

Minutes of the Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 17th May 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. 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

Cllr. John O’Reilly-Cicconi – District Councillor.

Together with 10 members of the public.

40/17 Apologies for absence. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Chris Butler.

41/17 Declaration of interests. To declare any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in accordance with the Code of Conduct. None were declared.

42/17 (a) To approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Approved.

(b) Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting. Cllr. Fossick is looking into the village sign. Kissing gate is still to do – Cllr. Beavis to chase. Oak post – no, Cllr. Butler to be reminded. Goal posts are on the agenda. 25/17 is on the agenda and so is 27/17.

43/17 Public session. A resident drew the Parish Council’s attention to the state of the footpath outside the houses in Crocklands. He noted that it had been first spoken about at the September meeting. Following the meeting the then Clerk had raised it with Highways who said they would inspect all the footpaths. Eight months later nothing has been done. The path is breaking up and outside 4 and 5 there is a puddle which goes right across the footpath and onto the drives. He was concerned that someone would fall. The previous clerk, Cllr. Beavis, explained that she had raised it in September with Highways as a Highways repairs issue. Now she is a County Councillor she will chase it up. Cllr Foster noted that it was important that residents bring items to the attention of the Parish Council. They should also complain directly to Highways to draw attention and put pressure on Highways.

A resident had reported by email a month ago the deep channels on the verges which cannot be seen. He has got a Job Number for them. A resident wanted to know what was happening about the Football Posts as they are having problems with footballs in their garden. They first complained by phone in February 2016. They are now complaining by email with pictures.

44/17 District Councillor's report. Cllr. O'Reilly-Cicconi explained that he had been dismissed from the Planning Committee. This means he can advise on planning matters so please ring up. The Local Plan is still ongoing. Having spoken to Mathew Valentine, the flooding in Church Road should be in the Capital Programme for EEC Community Grant Funding 2017/18. It should be investigated before the end of the Financial year to see what needs to be done and look at schemes for it. By 2019, it should start to be sorted.

County councillor's report. Cllr. Beavis thanked everyone for supporting her. She is well placed having been a District Councillor for 15 years and had been Parish Clerk for Greenstead Green for 5 years. So, she has a good understanding of the issues. Her role will be on the Health and the Local Highways panels. Once again, she thanked everyone for their support over the last five years.

45/17 To agree the accounts for payment. a). To sign the accounts for sending off to the External Auditor. The accounts had been audited by EA. They are static and the challenge faced is the cutting of funding by Central Government to Local Government which affects the money the Parish Council receives from ECC which affects the Rates the Parish Council charge. The full accounts are to follow. The External Auditor will look over the account. It was all agreed that the Chairman sign the Annual Return. The Chairman duly signed the Annual Return.

**46/17 Planning and Braintree District Council Planning applications.
Planning items will be listed at appendix A.**

17/00903/COUPA. The Barn School Nursery, Crocklands – Greenstead Green. This was for noting only. There was a discussion on this application. It was noted that BDC can ask for a formal planning application. A formal application allows 21 days to raise concerns and Highways would be involved as well. It was also noted that the Parish Council cannot raise any concerns at the moment but residents can write in and comment. Traffic was mentioned as an issue.

17/00575/OUT. Land east of Sudbury, Halstead. After a brief outline of what the development involved the Parish Council discussed the planning application. It was noted that there had been many objections to this site from Halstead Town Council and members of the public. At the moment, all the development is on the Halstead half of the site. It was also noted that TPO's are in place on several trees on the site, most of these are in Greenstead Green. Councillors were concerned about access to the site, the impact on the infrastructure of the area including lack of school places, impact on the doctors, increase in traffic along an already busy road, drainage and the ecology. Gladman as offered money towards the infrastructure, but concerns were expressed that once an agreement is obtained the developer will strip back to the minimum allowed. Questions were asked as to

whether the Parish would receive any money from the S106 funding. It was noted that a previous application for this site had been turned down due to objections from Highways.

After some discussion, the Parish Council agreed to put forward the following:

Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish Council object to this application on the following grounds:

1. The impact upon the highway network and highway safety and efficiency.
2. Insufficient information to demonstrate no adverse impact upon ecological assets.
3. Insufficient information about drainage strategy.

b. Any other planning items. Cllr. Wickes brought to the attention of the Parish Council a planning application she had seen in the Stisted Parish magazine. This was for a horse walker at Homefield (Planning Application 17/00461/FUL Homefield) which had come before Stisted Parish Council in March. They had declared “no comment”. Cllr. Wickes believed that this should have come before Greenstead Green Parish Council as it is possibly in this parish. The Chairman instructed the Clerk to check if this is the case and if Greenstead Green Parish Council can still make representation on it. **Action:** Clerk to check.

c. Street names. The Council had been asked by Bloor Homes to provide ten names for roads in the Oak Road development. Unfortunately, Courtauld and Butler could not be used as there were already roads with these names in Halstead. Cllr. Foster provided a list of suggested names (see Appendix A) which the Councillors agreed to send on to Bloor Homes. Cllr. Ardley will also look for the research which was done for the sign at White Ash Green. **Action:** Clerk to send suggested names on to Bloor Homes. Cllr. Ardley to look for research.

47/17 Children’s Play Equipment at the Playing Field. Update. Due to the General Election, there was a Purdah on all schemes at ECC so no orders could be made. Purdah ends on the 8th June, after which all schemes can go ahead.

48/17 Moveable football goals at the Playing field. Update. Due to the General Election, there was a Purdah on all schemes at ECC so no orders could be made. Purdah ends on the 8th June, after which all schemes can go ahead. The money for these is still coming from Cllr. O’Reilly-Cicccone’s budget. They will take a week to arrive once ordered and it is suggested the Council go for a slightly larger size. Cllr. Mason has offered to remove the old posts when the new ones arrive. It was noted that the position of the new goal posts needs to be considered as currently the old ones are affecting the neighbours of the Playing Field. The new ones can be moved about quite easily.

The following proposal was made: ‘To remove the old goal posts before the new ones arrive.’ Agreed. **Action:** Old goal posts to be removed.

49/17 White Ash Green items. Cllr. Ardley. Complaints had been received about the Oak Road development where 200 metres of hedge had been cut down on the 5th May 2017. It was noted that only with the permission of an Ecologist can hedges be removed at that time

of the year due to the possibility of nesting birds being inside them. **Action:** Clerk to raise with Oak Road case officer the removal of these hedges.

Cllr. Ardley noted that tractors and slurry tankers were coming through White Ash Green possibly from the Micro digester at Bluebridge Estate to Beazley End. It could be seasonal. If under an Agricultural Licence then maybe working beyond allowed distance and time. Cllr. Beavis will add to her list.

50/17 Update from the Earls Colne Liaison Committee. Cllr. Foster had attended a meeting last week. Cllr. Peter Schwier was now the Chair. It was a very brisk meeting. There is a year's trial with Essex Air Ambulance extending its times. There have been 5 complaints. There was a report on Air Ambulance flights. Derek Wickes had raised the issue of Burtons Green being shown in the office has an area to avoid but it was not shown on the website. He had spoken to the office after the meeting and his complaint was upheld. Cllr. Foster noted, it was a discussion group to air views.

51/17 Footpaths report. It was noted that this should also include Byways. A resident noted that the stile at Grange Hill Lane needs replacing/repair. Cllr. Mason offered to look at it. ECC Public Rights of Way (PROW) officer also needs to look at it and can advise on the legal status. Cllr. Beavis will push this. Cllr. Mason will look at it but not repair. **Action:** Cllr. Mason and Beavis to deal with this.

Byways: Burtons Green to Marks Hall – impassable. Claverings to Burtons Green – just passable. Cllr. Beavis to deal with. **Action:** Cllr. Beavis.

52/17 Playing Field Management Committee Report. Nothing to report.

53/17 Village Hall Management Committee Report. Nothing to report.

54/17 Feedback from external meetings. Nothing to report.

55/17 To note any items of correspondence. Nothing to report.

56/17 To Consider any items of urgent business (Chairman).

- **Update on town and parish council Boundary Review.** Cllr. Beavis explained she will be on the committee for this. Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish Council and Halstead Town Council need to discuss where they want the boundaries to be. Cllr. Jackie Pell wants a meeting to discuss this. It was noted that there is a strong hedgerow boundary on the Sudbury Road site. Oak Road is less clear and it might be best to wait until all the houses are built otherwise other developers will appear. The dwellings in Oak Road will be useful for revenue. Cllr. Beavis will update when she receives the dates of meetings.
- **Update on Broadband.** Cllr. Foster explained that most homes have had the fibre upgrade. If you go on Super Fast Essex and check your status it will tell you your speed. It was noted that Burtons Green was now linked to fibre. Ian Pleasance explained that there was a lot going on in the area regarding Broadband. By contacting Super-Fast and letting them know if your speed is not very good,

especially if your area is flagged up as receiving 30 mg or more, you can receive more funding to deal with this.

- **Any other Business.** Greenstead Green News is no more. There is £92.57 left in the bank account what does the Parish Council want to do with it? A resident asked Cllr. Mason about Speedwatch. He is working on it, need to raise funding for a camera and get a good response for volunteers. He felt it will become more important over time. The Parish Council expressed its thanks to Ros for her litter picking.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

Next meeting will be on Wednesday 19th July at 7.30 pm.

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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Appendix A

GG&HR AGM notes

Suggested Street Naming for Bloor Homes development at Oak Road, Halstead

Places in and adjoining the Parish	Suggested Road Name
White Ash Green	White Ash Road
Greenstead Green	Greenstead Road
Tumblers Green	Tumblers Road
Burtons Green	Burtons Road
Folly Green	Folly Road
Plaistow Green	Plaistow Road
Southey Green	Southey Road
Boose's Green	Boose's Road
Bunting's Green	Bunting's Road
Doe's Corner	Doe's Road
Pennypot Corner	Pennypot Road
Star Stile	Star Road