

**GREAT CANFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**  
 held in the Village Hall Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2015

Present: Cllr Jon Sams (Chairman)

Cllrs Virginia Barlow, Chris Easter, Henry Green, Catriona Kellerman, Robert Mackley and  
 the Clerk Allison Ward

17 Members of the Public

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllr Keir Donald and accepted by the Parish Council.
2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS FOR THIS MEETING - None
3. PUBLIC FORUM – The chairman asked residents to only raise items not on the agenda during this session and confirmed that the public would be permitted to contribute to the Parish Councils discussions on agenda items; there were no additional items.
4. MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 8<sup>th</sup> December 2014 were approved and signed by Cllr Sams as a true record.
5. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT - None
6. BREAK-INS TO OUTBUILDINGS AND OTHER THEFTS IN THE PARISH

Cllr Mackley updated the meeting and began by confirming there had been a significant number of break-ins to outbuildings and vehicles in the parish since the end of November with thousands of pounds of equipment taken. The Parish Council were aware of similar issues in surrounding parishes and as a result contacted them for support and the Dunmow Broadcast which resulted in a front page article; the intention was to raise the issue in the local media and communities in an attempt to encourage the police to take immediate action. This resulted in communication between Cllr Mackley and the police who confirm the incidents are not limited to this area but have been taking place along the M11 corridor and they are working with neighbouring forces. The Parish Council has been kept informed of events as the investigations have continued to move at a pace and this information has been forwarded to residents via the e-mail distribution list.

Of note is the very good CCTV evidence that has been forwarded by Great Canfield residents. Cllr Mackley suggested that residents with CCTV are approached and their details held by the Clerk should information be required in the future, Clerk to include a request in the newsletter.

A debate began on whether it was appropriate for the Parish Council to purchase CCTV equipment to place at the entrances to the village; the Clerk confirmed Parish Councils do have powers under the function Crime Prevention, Local Government and Rating Act 1997, section 31. Differing views were expressed and points raised included control of the system, privacy and data protection laws, costs, power and infrastructure, whether domestic CCTV could meet the need. The Clerk was asked to look into the legal issues and report back.

7. PLANNING

7.1. Applications

APPL No	UTT/14/3705/OP
DEVELOPMENT	Outline application, with all matters reserved except for access, for residential development for up to 180 dwellings, provision of open space with recreational facilities and site access, all with associated highways and infrastructure works including a new footpath along Great Canfield Road
LOCATION	Land west of Canfield Road

Signed

Jon Sams (Chairman Parish Council)

Cllr Barlow highlighted the minor amendments between this and the previous application; a reduction from 210 to 180 proposed homes which is largely the result of an additional buffer between the Flich Way and the estate. A move of the single entrance/exit to the corner adjoining Canfield Park and additional pedestrian access points to the site, although there are no provisions for pedestrian footpaths along the Canfield Road.

During open discussion residents raised concerns with the current status of the Uttlesford local plan following the decision by the Planning Inspector and the potential opportunities for Developers to challenge the shortfall in housing numbers. Other concerns included the existing pressures on the local education and health provisions and most importantly the impact this development would have on joining the two settlements of Takeley and Hope End.

Cllr Sams proposed, Cllr Barlow seconded with all in favour that the Parish Council strongly objects to this application as it is not sustainable development in accordance with National Planning Policy Framework in terms of its impact on this rural community, its design and the impact on the local infrastructure. Cllr Barlow to draft key points, Clerk to submit together with the planning consultants report on the previous application by this Developer, for this site which remains relevant. Residents were asked to submit responses in objection, Clerk to circulate an e-mail reminding residents of the key issues, the reasons for the previous refusal and deadlines. Clerk to contact District Cllrs to ensure if the Officers were to recommend this application for approval that it is called to Planning Committee for decision.

APPL No	UTT/14/3347/FUL
DEVELOPMENT	Demolition of glasshouses and erection of two dwellings with attached garages and associated paddocks and wildlife copse
LOCATION	Hope End Nursery, Hope End Green

The Clerk had issued an e-mail to residents asking for any comments on this application to be notified to the Parish Council for inclusion in their discussions; no comments have been received other than a copy of one response submitted to Uttlesford highlighting inaccuracies in the supporting statement. Cllr Mackley seconded with all in agreement that the Parish Council makes no comment on this application.

APPL No	UTT/14/3766/HHF
DEVELOPMENT	Proposed two storey side and single storey rear extension and new detached double garage and driveway.
LOCATION	Pheasant Cottage Bacon End Road

Cllr Sams proposed, Cllr Barlow seconded with all in favour that the Parish Council supports the application relating to the development of the house, however they object to the position of the garage adjacent to the road side due to safety concerns.

APPL No	UTT/14/3479/CLE
DEVELOPMENT	Certificate of lawfulness for the existing use of yard and buildings for agricultural purposes.
LOCATION	Lake View Farm Land South Of Cricket Lane

The Parish Council has no concerns with this application.

The Parish Council raised concerns with an application adjacent to the parish and the number of agricultural building applications that have been submitted for Newlands, High Cross Lane, reference UTT/14/3748/AG. Cllr Mackley proposed, Cllr Sams seconded with all in favour that the Parish Council requests information from Uttlesford to clarify the guidance on agricultural buildings.

Signed  
Jon Sams (Chairman Parish Council)

## 7.2 Decisions

APPL No	UTT/14/3118/P3MPA
DEVELOPMENT	Prior notification of change of use of agricultural building to 3 Residential units
LOCATION	Barn and machine sheds, Ashfields Farm, Cuckoos Lane
DECISION	Prior Approval Refused
APPL No	UTT/14/3162/HHF
DEVELOPMENT	Demolition of existing stables and erection of new stables with double garage
LOCATION	Fanns Farmhouse, Great Canfield Road
DECISION	Conditional Approval
APPL No	UTT/14/3020/HHF & UTT/14/3021/LB
DEVELOPMENT	Demolition of existing shed, garage and boundary wall. Proposed side and rear extensions, cart lodge and garden room.
LOCATION	Hellmans Cottage, Green Street
DECISION	Conditional Approval
APPL No	UTT/14/3169/HHF
DEVELOPMENT	Retrospective application for erection of a cart lodge and storage shed.
LOCATION	Beresfield Great Canfield Road
DECISION	Conditional Approval

7.3 Uttlesford District Council has notified the Parish Council that the breach of planning control at Ryders Barn, Marsh Lane, Annex being let as separate living accommodation has been investigated and a decision made to close the file as the breach is time barred.

## 8. PROGRESS UPDATE

- 8.1. The poppy wreath has been received and Cllr Green agreed to place the wreath at the Peace Oak.
- 8.2. In principle the Parish Council agreed to the letter drafted by Cllr Green to send to the Parochial Church Council (PCC) requesting a plaque is placed in the church in memory of Isaac Lodge. Cllr Green to re-draft as discussed and forward to the Clerk for issue to the PCC.
- 8.3. Cllr Easter had forwarded a copy of the quote for the notice board to the Clerk. £1,030. The Clerk confirmed District Cllr Jones had agreed to contribute £500 from the New Homes Bonus towards the cost; this is in addition to the £500 previously contributed by District Cllr Cheetham.
- 8.4. The Clerk to prepare a tender for the grounds maintenance contract. It was agreed this would be for a three year period with grass cut annually and hedges/ditches bi-annually. In addition the Parish Council agreed to include the maintenance of the trees along Green Street from Hellmans Cross up to Maple Cottage in the tender.

## 9. CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

- 9.1. The Parish Council agreed a nil response to the Essex County Council, Lead Local Flood Authority request for homes liable to flooding.
- 9.2. Uttlesford District Council has confirmed that the proposal in its Gypsy and Traveller Issues and Options Consultation in relation to the number of pitches proposed for Tandans is 5; the current 3 pitches with planning permission plus a further 2. Cllr Barlow had circulated to the Parish Council a summary of draft responses to the consultation. In general this Parish Council supports the consultation but questions Uttlesford's decision on the numbers of additional pitches required in light of the current Government

Signed

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consultation on Planning and Travellers and queries the size of pitches in particular Tandans where additional pitches are proposed.

- 9.3. Revd Dub Gannon has forwarded notification of an event for older residents and their carers being organised by Community Agents Essex and the local churches in the Six Parishes and South Rodings. The event brings together services and support networks to help discover what is available to assist with independent living. The event will take place in High Easter Village Hall on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March from 10am to 1pm. The Parish Council was asked if they could help publicise the event; an advert will be included in the village newsletter and an e-mail will be sent via the distribution list.
- 9.4. The Hundred Parish Society <http://www.hundredparishes.org.uk/> had circulated an updated article for Great Canfield; Cllrs were happy with the content.
- 9.5. Great Dunmow Town Council has approached neighbouring parishes to ask if they are interested in joining together to fund a PCSO at a cost of £34k per annum, no transport is provided for the PCSO. The Parish Council agreed unanimously that this was not a viable proposition as without significantly increasing precept the funding was not possible and transport is essential both to reach the parish and to provide the service required to the community; Clerk to respond.
- 9.6. Cllr Sams highlighted the request from Rural Community Council of Essex asking for Parish Councils and individuals to support their campaign to call on the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs not to withdraw funding for the ACRE Network of Rural Community Councils.
- 9.7. Clerk to e-mail Cllr Mackley with details of the Active Essex Community Games Grant which may support the village fete, closing date is 30<sup>th</sup> January.

## 10. QUARTERLY FINANCE UPDATE FOR 2014/15 & BUDGET 2015/16

The Clerk presented the finances for the period to end of December, there are no unexpected items and the current cash balance is £9,064.53.

The full year outturn is estimated to be a net loss of £0.6k; this is the result of the timing of the New Homes Bonus receipts/expenditure over the last two years.

There were no changes to the draft budget expenditure discussed at the December Parish Council meeting. Cllr Sams proposed, Cllr Mackley seconded with all in agreement that the precept for 2015/16 be set at £4,993. For the precept receipt only this represents a 3.5% increase, however with a reduction in the amount received from the Local Council Tax Scheme grant and additional band D equivalent contributors the result will be a 0% change to residents Council Tax bills. The Chairman and Clerk signed the precept form, Clerk to submit to Uttlesford.

## 11. REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS:-

### 11.1. Footpaths, Byways, Bridleways and Greens

11.1.1. Following notification from a resident, Cllr Easter confirmed the stile at the junction of footpath 7 and footpath 5 at Ashfields has broken and requires repair. Clerk to report.

11.1.2. Clerk to chase Highways for an update on the broken manhole cover at Fitzjohns Lane.

### 11.2. Highways/Road Safety

11.2.1. Clerk has contacted Highways with the additional requests discussed at the last meeting for work to be carried out close to Canfield Bridge, a response is pending.

11.2.2. Clerk is chasing Highways for the results of the speed survey at Bacon End.

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11.2.3. Clerk to chase Highways for progress on the works agreed at Bacon End in 2014 to help reduce flooding.

11.3. Crime Prevention/Neighbourhood Watch – The Clerk was asked to look into the neighbourhood watch co-coordinators in neighbouring parishes to determine if it was possible for Great Canfield residents to join in these groups.

11.4. Tree Warden

11.4.1. Clerk is chasing Essex County Council for an update on the works outstanding.

## 12. FINANCE

12.1. Cheques for Approval

<i><b>PAYMENT TO</b></i>	<i><b>VALUE</b></i>
Allison Ward - Parish Clerk December 2014 and Expenses	£344.11

12.2. The Clerk confirmed receipt of £500 from District Cllr Jones New Homes Bonus grant.

## 13. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at 8pm in the village hall.

15 TIME AND CLOSE OF MEETING 10.00pm

**Allison Ward**  
**Parish Clerk 01245 231798**

Signed  
Jon Sams (Chairman Parish Council)