**Minutes of the Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish Council ordinary meeting held on Wednesday 8th May 2019 at Greenstead Green Village Hall at 7.20pm.**

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

**Present.**

Cllr. Chris Butler

Cllr. Bill Dixey.

Cllr. Paul Foster. Chairman.

Cllr. Derek Hambling

Cllr. Ian Pleasance

Cllr. Derek Mason. Vice-Chairman.

Cllr. Pat Wickes.

Amanda Degnan – Clerk to the Parish Council.

District Cllr. Peter Schwier

Together with 3 members of the public.

41/19 Apologies for absence. County Cllr. Beavis.

42/19 Declarations of interest. To declare any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in accordance with the Code of Conduct. There were no declarations of interest.

43/19 (a) To approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The minutes of the March 2019 meeting were duly approved.

(b) Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting. Stisted Community Bus: Nothing received. Cllr Mason to chase. Contacts page on Parish Council website: Due to GDPR the Hall Booking Clerk cannot send the contact details to the Parish Clerk without her customers permission. Clerk to liaise with Booking Clerk. Oak Trees on The Green: A quote from Mortimer’s had been received for £320.00 to remove the deadwood on these. It was agreed to accept this quote. The work will either be done in the Summer or November.

44/19 Public comment. A resident asked if the debris from the Oak trees would be removed. Yes.

45/19 County Councillor’s report. in the absence of the County Councillor there was no report.

46/19 District Councillor’s report. Cllr Peter Schwier introduced himself to the meeting. he will attend when he can as GG&HR meetings clash with other meetings. He will send information out to the Clerks as and when he receives it rather than wait to give a report at a meeting. He will also send out information on grant funding.

47/19 (a) To agree the accounts for payment. Agreed.

**(b) To sign the Annual Governance Return.** The Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2018/19 Part 2 which included the Annual Governance Statement 2018/19 and Accounting Statements 2018/19 were approved and duly signed by the Chairman and RFO.

48/19 Planning and Braintree District Council Planning applications.

 (a) To provide an update on the Parish Council’s response to the Bournebridge Hill public consultation. The Chairman reported that the Parish Council had met with Gladmans in December 2018 to discuss the West side of Sudbury Road and had briefly touched on the Bournebridge Hill development. GG&HR have strongly objected to the Bournebridge Hill development on the grounds of transport and traffic with regards to houses being built either side of the proposed bypass, landscape character and landscape value. It was noted that there had been only 4 objections to this development. When this development appears before Braintree District Council (BDC) Planning Committee the Parish Council will attend to speak against it.

Clerk to find out when decisions will be made on the following with BDC Planning Department: The Coach House, Russells Road, Bloor Homes signs at the Oakwood development, Stone Lakes, Sloe Hill and 18/018/16 Femco development by Oak Road.

The following had been approved: Stanstead Hall Cottage, Catnap and Grange Farm.

(b) Planning applications. Planning no: 19/00606/HH & PP-07749242. Proposed alterations to existing driveway & creation of new access. Paigles, Church Road, Greenstead Green, Essex. CO9 1QP. The Parish Council made the following comments: ‘In principle, Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish Council object to this application on the following grounds:

1. **It will have an adverse impact upon the character of the residential area within The Street.**
2. **It will set a precedent which would lead to an adverse impact upon the visual amenity within the street scene.**

If it is approved the Parish Council wish to have the following condition attached: ‘That a permeable surface is used.’

49/19 Highways. To agree a response to Essex County Council A131 Mount Hill and Oak Road, Halstead (Restricted Road and 50MPH Speed Limit) Order. The following response was sent to Essex County Council (ECC):

‘It was felt that the recent temporary speed limit of 30mph had worked well and was more suitable for this road. It was noted that there is a dangerous junction with Russells Road on this road. Also, with more cars coming onto this road from the new Oakwood development a 30 to 40 mph limit would be more acceptable than the proposed 50mph limit.’

**50/19 Update on Defibrillator and training. Cllr. Mason.**  This had now been fitted and a training course will be organised shortly for any potential volunteers. Clerk to check with insurers regarding including Defibrillator on the Parish Council insurance.

**51/19 Update on the Playing Field. Cllr. Mason.** Picnic table to be installed shortly. It will be bolted down on to the concrete base. Cllr. Mason will be buying replacement brackets for the goalposts which have been broken due to wear and tear. He will be contacting Diamond Playgrounds for quotes for matting and play equipment Cllr. Mason had filled out a Big Lottery application for funding for the safety matting but would like someone else’s name on the form. Cllr. Mason and Butler to discuss. Cllr Schwier suggested approaching Stanstead Airport, Tesco and Violeria for grants.

**52/19 Footpaths: a) Update on Pods Lane, White Ash Green. Cllr. Pleasance.** Cllr. Pleasance provided an update on this. It had been adopted by ECC and is a designated footpath not a bridle path. Unfortunately, maps used by horse riders still show it as a bridleway. Cllr. Pleasance had contacted horse riding groups and asked them to amend their maps. Highways will be asked to provide a permanent footpath and a ‘No horses’ sign for the entrance into Pods Lane.

**b) Letter of complaint regarding footpath in Greenstead Green.** This was confirmed as FP46. Clerk to write to homeowners asking them to cut back their hedges.

**53/19 To decide if the Parish Council wish to take part in the Street Cleansing Agreement.** The Parish Council agreed not to take part in this.

**54/19 Training: To agree payment for Cllr. Pleasance attendance on two-day Councillors course. To agree payment for clerk’s attendance on morning course regarding Website accessibility.** The Parish Council agreed to both these requests.

 55/19 To receive reports from outside bodies, training courses, Village Representatives, Parish Council Committees and Advisory Groups. Cllr. Hambling and Dixey attended the recent Cluster meeting held on 21st April in Halstead. A very informative talk was given by the Police who were happy to attend speed watch sessions. Cllr. Hambling had also attended a Highways Panel meeting on the 4th April.

Greenwatch: Cllr. Hambling reported that £325 had been raised at the Quiz Night. The Fete will be held on 21st July. A Cream Tea event will be held on 7th July and a Bingo Night on 18th May. Flower troughs had been ordered. Speedwatch now had a new site on The Green opposite the Playing Field.

Cllr. Mason asked about having a temporary electrical supply in The Playing Field for the Fete. To be placed on the next agenda.

Cllr. Pleasance provided an update on Essex Superfast Fibre. It was noted that the timing on this had slipped by 6 months.

56/19 To note any items of correspondence. Noted.

57/19 Future agenda items. Playing Field power supply, VE Day 2020, Fingerposts, Oak Trees, Electronic Banking.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.

**Signed……………………………………………………………………….**

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

**Date……………………………………………………………….**

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