

**Minutes of the Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at Greenstead Green Village Hall at 7.15pm.**  
**These are draft minutes and yet to be agreed by the Parish Council.**

**Present.**

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.

County Cllr. Chris Siddall

District Cllr. Peter Schwier

One member of the public

**65/21 Apologies for absence.** Cllr. Chris Butler

**66/21 Declarations of interest. To declare any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in accordance with the Code of Conduct.** There were no declarations of interest.

**67/21 (a) To approve the minutes of the AGM held in May. (b) To approve the minutes of the May ordinary meeting.** It was decided to approve these en-bloc. Proposed Cllr. Pleasance, Seconded Cllr. Dixey. All agreed. Therefore, both sets of minutes were duly approved. **(c) Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meetings.** There were no matters arising.

**68/21 Public comment.** A question was asked regarding the whereabouts of the speed camera. Cllr. Mason reported that Stisted Speed Watch still had it and he had been unable to gain access to it. There have also been changes with the Speed Watch co-ordinator in the county and so there is currently no one to report the figures to.

Cllr. Hambling raised a concern from a resident regarding the verges not being cut. This is causing an issue regarding sight lines on some roads. District Cllr. Schwier explained that the verges are the responsibility of Essex County Council (ECC) but it is a Braintree District Council (BDC) initiative not to cut them to encourage wildlife. If there are any problems phone or email BDC front desk and they will respond quite quickly. It must be an issue of safety for the verges to be cutback.

**69/21 County Councillor's report. Item 1: To thank former County Cllr. Jo Beavis for all her help and support to the parish council.** The Chairman, Cllr.

Foster thanked former County Cllr Jo.Beavis for all her help and support. It was proposed to write her a letter of thanks. Proposed Cllr. Foster, Seconded Cllr. Hambling. All agreed. **Action:** Clerk to write letter of thanks. **Item 2: To welcome new County Cllr. Chris Siddall and receive his report.** The Chairman, Cllr. Foster welcomed County Cllr. Chris Siddall and congratulated him on his election. County Cllr. Siddall provided a brief background of his experience as a councillor. He made the following points:

- New Chairman of ECC is County Cllr. Kevin Bentley
- ECC aims are renewal, equality, and ambition
- County Cllr. Siddall is the new Chair of the Local Highways Panel and is pushing for more funding

Cllr. Hambling, Dixey, and Mason asked about items raised with the previous County Councillor. County Cllr. Siddall asked for them to be sent to him by the Clerk. He would like the parish council to report issues first and then come to him where necessary so that he can raise it with ECC. **Action:** Clerk to send all items raised previously to County Cllr. Siddall. Cllr. Pleasance to forward White Ash Green items.

There being no further questions County Cllr. Siddall was thanked for his report.

**70/21 District Councillor's report.** District Cllr. Peter Schwier reported the following:

- BDC regular communications regarding Covid 19 being sent out to parish councils and communities are going well.
- Hedingham Medical Centre is now moving forward.
- Cycling strategy survey finished 4<sup>th</sup> July 2021. He will update us on the results.
- Local Plan Section 2 is the subject of a public hearing before the Inspectors.
- New artificial football pitches have opened at Halstead Leisure Centre courtesy of BDC and S.106 funding.
- Public Right of Way (PROW). He arranged for the PROW officer to attend a meeting at Burton End regarding PROW's. Planings have been given to farmers to fill in ruts.
- Planning: more planning officers are starting to come into Causeway House so we should see an improvement in the service.

The Chairman, Cllr. Foster asked for an update on the potential Bournebridge Hill development. District Cllr. Schwier will provide an update when it comes before Planning Committee.

Cllr. Mason asked about the rubbish tip in Stisted. BDC and the Ethe environment Agency are trying to resolve the issue.

There being no further questions District Cllr. Schwier was thanked for his report

**71/21 Chairman's update. Cllr. P. Foster.** This was deferred to the September meeting.

**72/21 Item 1: To agree to continue membership of RCCE at £52.80. Item 2: To agree to become a member of Braintree Association of Local Councils at £40.00. Item 3: To agree the accounts for payment. Item 5. To authorise the reclaiming of VAT.** It was proposed by the Chairman to take these items en-bloc. Proposed Cllr. Dixey, Seconded Cllr. Mason. All in favour. The motion was duly carried.

BACS		Playsafety Ltd	£94.80	RoSPA pd 18/6/21
BACS		M D Landscapes	£1,525.20	Grasscutting
BACS		RCCE	£52.80	Membership
BACS		BALC	£40.00	Membership
BACS		Amanda Degnan	£14.40	Expenses
SO		Amanda Degnan	£300.00	June Salary
SO		Amanda Degnan	£316.67	July Salary
BACS		Amanda Degnan	£16.67	Outstanding Salary June

**Item 4: To decide which councillors will be responsible for paying the monthly invoices** It was decided that Cllr. Pleasance will carry out the payments via BACS with emails sent to two or three other councillors for transparency purposes notifying of payments to be made and when the payments have been made.

### **73/21 Planning and Braintree District Council Planning applications.**

**Item 1:** APPLICATION NO :21/01847/HH DESCRIPTION: Erection of single storey rear extension LOCATION :8 Crocklands, Greenstead Green, Essex It was proposed to agree 'No Objection'. Proposed Cllr. Foster, Seconded Cllr. Mason. All agreed. The motion was duly carried.

**Item 2: For information only:** Application Number 21/01253/FUL - Cypress Lodge, Church Road, Greenstead Green. Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish Council made the following response 'Although we have 'No Objection' to this application we acknowledge and support the comments from a neighbour regarding bringing the property forward by 1.5m.'

APPLICATION NO :20/01493/OUT DESCRIPTION: Outline application with all matters reserved except access for up to 73 dwellings with new landscaping, open space, access, and associated infrastructure LOCATION: Land at Mount Hill, Halstead, Essex. Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish Council made the following response 'No Objection'.

**74/21 Playing Field: Item 1: To consider items raised from the RoSPA report.** Cllr. Mason had been unable to open the attachment even when it was resent. The Clerk gave him a hard copy. Cllr. Hambling had looked at the goal posts and they can be repaired but suggested replacing them. Someone had complained about the new climbing frame as their child had hit their head. Cllr Foster highlighted the key recommendations in the report. **Action:** Replacement goalposts and information signs for the playing field to be placed on the next Agenda. Cllr. Mason to provide an update at the next meeting. **Item 2: Update on purchase of new gate for the Playing Field. Cllr. Mason.** This had been ordered but has yet to arrive. **Item 3: To consider the wording on the plaque for the new climbing frame.** It was decided not to go ahead with naming the new climbing frame.

**75/21 Proposal: To decide whether the playing field should be named or remain nameless. Note: if it is decided to name the playing field suggestions to be considered at a later date.** It was decided to keep the playing field nameless.

**76/21 To decide if the Parish Council wish to take part in the Salt Bag Partnership 2021/22.** It was proposed not to take part in this. Proposed Cllr. Foster, Seconded Cllr Mason. The motion was duly carried. **Action:** Clerk to notify BDC.

**77/21 Flooding: Crocklands. To consider what action to take regarding flooding. Flooding Highway reference number 2675445 reported on 15 August 2020 and Item no:186/20 September 2020.** Cllr Hambling said that the contractors were supposed to come back and finish this but have yet to do so. The drain on the corner at Crocklands needs to be installed. County Cllr. Siddall will investigate. **Action:** County Cllr. Siddal.

**78/21 White Ash Green: To give retrospective permission for the placing of a memorial stone by the Millennium seat.** Cllr. Pleasance provided the background on this. Three options 1. Allow to remain with no further action by the PC. 2. The family are invited to apply for retrospective permission 3. Parish Council ask for a financial contribution for maintenance. There was a discussion and concerns were raised about insurance and upkeep. Cllr. Pleasance offered to redraft the letter he had already written. In principle the Parish Council has no objection to it being there but wish to raise the issue of maintenance and permission. **Action:** Cllr. Pleasance

**79/21 To note that there is a Parliamentary Boundary Review Consultation until 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2021.** Noted. It is proposed that Halstead would come under Haverhill.

**80/21 Reports: Item 1: To note update from Cllr. Pleasance regarding Stansted Airport airspace redesign meeting.** Noted. Should not affect Greenstead Green  
**Item 2: To receive reports from outside bodies, training courses, Village Representatives, Parish Council Committees and Advisory Groups.** Cllr. Hambling reported on the Earls Colne cycleway. The old railway line needs to be included in the Open Spaces Plan. **Action:** Agenda item for next meeting.

**81/21 To note any items of correspondence. Distributed.**

**82/21 Future agenda items. Online banking code. Re-siting of SID pole.**

There being no further items to discuss the meeting closed at 8.25pm.

**Next meeting Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 7.15 Greenstead Green Village Hall.**

**Signed.....**

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

**Date.....**

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