO9 1PB. After a brief discussion, Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish Council made the following comments: No objection.

APPLICATION NO: 18/01497/FUL. Construction of a new grain store/drying building and associated development. Greenstead Farm Crocklands Greenstead Green Essex CO9 1QY. This application had arrived after the agenda had been published, so at the Vice-Chairman's discretion it was included in the meeting. After much discussion on this matter, with concerns expressed about the location, the Councillors unanimously agreed to the following comments: "In principle we have no objection to the application, but do question the location within the farm setting."

a) Any other planning items. None.

**76/18 Playing Field: (a) Bench and update on Picnic table** Cllr. Hambling had removed the old picnic table as it had become dangerous to use. Cllr. Mason had contacted Envirobuild about purchasing a new picnic table from them. He provided details of costs. The tables are made from composite plastic, come in kit form and are built to last. They come in two colours: Black at a cost of £324.99 plus VAT or Brown at a cost of £374.99 plus VAT. There is also a delivery charge of £125. It was noted that the colour is a permanent pigment. The cost for this is to be met by the District Councillors Community Grant and was agreed at the July meeting. The Councillors unanimously agreed to purchase the Brown table. Cllr. Mason will raise the order which should take six weeks to arrive and will attach the table to the existing concrete base. Invoice to be sent to the Clerk to pay. Cllr Mason is looking at funding for the bench.

**(b) Update on ROSPA report.** Cllr. Mason suggested using Lottery Funding to pay for the repairs in the Playing Field. He has spoken to Wicksteed regarding the Climbing Frame and Safety Matting and is awaiting a price from them. He is also waiting for prices regarding the painting of the equipment. Clerk to chase the S106 money.

**77/18 To adopt the (a) Standing Orders (b) Financial regulations (c) Code of Conduct.**

These had been circulated prior to the meeting. Proposed: Cllr. Wickes, Seconded: Cllr. Hambling. All agreed. These new Standing Orders, Financial regulations and Code of Conduct replace all previous documents as of this meeting.

**78/18 Update on Emergency Plan.** A draft copy of this had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr. Mason provided an update on a meeting that he, the Chairman, Cllr. Foster, and the Clerk had had regarding this. There was still some work to do on it. To be placed on the next agenda.

**79/18 To investigate the use of Skips and Asbestos at the Anglian Water site, Church Road.**

As Cllr. Butler was unavailable this item was deferred to the next meeting. It was noted that a new skip had appeared and that the area was messy. It was also noted that the repair opposite the site was leaking again.

**80/18 To consider applying for CIF funding.** Cllr. Mason to investigate. To be placed on the next agenda.

**81/18 To consider applying for funding for a Defibrillator. Cllr. Mason.** Cllr. Mason gave an update on a training course he had attended on Defibrillators. It was noted that there is no legal obligation to provide one. Defibrillator's come in a wide price range with cheap ones having high maintenance costs while expensive ones have low maintenance costs. He provided an outline of the various funding streams available with his favoured one being the Big Lottery Fund which will provide 100% funding. There was a discussion on where it should be sited and if one was needed. After much discussion it was unanimously agreed that Cllr. Mason should apply for funding from the Big Lottery Fund.

**81/18 Update on BT Box at Penny Pot Corner.** The Clerk provided an update on this. The telephony had been removed but it had been discovered that there was no power to the box. The cleaner who had offered to do the work could no longer do it. There was a discussion on what to do with the box. Cllr. Mason offered to obtain a price for repainting it. The Clerk offered to clean the box herself and Cllrs. Dixey, Ardley and Wickes offered to help. A date was set for Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September at 10.30am.

**82/18 To receive reports from outside bodies, training courses, Village Representatives, Parish Council Committees and Advisory Groups.** Cllr. Wickes reported that the post box at Burtons Green had been stolen, and was in the process of being replaced. Cllr. Hambling provided an update on the village fete held in July. This had been a very successful event with £2449.83 being raised which had been split between the church and Greenwatch. Next years fete will be on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2019 on the playing field. Cllr. Hambling thanked everyone for their support.

Greenwatch: Cllr. Hambling reported that they now have 3 new members. Greenwatch have the speed gun at the moment. Cllr. Mason asked Ian Pleasance and Cllr. Ardley if they would like Greenwatch to monitor White Ash Green. It was agreed that Ian would send Cllr. Mason a map of the best location and to arrange a date for the speed gun to be used. Cllr. Mason had received a phone call from a concerned member of the public about the amount

of non Greenwatch people surrounding the Greenwatch team during a recent speed watch, which had caused him to swerve into the path of another car as he tried to avoid them. It was asked that volunteers need to be aware of this. The next fundraiser is a quiz night on 19<sup>th</sup> October at The Barn, £10.00 per person including food. Tickets available at The Barn. Flower planting for the Winter will commence shortly and will commemorate the ending of the First World War. Cllr. Hambling had asked Greenwatch about orchard planting which the Clerk had sent him details of and it had been a no.

Fete and Greenwatch Committee: next event will be the Xmas Fair on 9<sup>th</sup> December 12-3 in the village hall. The profit from this will be going to the church and the village hall.

Xmas Tree; Cllr Hambling asked the Parish Council for permission for Greenwatch to place a non-permanent 7/8ft tree on The Green over the Christmas period. This would be lit by solar lights, and they hope to organise carols and refreshments during the switch on. The Parish Council agreed to this.

It was reported by Cllr. Hambling that the wooden seat from Crocklands Corner has been removed by a resident for repairs.

**83/18 To note any items of correspondence.** An email from County Cllr. Beavis inviting Councillors to a cluster meeting had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllrs. Ardley and Hambling plus the Clerk will attend on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September. The Clerk circulated an invitation from BDC to attend tree planting ceremonies to remember the end of the First World War. The Clerk distributed the rest of the correspondence

**84/18 To consider any items of urgent business. (Chairman)** Cllr. Ardley had received complaints from residents regarding HGV's from Brooks of Halstead and Bartrum's of Eye driving down Love Lane. Clerk to write to them as it is ruining the lane which is a protected. Ian Pleasance provided an update on the Superfast Broadband rollout.

There being no further business to attend to. The meeting closed at 9.15.

Signed.....

**Chairman – Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish Council.**

Date.....

<p><b>Amanda Degan – Clerk to the Parish Council. 8 Nuns Meadow, Gosfield. 01787 274992.</b> <a href="mailto:greensteadgreenclerk@outlook.com">greensteadgreenclerk@outlook.com</a>. WWW. <a href="http://greensteadgreenpc.org.uk">greensteadgreenpc.org.uk</a>.</p>
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