

Minutes of the Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish Council ordinary meeting held on Wednesday 16th November 2022 at Greenstead Green Village Hall at 7.15pm. These are draft minutes and yet to be agreed by the Parish Council.

Present.

Cllr. Paul Foster. Chairman.

Cllr. Derek Hambling

Cllr. Derek Mason. Vice-Chairman.

Cllr. Ian Pleasance

Cllr. Jeremy Siggers

Cllr. Pat Wickes.

Amanda Degnan – Clerk to the Parish Council.

County Cllr. Chris Siddall (arrived 20.10)

2 members of the public

100/22 Apologies for absence. Apologies were received from District Cllr. Peter Schwier.

101/22 Declarations of interest. To declare any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in accordance with the Code of Conduct. There were no declarations of interest.

102/22 Item 1: To approve the minutes of the October ordinary meeting. After Items 84/22 missing word and 86/22 misspelt word were amended the minutes were duly approved. Proposed: Cllr. Foster, Seconded: Cllr. Mason. All agreed. **Item 2: Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meetings.** 82/22 New email address: Cllr Pleasance confirmed that he had created a new email address for Cllr. Siggers and removed former Cllr Dixey from the parish council website. Cllr. Pleasance was thanked for his work on this. 93/22 Hall valuation: The Clerk had emailed Cllr. Butler but had heard nothing. 94/22 Picture frame for the Parish map: this had been purchased. A decision now needed to be made regarding its location in the village hall.

103/22 Public comment. A resident asked if a leaflet regarding Speedwatch could be placed on the hall noticeboard. Agreed. A resident spoke about a static speed camera that was available for hire which took pictures of speeding cars and generated speeding tickets. It had been mentioned at a recent Earls Colne Parish Council meeting. See Item 104/22 Truecam. A resident asked if the money which had been set aside for the Platinum Jubilee had been spent yet and if not could it be used for plaques for the trees on The Green and Playing Field which had been planted for various Royal events. He was asked to send location details of the various trees and events they commemorate to the Clerk.

104/22 County Councillor's report. County Cllr. Siddall provided the following update:

- 2023/24 Essex County Council (ECC) Budget is under discussion.
- Local Highways Panels (LHP) have been restructured. Cllr. Siddall is head of the Braintree LHP
- Potholes' scheme: 18 have been repaired so far in Halstead. Cllr Siddall has 18 more to nominate for repair. Please tell him of any potholes that are suitable for the scheme.
- Warm Homes Grant available.
- Truecam- this is a new scheme whereby an Automatic Number Plate Recognition camera is hired out to local Parish Councils for the day to record speeding cars and generate speeding tickets.
- Cllr. Siddal still had money available in his Locality Fund.

Cllr. Hambling asked whether the A120 scheme had finally been cancelled. County Cllr. Siddal replied that it was still being discussed but that he was pushing for the scheme to go ahead.

105/22 District Councillor's report. There was no District Councillor in attendance.

106/22 Finance: Item 1: To agree the accounts for payment. Proposed Cllr. Hambling, Seconded Cllr. Mason. The accounts for payments were duly approved.

BACS/Cheque no		Payee	Amount	Reason
BACs	office Ex	Amazon (paid by A. Degnan)	£26.59	Frame (14/11/22
BACs		Microsoft 365 Office (paid by A. Degnan)	£59.99	Paid 7/11/22
BACs		M D Landscapes	£828.00	Grasscutting
SO		Mrs A Degnan	£333.34	November Salary pd 15/11/22
BACs		Mrs A Degnan	£14.90	Expenses
		Total payments for November 2022	£1,262.82	

Item 2: Update on District Councillor grant for electric in the Playing Field.

The Clerk had emailed District Cllr. Schwier and the officer responsible for the grant but had heard nothing. After a brief discussion it was decided to investigate purchasing an armoured cable and mat for the electrics which could run from the village hall across the road to the Playing Field. **Action:** Cllr. Mason.

The Clerk was also asked to contact Gigaclear regarding free installation of WIFI in the village hall. **Action:** Clerk.

107/22 Planning and Braintree District Council (BDC) Planning applications.

Item 1: Planning Applications: APPLICATION NO :22/02804/FUL

DESCRIPTION: Retention of 22m x 60m manege with post and rail fencing and erection of stable blocks. **LOCATION:** Silver Birch, Burtons Green, Greenstead

Green. The Parish Council raised 'No Objection' to this application. Proposed Cllr. Foster, Seconded Cllr. Mason. All agreed.

At the discretion of the Chairman the following Planning Application was discussed.

APPLICATION NO: 20/01493/OUT DESCRIPTION: Outline application with all matters reserved except access for up to approximately 55 dwellings with new landscaping, open space, access, and associated infrastructure LOCATION: Land at Mount Hill, Halstead, Essex. This had decreased in scale from 73 homes to 55 homes. The Parish Council raised 'No Objection' to this application. Proposed Cllr. Foster, Seconded Cllr. Hambling All agreed.

Item 2: Planning enforcement: Update. Greenstead Hall – new entrance opening on the Halstead Road. Reported by Clerk and Cllr. Mason. The Planning Enforcement officer had changed, and no further details were forthcoming. A road had been built across a field and an entrance way had been cut through an historic hedge with no Planning or Highway permission. County Cllr. Siddall asked Cllr. Mason to send the correspondence to him and he will forward it to BDC District Cllr. Spray, who is on BDC's Planning Committee. **Action:** Cllr. Mason will email BDC's Enforcement officers and copy in County Cllr. Siddall and the Clerk.

Item 3: Update on Bournebridge Planning Appeal – ref

APP/Z1510/W/22/3299178. The Chairman, Cllr. Foster reported that an email had been sent To The Right Honourable James Cleverly. MP asking him to approach The Right Honourable Michael Gove MP and ask that the Appeal be Recovered. An email had been received from James Cleverly MP mentioning that he had informally spoken to the Secretary of State Michael Gove MP about the issue. The Chairman, Cllr. Foster reported that the Planning Inspectorate had allowed the appeal and that the development could go ahead. It was noted that all the S.106 money would be going to Halstead Town Council and ECC. The Clerk was asked to circulate the Inspector's decision to the rest of the Parish Council and County Cllr. Siddall. **Action:** Clerk.

Item 4: Planning Updates. None.

108/22 Playing Field. Item 1: Update on Playing Field. Clerk to resend quote from Wickstead to Cllr. Mason who will speak to Wickstead about the seats for the swings and the costs of repairs to the slide. **Action.** Clerk and Cllr. Mason. **Item 2: To consider installation of small new gate and fence for Playing Field. Quote for works. Cllr. Mason.** Cllr Mason provided a quote for a new gate and posts of £150 plus £150 to install. To agree to the purchase and installation. Proposed Cllr. Hambling, Seconded Cllr. Foster. All agreed. **Action:** Cllr. Mason to order new gate and posts.

109/22 Highways: Item 1: Parish Councillors reports. Cllr. Wickes reported that the hedges on Burtons Green Road need cutting back as drivers cannot see up the road on the way to Greenstead Green. She also reported that the bridge going into Burtons Green needed repairing. This had been reported but nothing had been done. The ditches in Burtons Green Road also need clearing. Cllr. Siggers reported that the drain covers in Colne Engine Road need to be repaired. He was asked to

by County Cllr Siddall to report them to ECC Highways. Cllr. Pleasance asked what was happening with the scheme to sort out the flooding on Sloe Hill. County Cllr. Siddall will check and get back to Cllr. Pleasance. County Cllr. Siddall reported that the Bournebridge Hill scheme had been pushed back to a later date as yet unknown.

Item 2: To consider applying for 'Quiet Lane' status for Russell Road, White Ash Green. Update. There had been no update on this. County Cllr. Siddall will chase.

Item 3: Flooding in Crocklands and broken pavement- continuing issues. Cllr. Hambling had cleared the drain covers and culvert, but ditches and culvert are still blocked. County Cllr. Siddall explained that landowners have a duty to clear ditches on their land. Cllr. Hambling explained about the Crocklands Alleviation scheme which is incomplete due to the drains being in the wrong place and running out of time to finish the scheme. County Cllr. Siddall asked for more details about the issue to be sent to him. **Action.** Cllr, Hambling

110/22 Trees: Update on purchase of trees to replace the dead tree in the Playing Field and the one at Plaistow Green. The Clerk had contacted Kings and Co. They only had Horse Chestnuts available at a cost of £156 per tree including VAT. The clerk was instructed to purchase two Horse Chestnuts. County Cllr. Siddall was happy for the Parish Council to apply to him to fund the purchase of the trees from his Locality Funding. **Action:** Clerk to apply for the Locality Grant.

111/22 21 Meetings. Item 1: To approve the dates for 2023/24 parish council meetings. These dates had been distributed before the meeting and were duly approved.

Dates for the 2023 Parish Council meetings.

All at 7.15pm on a Wednesday. At the Village Hall

11th January

8th March

Annual Parish Meeting 19th April

17th May Annual meeting of the Parish Council 7pm followed by an Ordinary meeting.

12th July

13th September

8th November

Item 2: To agree a date and location for the Budget meeting. Wednesday 30th November 2022 via Teams at 7pm.

Item 3: To agree a course of action with regards to planning applications that need replying to and which cannot be deferred to the next scheduled Parish Council meeting. It was agreed to hold a Teams meeting with a minimum of 3 councillors before the response date for any planning applications if the deadline for comments to BDC was before the next Parish Council meeting.

112/22 Emails: Update on Councillors and Parish Clerk's email addresses. Clerk now has a new email address parishclerk@greensteadgreenpc.org.uk . All Councillors have a parish council bespoke email address. The Chairman asked councillors to respond to any emails from the Clerk requiring an answer or acknowledgement of receipt of email.

113/22 To update the Open Spaces Action Plan. It was agreed that no changes were needed. **Action:** Clerk.

114/22 Transport: Item 1: To consider who will respond to the Rural Mobility in Parishes survey. Cllr. Wickes will respond as she is the Transport Representative. Clerk to resend link to her. **Action:** Cllr. Wickes and Clerk

Item 2: To encourage Councillors and residents to participate in the Essex Highways Bus Survey. The Chairman, Cllr. Foster encouraged everyone to participate in the survey.

115/22 To receive reports from outside bodies, training courses, Village Representatives, Parish Council Committees and Advisory Groups. Cllr. Hambling reported that the Village Hall had received a Warm Spaces Grant which they were using to hold Coffee Mornings each month. Cllr. Wickes reported that there had been no meetings regarding the Earls Clone Airfield. Cllr. Pleasance reported that the Air Ambulance base on the airfield was now reopen for visitors.

116/22 To note any items of correspondence. Distributed.

117/22 Future agenda items. Budget and Precept, new councillor training.

There being no further business to transact the meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

Next meeting Wednesday 11th January 2023.

Amanda Degnan

Amanda Degnan – Clerk to the Parish Council, C/O Greenstead Green Post Office, Greenstead Green Farm, Greenstead Green, CO9 1QY. 01787 274992.

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