

GREAT CANFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
 held in the Church Hall Monday 11th November 2013

Present: Cllr Jon Sams (Chairman)
 Cllrs Chris Easter, Henry Green, Catriona Kellerman, Robert Mackley and the Clerk Allison Ward

0 Members of the Public

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received by Cllr Virginia Barlow and Cllr Keir Donald and accepted by the Parish Council.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS FOR THIS MEETING

Cllrs Mackley and Sams declared a non pecuniary interest in agenda item 12 as trustees of Great Canfield Community Trust.

3. PUBLIC FORUM – None

4. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 14th October 2013 were approved and signed by Cllr Sams as a true record.

5. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT – Apologies were received from County Cllr Susan Barker and District Cllr Jackie Cheetham.

6. PROGRESS UPDATE – *Clerk*

6.1. The Peace Oak plaque has been installed and was unveiled in a short service of remembrance on Sunday 10th November at 1.30pm led by the Revd Dub Gannon. The cost of the plaque was £445 + vat and this is covered by the New Homes Bonus from 2012/13. Clerk to ensure a copy of the service is included in the Parish Council archive.

6.2. A quote of £75 has been received for the repairs to the noticeboard at Bacon End. This was accepted by Cllrs, Clerk to arrange.

6.3. The Clerk presented various options for a guard to go around the Jubilee Oak. Including a plaque quotes average £350. It was agreed the Clerk would forward this as a request for funding from the District Cllrs New Homes Bonus. Once funding is confirmed a final decision on the design and supplier will be made.

6.4. Clerk is chasing Uttlesford for an update on the Jubilee book.

6.5. The Clerk has forwarded a request to Cllr Cheetham for the New Homes Bonus to fund the village newsletter. A request has been made for £200 which would cover the publication of two issues.

7. CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

7.1. The Uttlesford Electoral Review has been completed and from 2015 elections Great Canfield will no longer be linked with Takeley and Little Canfield but will be part of a two Cllr ward with Hatfield Broad Oak and the Hallingburys. As part of the consultation the Parish Council wrote in

Signed
 Jon Sams (Chairman Parish Council)

support of the proposal but with a request that the name of the ward includes Great Canfield. No response to this letter was received, Clerk to chase.

7.2. Following recent events Uttlesford Emergency Plan team asked Parish Councils to consider whether it was feasible to have generators and competent operators in prominent/central places where the community can come to warm up, get hot drinks, fill hot water bottles etc in the event of a prolonged power failure. The Parish Council considered the logistics of such a proposal and on balance are confident that there is strong network of support within the community. Clerk to inform Uttlesford this is not a requirement for Great Canfield.

8. GREEN STREET POND CLEARANCE

The Conservation Volunteers Trust (CVT) visited the ponds at Green Street; one is fine the second requires approx a third of the reedmace cleared. CVT can arrange this for a charge of £200 + vat per day and could carry out the work on 6th December. The Parish Council discussed the proposal and is supportive of the work being carried out; however wish to investigate options for a grant to cover the work. Clerk to update CVT delaying the work on 6th December and to investigate sources of grants including New Homes Bonus.

9. NOTICE BOARD WITH PARISH MAP

Cllr Mackley presented a proposal for a new notice board with a parish map showing footpaths, bridleways etc; the Parish Council were reminded that two lamented parish maps had previously been purchased for this use. The proposal is to place one map at the village hall and a second at Hope End on a larger notice board, which would allow the Hope End notice board to be moved and replace the one at Church End. Cllrs supported this proposal and requested that the Clerk investigate costings and designs for further discussion and confirm whether such a project could be funded from the New Homes Bonus.

10. VILLAGE FIREWORK EVENT

Cllr Mackley reported on the success of the event. As organisers of the event the Parish Council agreed to the payment of the invoice for the fireworks at a cost of £795 inc vat, (£662.50 ex vat). The Parish Council wished to thank those who made donations which totalled £400; Ashfields Carriage and Polo Club, Cllr Donald and Cllr Easter. The net difference of £262.50 is funded from ticket sales, it was agreed any profits will be returned to Great Canfield Community Trust.

11. POLE FOR BEACON

Cllr Easter confirmed the beacon and pole would be installed once ground conditions allowed.

12. UPDATE FOR GREAT CANFIELD COMMUNITY TRUST

The Community Trust has established two committees, one to manage the hall and the other to manage events. A public meeting is scheduled for 20th November with the aim of confirming volunteers to form these committees. Previous arrangements for bookings and maintenance remain in place until such time as these committees are established.

Cllr Mackley proposed, Cllr Sams seconded with all in favour that with effect from 01.12.13 the Community Activities Account previously managed by the Parish Council would transfer to the Community Trust with the existing balances.

Signed

Jon Sams (Chairman Parish Council)

13. BUDGET FOR 2014/15

The Clerk presented a 2014/15 draft budget for Cllrs to consider, this was accepted in principle. Currently Uttlesford is not in a position to confirm the 'grant' funding element from central government which is paid to Parishes as part of the precept, for Great Canfield Parish Council this is a minor amount, (£96 or 2% of the total precept income). Information is not expected until mid-December and a final decision on the parish precept cannot be made until this is known. Deadlines for submission of precept/grant figures are end of January 2014 and a final decision will be made at the January Parish Council meeting.

14. REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS:-

14.1. Footpaths, Byways, Bridleways and Greens

14.1.1. Clerk chasing for an update on footpath 20, reported at the July meeting

14.1.2. The Clerk is in the process of completing the documentation required by the Highways Panel to fund an improvement to the surface of Oak Lane; this requires support from both District and County Cllrs.

14.2. Highways/Road Safety

14.2.1. Clerk to chase Cllr Barker for a response to the question on whether Highways cut channels from the road to ditches to prevent surface water flooding; there are currently issues along Green Street.

14.2.2. Cllr Mackley expressed frustration at the lack of progress on works requested of the Highway Rangers and Highways. Clerk to chase Highway requests including missing flood sign between Bacon End and B184, 40mph repeater sign off post at top of post at Fitzjohns lane and pot holes along Fitzjohns Lanes. There is no feedback on when and if the Highway Rangers are able to carry out the tasks requested. Clerk to chase re Highway Rangers and forward information to County and District Cllrs.

14.2.3. Cllr Mackley asked that the problem of flooding at the junction of the B184 and Bacon End Road be reported. Last year this became ice and was dangerous to users of the B184, the issue isn't with a blocked ditch but with the pipe which appears to have collapsed, Clerk to report.

14.2.4. Cllr Mackley to speak to the landowner re clearing the ditch on the Hope End side of Smiths Bridge.

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

14.4. Tree Warden – Cllr Green wished to pass on his thanks for all those who helped remove fallen trees as a result of the October storm; the Clerk had at the request of the Chairman sent a message of thanks via the e-mail distribution list. Cllr Easter reported a dangerous tree along Fitzjohns Lane adjacent to the cricket ground, Clerk to report.

15. PLANNING (10 mins)

15.1. Application/Decisions

APP NO UTT/13/2725/HHF
 LOCATION Weardale, Bullocks Lane
 DEV Two storey side extension and first floor rear dormer extension

This is an amendment to the previous application and an opportunity for the Parish Council to re-consider and amend its initial response if required. After discussion it was felt the revised plans failed to clearly indicate the amendments and it was agreed no amendments or further comments would be made to the Parish Councils original objection.

Decisions - None

15.2. Crumps Farm nothing to report.

15.3. The Parish Council considered the Development Management Validation Checklists consultation and agreed to make no comment.

16. FINANCE

16.1. Cheques for Approval

<i>PAYMENT TO</i>	<i>VALUE</i>
Allison Ward - Parish Clerk October 2013	£164.59
Mr S Mainwaring - Poppy Wreath	£20.00
Great Canfield PCC Hall A/C – Hire of hall for October	£27.00
Easter Farms – Fireworks	£795.00
Forefront – Peace Oak Plaque – Inc VAT	£534.00

17. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING Monday 9th December 2013 at 8pm.

19. TIME AND CLOSE OF MEETING 9.30pm

Allison Ward

Parish Clerk 01245 231798

Signed

Jon Sams (Chairman Parish Council)