

GREAT CANFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
 held in the Village Hall Monday 10th February 2020

Present: Cllrs, Keir Donald, Chris Easter, Stuart Hepburn, Jenny Jewell, Michael Knight. Robert Mackley (chair) and the Clerk Allison Ward

3 Members of the Public (2 leaving during the public forum)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllr Ginny Barlow and accepted by the Parish Council.
2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS FOR THIS MEETING – Cllr Mackley declared a non-pecuniary interest as a trustee of Canfield Community Trust who are leading the negotiations with Great Canfield Parochial Church Council on a new lease for the village hall. Cllr Mackley is also a member of the village hall committee.
3. PUBLIC FORUM

Canfield Community Trust updated the Parish Council on progress with renewing the lease for the village hall and a meeting with Rural Community Council of Essex (RCCE) which Cllr Mackley also attended. Advice from RCCE confirms it is legally possible for the Parish Council to become the leaseholder with the village hall committee continuing to be responsible for all aspects of running the hall and fundraising. The village hall committee would need to become a committee of the Parish Council and an appropriate terms of reference put in place.

Before any discussion Cllr Donald declared a non-pecuniary interest as his wife is a member of Great Canfield Parochial Church Council, the owners of the village hall.

With the Parish Council as the lease holders it would allow Canfield Community Trust to be wound up and there was some discussion on the legality around transferring charity funds, there are plans and proposals to spend or allocate existing funds which would resolve this issue. Cllr Mackley asked the Parish Council for their support to continue with this approach in principle and all were in agreement.

1 resident leaves

A resident had sent an email to the Parish Council re highway flooding and this was read to the meeting. In summary the Parish Council shares residents' concerns which are made worse during periods of heavy rain with users of the highway refusing to slow down or ignoring deep floodwaters. Their actions are leading to extensive erosion of verges with gravel and stones being washed onto the road and creating further hazards. Some discussion took place on possible actions including ditch clearing, cutting grips or kerbing to hold back verges, the meeting recognised some solutions are not straightforward and others will require the support of Essex Highways. The Parish Council confirmed it has allocated a small budget in 2020/21 to consider what can be achieved locally to alleviate flooding and it was recognised there are a number of 'hotspots' throughout the parish. The Clerk was asked to write to local landowners for assistance with ditches and the Parish Council confirmed they had a cabinet meeting with Essex Highways in early March and would include this item, *(please note this meeting was subsequently postponed at the request of the Parish Council, see item 9.1 below).*

1 resident leaves

Cllr Jenny Jewell arrives

A resident commented on the ponds opposite Peckers where one of the ponds is overflowing in periods of heavy rain due to the position of the current culvert. It was suggested extending the pipe further into the pond would resolve the problem. The meeting confirmed it was happy to meet any cost, Cllr Donald, Cllr Easter and the resident to progress.

Signed
 Robert Mackley (Chairman Parish Council)

4. The MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 12th January 2020, were proposed by Cllr Donald as a true and correct record, this was seconded by Cllr Mackley with all in agreement; the Chairman signed the minutes.

5. COUNTY AND DISTRICT CLLRS REPORT

County Cllr Susan Barker, District Cllr Geof Driscoll and District Cllr Neil Reeve sent apologies to the meeting.

6. PROGRESS UPDATE & CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE – Nothing to report.

7. VILLAGE LITTER PICK

A date of Sunday 29th March, 10am, meeting at the village hall was agreed, subject to the availability of the village hall, Clerk to book.

8. PLANNING

8.1 Applications

Application No	UTT/20/0265/DFO
Development	Details following outline consent UTT/18/3015/OP for the erection of 1 no. dwelling - details of Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale.
Location	Land Adj Ashfields Farm Cottages Cuckoo Lane

Cllr Jewell proposed that the Parish Council makes no comment on this application. This was seconded by Cllr Donald with all in agreement.

8.2 Decisions

Application No	UTT/19/2565/HHF
Development	Installation of a domestic sewage treatment plant
Locations	Champneys Green Street
Decision	Conditional Approval

8.3 Bullocks Lane, Canfield Nursery – the Parish Council confirmed the signage placed on the verge is not on Parish Council land and therefore no further action is required. The discussion continued on whether it would be possible to plant indigenous English Oak trees along both sides of Bullocks Lane. The meeting agreed this would need the support of the majority of residents and the Clerk was asked to include an article in the Great Canfield newsletter.

8.4 Church End, the Clerk was asked to write to Great Canfield Parochial Church Council re the ‘sandwich board’ in front of the church gates within the village conservation area. The Parish Council is of the view the sign is classified as an advertising sign and in its current form does not fall within the planning regulations for permitted advertising and requires planning permission to remain. The Clerk was asked to propose an alternative suggestion of a small sign on the church gates as permitted under advertising regulations.

8.5 UTT/19/1166/OP, Detailed proposal for Construction of a new Council Depot and employment land, Little Canfield was refused by Uttlesford Planning Committee in mid-January.

8.6 At an extraordinary meeting of Uttlesford Planning Committee on Friday 24th January, a decision was taken to refuse the Stansted Airport planning application to increase passenger numbers.

8.7 In mid-January, the Planning Inspectors responded to the Uttlesford Local Plan, their full report is available on the Uttlesford website. In conclusion they state ‘the strategy set out in the plan is unsound’ and raise concerns about the evidence supporting it and the potential deliverability of key sites including the garden communities. Uttlesford District Council is considering its response and next steps.

9. REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

9.1. Footpaths, Byways, Bridleways and Greens

Following representation in objection from the landowner to the proposed surfacing solution for byway 3, Uttlesford Highways Panel did not approve the funding and no works will take place in this year. The Parish Council met with the PRoW engineer in early February to understand what options were available given there is not unilateral support for a hard surface. A winter restriction may be possible; however this would require considerable support from the off road user groups. The Clerk was asked to make contact with the user groups to progress the discussions.

The meeting booked with Highways Surgery for 3rd March was discussed and in conclusion the Parish Council felt it would be 'premature' to request winter closures without first having discussions with the user groups. The Clerk was asked to contact County Cllr Barker and ask that the 'slot' for the Parish Council is deferred until later in the year.

9.2. Highways – This was discussed in the public forum.

9.3. Crime Prevention/Neighbourhood Watch – Nothing to report.

9.4. Tree Warden – Nothing to report.

10. FINANCE

10.1. Cllr Hepburn proposed the following payments be authorised, this was seconded by Cllr Knight with all in agreement.

<i>PAYMENT TO</i>	<i>VALUE</i>
Allison Ward - Parish Clerk January 2020	£ 184.61
Allison Ward – Fasthosts, Great Canfield website domain name for 2 years	£ 23.98
High Easter Parish Council – 50% of cost of Clerks computer	£ 177.09

11. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA – Nothing in addition.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING Monday 9th March 2020 at Great Canfield Village Hall at 8pm.

TIME AND CLOSE OF MEETING 9.40pm