

GREAT CANFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
 held in the Village Hall Monday 8th January 2018

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

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllr Ginny Barlow, Cllr Chris Easter and Cllr Declan Tiernan and accepted by the Parish Council
2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS FOR THIS MEETING - None
3. PUBLIC FORUM

A discussion took place on whether Uttlesford provided 'small' bin lorries for accessing narrow lanes where there is limited turning. The Clerk was asked to write to Uttlesford to ask the question and if they are used to request whether it would be possible to use a smaller vehicle when collecting from Bullocks Lane; currently one of the two waste collection vehicles drives down and then turns before exiting damaging the verges in the process or uses the farmyard.

4. The MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 11th December 2017, were proposed by Cllr Mackley as a true record, this was seconded by Cllr Knight with all in agreement.

5. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT - None

6. PROGRESS UPDATE - None

7. CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

7.1. Uttlesford District Council is running a session on Emergency Planning, Rest Centre Management which is open to Parish Councils; Cllrs currently unavailable to attend.

7.2. Damage to triangle and verges at Hellmans Cross. The Parish Council has been contacted by the company who received a delivery from the vehicle which caused the damage to the triangle and verges at Hellmans Cross. The company has given their assurance that as soon as conditions allow the area will be made good. A resident raised concerns with the leaning and wobbly finger post in the centre of the triangle and the Clerk will report this to Highways.

7.3. Uttlesford District Council has updated its code of conduct and issued a revised draft for Parish Councils to consider adopting. Currently Great Canfield Parish Council follows the District Councils Code of Conduct and will need to consider whether to adopt the amended version. The Clerk will include this for decision at the next Parish Council meeting.

8. PLANNING

8.1 Applications

Application No	UTT/17/3600/FUL & UTT/17/3601/LB
Development	Change of use of holiday let accommodation to 1 no. residential dwelling
Location	Bury Farm, Church End

Cllr Mackley proposed that the Parish Council submits no comment on this application, this was seconded by Cllr Jewell with all in agreement.

Signed
 Robert Mackley (Chairman Parish Council)

8.2 Decisions

Application No	UTT/17/2383/FUL
Development	Variation of plans condition on planning permission UTT/15/1732/FUL (erection of 7 no. dwellings) as amended by UTT/17/0449/NMA - amendments to approved plans
Location	Canfield Nursery, Bullocks Lane
Decision	Conditional approval

9. BUDGET 2018/19 and FINANCIAL UPDATE 2017/18

The Clerk presented a draft budget for 2018/19. The Parish Council discussed at length the level of precept and agreed that this should continue to be requested to support the operating costs of the Parish Council. Considering inflationary increases and additional assets on the insurance policy, Cllr Jewell proposed that the Parish Council precept for 2018/19 be increased to £5,110, this is a 2% increase in total precept or £117. This was seconded by Cllr Knight with all in agreement. Cllrs noted this will be reflected as a 2.5% increase on the Parish Council element of residents Council Tax invoices as there is a very small reduction in the total available band D equivalent properties contributing.

Cllrs noted the expenditure for the year 2017/18 and year end cash balance which is forecast at £52.6k, (£6.2k general funds), both are in line with latest estimates and there are no concerns.

10. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

The contract for the maintenance of Parish Council owned land expired at the end of 2017. The Parish Council agreed to continue to tender for a three-year period with two cuts of the grass per annum and bi-annual cuts of the hedges and ditches. Considerable discussion took place on whether to continue to include the village green at Bullocks Lane in the tender. The Parish Council were of the view that as residents of adjoining properties maintain the village green it was appropriate to exclude this from the proposed tender; Clerk to issue and agenda for decision at the March meeting.

11. WASTE LOCAL PLAN

As Cllr Barlow was unable to attend the consideration of suitable legal advice was carried forward to the next meeting.

12. REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

12.1. Footpaths, Byways, Bridleways and Greens – Nothing to report.

12.2. Highways/Road Safety

12.2.1. The raised road surface on the bridge at the junction opposite Church End was reported to Essex Highways who inspected and concluded that it does not meet the Highways criteria for repair, no action will be taken although the condition will be monitored.

12.2.2. Neighbouring Parish Councils continue to press Essex Highways for a suitable conclusion to the flooding on the B184. Cllr Mackley has acknowledged correspondence offering the full support of this Parish Council in pushing for a resolution.

12.2.3. The Clerk was asked to write to the Essex County Council cabinet member for Highways requesting a meeting with Essex Highways to discuss on site the repairs carried out in October 2017 along Green Street.

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

12.4. Tree Warden – Nothing to report.

13. FINANCE

13.1. Cheques for Approval

<i>PAYMENT TO</i>	<i>VALUE</i>
Allison Ward - Parish Clerk December 2017	£ 170.51

14. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

To consider whether the village hall is a more appropriate place for the mobile library to stop.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING Monday 12th February 2018 at Great Canfield Village Hall at 8pm.

16. TIME AND CLOSE OF MEETING 9.00pm