

GREAT CANFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
 held at Great Canfield Village Hall on Monday 11th December 2023

Present: Cllrs Harry Anderson, Ginny Barlow (chair), Keir Donald, Jenny Jewell, Michael Knight, Magnus Mildwater, Richard Stratton, and the Clerk Allison Ward

District Cllrs Geof Driscoll and Neil Reeve

1 resident

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** . none all in attendance. The clerk was unable to attend at short notice due to personal circumstances; Cllr Harry Anderson took minutes of the meeting which the clerk then produced.
2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS FOR THIS MEETING** – None.
3. **PUBLIC FORUM** - Nothing to report.
4. The **MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** of 13th November 2023 as circulated were proposed as a correct record of the meeting, they will be signed at the January meeting.

5. COUNTY AND DISTRICT CLLRS REPORT

District Cllrs provided the following reports to the meeting.

1. Reminder closing date for responses to Regulation 18 of the Local Plan is 18th December.
2. Uttlesford District Council chairman's annual carol service will be at St Mary's Little Hallingbury on 13th December. There will be a collection in support of Cllr Driscoll's two nominated charities Uttlesford Community Action Network and its work with the Dementia Action Alliance, and ACCURO STRIDE which is a six-month life skills project for young adults with a learning disability in west Essex.
3. At the full council meeting last week, the liberal members raised a motion that was unanimously supported regarding the unacceptable discharge of raw sewage in Uttlesford's rivers and waterways, full council agreed to 'call on the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for the Environment to strengthen the legislation on the discharging of raw sewage.'
4. District Cllr Reeve provided an update on Crumps Farm and confirmed together with Cllr Jewell and local residents he had walked along the footpath adjacent to the site in early December. This clearly showed that the site is not secure as previously advised as the fence had failed, this is in direct contravention of HSE requirement. Cllr Reeve went on to confirm he had reported this at the Uttlesford informal cabinet briefing on 11th December and will report to both the Environment Agency and Essex County Council. It was confirmed in early January, Thames Water and the Environment Agency will be installing 3 water monitors in the river Roding to monitor effluent output and toxicity. Cllr Barlow commented that there appears to be stalemate regarding progress and responsibility for action: Cllr Reeve confirmed he is chasing/progressing with the Environment Agency, Essex County Council and HSE. It was agreed the parish council would raise its concerns directly with Kemi Badenoch MP.

6. CLERK'S PROGRESS UPDATE and CORRESPONDENCE

- 6.1. Local Government Boundary Commission is consulting on changes to the boundaries for Essex County Council wards. The proposals would see the current Dunmow ward sub-divided. In the proposals Great Canfield would be part of 'Takeley ward' which would include Takeley, Hallingburys, Hatfield Heath, Hatfield Broad Oak, High Easter and the Roding villages. Consultation closes on 19th February 2024, to be considered at January meeting.
- 6.2. Following a request to Uttlesford the agent for the proposed Canfield Nursery development sent notice as required by Article 14 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015, of a proposed development partially effecting parish council land, see November minutes ref UTT/23/2528/FUL.
- 6.3. Stansted Airport Watch confirmed a resolution to proceed with the transition from Stansted Airport Watch ('SAW') to the Stansted Airport Watch Foundation ('the SAW Foundation'). Correspondence circulated to Cllrs.

Signed
 Cllr Ginny Barlow, Chair

7. PLANNING

7.1. Applications for decision

Application No	UTT/23/3023/FUL
Location	Rear of Beresford, Canfield Road
Development	2no. detached one and a half storey four bed dwellings, each with a detached carport

Cllr Barlow proposed the parish council objects to this application for the following reasons

- Policy S7 unacceptable and unsustainable development in the countryside with dwellings of a scale and form that would be incongruous in this countryside setting and not compatible with the scale and form of surrounding buildings.
- Policy GEN2, two dwellings identical in design in very close proximity seeks to urbanise this landscape. The local environment is characterised by sporadic development and remains rural in nature. The application sites form a street like environment.
- Impact of further and continual development in close proximity to the Flich Way, a local nature reserve.
- Impact on street scene and in particular heritage asset Canfield Park which is opposite the site.

This was seconded by Cllr Donald, with all in agreement.

Cllr Barlow went on to propose the application is called in to the planning committee for decision if officers recommend for approval, this was seconded by Cllr Donald with all in agreement.

Application No	UTT/23/2966/FUL & UTT/23/2967/LB
Location	Peckers Farm, Green Street
Development	Amendments to Plot 4 of previously approved and implemented scheme under references UTT/21/1769/FUL & UTT/21/1770/LB - Replacement of previously approved lean-to with single storey extension to the South-West and erection of two-bay cartlodge, with associated alterations, operational development and landscaping works.

Cllr Barlow proposed no comment on this application, this was seconded by Cllr Jewell with all in agreement.

Application No	UTT/23/2942/FUL
Location	Land North Of Honeysuckle, Canfield Drive
Development	Proposed erection of 1 no. dwelling and garage following approval of UTT/23/0473/FUL

Cllr Barlow proposed no comment on this application, this was seconded by Cllr Jewell with all in agreement.

7.2. Decisions for information only – None

7.3. Update on Crumps Farm illegal dumping of waste, see agenda item 5.

7.4. To note the planning inspector dismissed the appeal reference APP/C1570/W/23/3317874 for 90 homes on land south of Stortford Road, primarily due to the impact on landscape and heritage. The parish council had objected to this application and were represented at the hearing by District Cllr Reeve,

8. UTTLESFORD LOCAL PLAN

8.1. Cllr Barlow confirmed there were no residents who attended the drop in coffee morning on 30th November and it is therefore assumed residents are aware and responding directly if concerned. It was noted that the awareness of the District consultation meetings was not high amongst the residents, Cllrs suggested that more effort is made to engage in any future consultations.

8.2. Cllrs considered and discussed their views on the draft Local Plan which are summarised as follows.

- In summary there is no direct replacement for policy S7 meaning the plan does not address the fact that Great Canfield is a rural parish, which is mostly countryside. It should be protected from development given there is no infrastructure, the proposed changes to the Countryside Protection Zone (CPZ) further weakens objections to planning.

Signed
Cllr Ginny Barlow, Chair

- b. It was noted that Great Canfield was not specifically named in the hierarchy, as a result Great Canfield will not receive any development allocation in the Local Plan. District Cllr Reeve added, a Local Plan means there is a presumption of no approval, in contrast to lack of a plan which presumes approval.
- c. Fritch way is a key consideration, it is currently a nature reserve and recreation area, which is not physically suitable for the proposals in the plan which would see it used for commuting (foot and bicycle) and the removal of barriers which will promote its use by motorised traffic. Fritch way should be the barrier to development for Great Canfield. Cllr Stratton noted potential protection on Fritch Way, i.e. bridge listings, application for SSSI – further information required to understand what the process and criteria are.
- d. The plan makes no provision for reduced speed/quiet zones to reduce ‘rat runs’ through the village.
- e. Concerns shared with Takeley and surrounding parishes on the changes to the CPZ.
- f. ‘Dead land’, area between B1256 and A120: what other options are there? The meeting noted that a minimum of c.1,000 dwellings are required for a new secondary school (HRS will be built on same size on new site, not expanded to meet increased dwelling capacity within Dunmow plan).
- g. Noted that the 1,200 dwelling development at Little Easton was signed off directly by government with no provision for any infrastructure.
- h. Stansted airport is proposed as a transport hub.
- i. District Cllr Reeve added there is intent for the plots north of Takeley to provide other model forms of transport (not cars) for commuting.
- j. Cllrs noted the comments from Stansted Airport Watch in relation to Stansted Airport.

8.3. Cllr Barlow proposed the parish council responds to the draft Local Plan based on the points discussed in agenda item 8.2 and as circulated. This was seconded by Cllr Jewell with all in agreement. Cllr Barlow will liaise with the Clerk to submit responses. It was further agreed Cllr Barlow would provide further information which could be circulated to residents to assist with any responses.

8.4. Cllr Barlow proposed Great Canfield parish council adds its name to a letter being sent by Takeley parish council (previously circulated to Cllrs), objecting to the proposed reduction in the Countryside Protection Zone. This was seconded by Cllr Donald with all in agreement.

9. PARISH COUNCIL PROJECTS

9.1. The defibrillator and cabinet have been received and were installed at the village hall on 7th December. Cllr Barlow proposed retrospectate approval of a quote for £222 plus VAT to install the defibrillator at the village hall, this was seconded by Cllr Anderson with all in agreement. The clerk will register the defibrillator on the national database and notify the grant funders of the installation.

9.2. A quote has been obtained from a commercial contractor to clear the reeds from the ponds at the junction of Green Street and Canfield Road, c.£2k, Cllrs agreed that further quotes and advice would be sought before considering further.

9.3. Bacon End flooding – Cllr Knight to provide details of landowner to Cllr Barlow.

10. HIGHWAYS, FOOTPATHS, TREES, CRIME

10.1. Footpaths, Byways, Bridleways and Greens – Cllr Knight confirmed that footpath 21 had reopened, however Essex Highways had not repaired the bridge, it had been closed because of this damage. Cllr Knight will action the repair.

10.2. Highways/Road Safety

10.2.1. Cllr Anderson reported on fly tipping and will action removal,

10.2.2. The clerk has reported the damaged Gigaclear box at Church End and Bacon End.

10.3. Crime Prevention/Neighbourhood Watch – Cllr Stratton reported on a recent incident he had reported.

10.4. Tree Warden – Cllr Knight reported on a tree that is laying on power lines at Water Lane/Lower Road, this has been reported to UK Power Networks.

11. VILLAGE HALL REPORT

11.1. Village hall committee general update – Nothing to report.

11.2. The meeting confirmed the following direct debit payments made between meetings.

<i>PAYMENT TO</i>	<i>METHOD</i>	<i>VALUE</i>
Great Canfield Parochial Church Council – Monthly Hall Rent	Direct Debit	£ 61.00
Scottish Power – Electricity	Direct Debit	£ 108.68

11.3. Cllr Barlow proposed the following payments relating to the village hall be made, this was seconded by Cllr Jewell with all in agreement.

<i>PAYMENT TO</i>	<i>VALUE</i>
Alison Clark – Hall Cleaning 28 th November 2023	£ 30.00
Excite Electrical – Defibrillator installation inc VAT	£ 266.40
Virginia Barlow – TENS license for Christmas village hall event	£ 21.00

11.4 The meeting noted the receipts of £95 from hall hire in November 2023.

12. CLERK ANNUAL SALARY REVIEW

Cllr Barlow proposed to approve the pay award negotiated by NALC and SLCC for clerks and other town/parish council employees as detailed in E01-2023/24 Local Government Services Pay Agreement, with the increase backdated to 1 April 2023. This was seconded by Cllr Jewell with all in agreement.

13. FINANCE

13.1. Cllr Barlow proposed the following payment for authorisation, this was seconded by Cllr Stratton with all in agreement.

<i>PAYMENT TO</i>	<i>VALUE</i>
Allison Ward - Parish Clerk November 2023 and inc salary increase	£341.05

13.2. Opening of savings account and updates to bank mandates pending authorisation of further application forms.

14. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA – Byway signage, general signage concerns, electoral boundary changes and precept setting

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 8th January 2024 at 8pm in Great Canfield Village Hall.

TIME AND CLOSE OF MEETING 9.05pm

Signed
Cllr Ginny Barlow, Chair