

HENHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes (Unapproved) of a Council Meeting

Date: Thursday 4th November 2021

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: OSCA, Henham

Present: Cllrs N. Baker, M. Fisher, P. Franklin, J. King, G. LeCount, Z. Rutterford, County Cllr R. Gooding, Clerk M. Dacey

1. Apologies for Absence: District Cllr P. Lees, Cllrs S. Lee, M. Francis and F. Frindle

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the 7 October 2021 meeting was approved and signed by the Chair.

3. Matters Arising

4. Reports and Recommendations

Greens and Village Estate – Cllr. Baker:

- (i) **Tree Inspection** – The Arborist has carried out a biannual inspection in August 2021 and his report has been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting and is now on the village website. It was agreed that the Chair will now put the remedial work out to tender.
- (ii) **Gym/Farm/Church Road** - The Chair had a meeting with the landowner with a view to discussing ongoing maintenance arrangements. The Landowner was of the view that the road is the responsibility of Essex Highways and will provide the Chair with legal evidence supporting this.
- (iii) **Lindens/village hall** – Some fencing has been replaced, discussions ongoing with resident

Village Hall – A meeting is being held on 8th November 2021 with the Village Hall Committee to allow Councillors to understand and discuss the Village Hall Committee's business plan and the future sustainability and viability of the village hall.

Speedwatch – County Cllr Gooding following last month's meeting has provided Simon Bambridge with the VAS information to enable the Speedwatch team to investigate possible locations and is meeting with the team on 12 November to discuss possible site options for the VAS Speedwatch signs. Cllr Franklin is liaising with the Speedwatch team about including Old Mead Road in the VAS survey and revisiting OMR as possible Speedwatch location. The PCSO is joining the Speedwatch team on 6 November.

Queen's Platinum – Our village event will be on 4th June 2022. Cllrs Lee and Fisher are in ongoing discussions regarding the hiring of acts and sourcing of a stage.

Defibrillator training – Cllr Fisher is liaising with the resident responsible for the defibrillator maintenance in order to discuss options for training.

Woodland – Drawings of the proposed woodland scheme produced by Will O'Connor were circulated to all Councillors for review prior to the meeting. Following a discussion of the proposals, it was agreed that Cllr Fisher would set up a working party of residents to commence clearance work of the brambles during the winter months. The Parish Council thanks Will O'Connor for all his pro bono work to date.

Village Christmas tree – Chair to order. Setting up and decoration will occur on 28th November. New Christmas lights have been purchased.

Vernons Footpath – ECC have been directed to make an order adding the routes to the Definitive Map and Statement and a consultation period will follow.

Transport Meeting – There has been the introduction of a new Bus Back Better Strategy which the government introduced in March 2021. The Integrated Passenger Transport Unit has been working with bus operators and partners across Essex to see how we can implement this in Essex. The

transport meetings have now resumed and Cllr Francis will be attending a virtual meeting on 15 November 2021 for an update.

Country Shooting – Cllr LeCount has been made aware of local complaints from residents regarding a general increase in shooting for pleasure (not by farmers) and in some cases from cars which is presenting a danger to horse riders. Complaints have been made to Rural Essex Police in the last two weeks.

Highways call for proposed Schemes 22/23 – An email was previously circulated to all Councillors by the clerk. Cllr Franklin confirmed the OMR/OML junction road markings need maintaining and County Cllr Gooding agreed to take this up with Essex Highways.

(ii) Finance

Receipts				
<u>From Whom</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>		
Elsenham PC	Contribution towards Bedwell Road professional fees	£2000.00		
<u>To Whom</u> <u>(Invoice no.)</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
Gardner Planning (069.5)	2 nd Tranche Vernons/Mill Road Appeal Planning advice	£10,000.00	£0.0	£10,000.00
The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	HPC wreath donation	£25.00	£0.0	£25.00
Paul Mower	Village gardening July- Sept	£180.00	£0.0	£180.00
M Dacey	Quarterly WFH allowance plus expenses	£84.00	£0.0	£84.00
M Dacey	Clerk's salary (October)	£398.38	£0.0	£398.38
SW Transport Planning Ltd (0080)	Mill Road Appeal Transport advice	£4540.00	£908.00	£5448.00
JRB Enterprise Ltd (23155)	Dog Poo bags	£58.04	£11.61	£69.65
Simon Lee	Refund for annual dropbox fee for HPC laptop	£95.88	£0.0	£95.88
Ricki Shelsher (RJS384)	Village window and signs cleaning	£50.00	£0.0	£50.00
PA Knott (61498)	Grass cut 13/10 & 27/10	£870.00	£0.0	£870.00

Treasury Management Investment Policy and Strategy 2021/22 – Cllr Fisher- Ongoing review by Cllr Fisher

HPC Accounts - Cllr Fisher has approved and signed off on Q4 20/21 and Q1 21/22

(iii) Planning and Developments -

Planning Advisor - As our planning advisor, Geoff Gardner, has retired, the clerk obtained a recommendation from our Barrister and the Chair will contact the planning consultants and inquire whether they would be able to assist us in planning matters if so instructed and ascertain fees. Our planning advisor has kindly agreed to assist us with Local Plan issues. The Parish Council thanks Geoff Gardner for all his work over the past few years which has enabled the Parish Council to successfully defend our village from unwanted developments.

- **UTT/21/3027/FUL** – proposed Erection of 3 no. terraced dormer cottages and demolition of sheds, Land Adj. 2 Wood End Green Cottages Wood End Green. The Sub Planning Committee have submitted an objection on the basis the proposed development is within a conservation area and in the garden of a Grade II Listed Building.

- **UTT/21/3205/HHF** – proposed Single storey front and side extensions, Castenea Wood End Green
- **UTT/21/2067/HHF** – proposed Replacement of double garage door with single width garage door and window, Salt Mead High Street

Breaches: Continuing breaches at Cedar Cottage- UDC enforcement has confirmed the matter has been closed due to it being time barred. The Parish Council is seeking legal advice and the Chair is liaising with District Cllr Lees.

Appeals:

- **APP/C1570/W/21/3274573 BEDWELL ROAD: UTT/19/2266/OP**– proposed Outline planning application for the erection of up to 220 dwellings. Virtual Inquiry held last month. APPEAL DISMISSED 25/10/21.
- **APP/C1570/W/21/3272403: LAND SOUTH OF VERNONS CLOSE, CM22 6AF** proposed Outline permission with all matters reserved except access for the erection of 45 no. dwellings. UDC REFUSED 17/2/21. The Parish Council awaits the Inspector’s decision.
- **APP/C1570/D/21/3282955 (UTT/21/1600/HHF): 4 Mill Road Henham** - proposed two storey rear and side extension, single storey front extension and landscaping works to front garden.

Decisions: n/a

(iv) Highways –

North Hall Road:

(a) **Road Closure:** The Parish Council has been in continuing discussions with all stakeholders regarding the continued closure of North Hall Road and the appalling state of the diversion route via Patmore End. Essex Highways has now awarded the contract. In anticipation of a Topo survey, arrangements have been made for vegetation clearance to take place. EH have said they were on site to clear vegetation adjacent to the watercourse on Thursday 21 October and Friday 22 October 2021. Please refer to the link on the village website for updates.

Travellers Site: An enforcement file has been opened ENF/21/0204/C and will be allocated to Oliver Sear, a new member of the enforcement team at UDC. A retrospective planning application has since been made for a travellers site for one pitch. The Parish Council has objected on the grounds that the egress is exceptionally dangerous and is an inappropriate site. County Cllr Gooding has confirmed that EH have not approved the egress.

Hall Road, Henham: The Parish Council previously agreed to pay for the installation of a 40mph buffer zone at this site. Essex Highways previously confirmed the cost of construction is now a fixed price of £9,711.74. We were originally quoted £6k for the signage works. The Parish Council has already paid approximately £3500 plus VAT to get to this stage. Clerk previously liaised with Gregg Speller direct re other 3rd party quotes and the Chair has requested quotations from them, which are awaited. The clerk chased these and no other 3rd parties have been prepared to provide a quote. ECC have now promised to provide funding and the Parish Council awaits further details.

Pledgdon Green Lane/Brick End Road – An application submitted by Cllr Rutterford has been sent to Highways prior to the pandemic for a 20mph limit on the road from the start of the village to Broxted End with a request to repair the damage caused by heavy traffic during the Hall Road closure. Cllr Rutterford has since been asked to assist a resident in obtaining repairs by EH for the damage and potholes and flooding along Brick End Rd (which passes through Pledgdon Green). County Cllr Gooding agreed to liaise with Cllr Rutterford to progress these matters. Following a discussion regarding the quiet road status, it was agreed the Clerk would email County Cllr Gooding with a request to reapply for quiet lane status to be granted by the Highways Panel.

Blocked drains in Old Mead Road - An online application was previously applied for by Cllr LeCount. The clerk has emailed Cllr LeCount for an update following last month's meeting and Cllr LeCount confirmed no remedial action has been taken by Essex Highways. Following a discussion, County Cllr Gooding agreed to take this up with Essex Highways.

School Parking at Sages, School Lane, Pimletts and Carters Lane, Henham – The Headteacher previously requested advice from the Parish Council as to how to solve the ongoing parking issues at the school. It is also hoped the PCSO will also be able to assist with the unsafe parking. By way of an update the Head Teacher has confirmed that the staggered starts, which will remain, have definitely made an impact on the parking congestion. She is engaging with Living School Streets and has also had a few visits made by Park Safe after contacting them again. After half term she will be launching a new initiative to encourage more families to park and stride.

Mill Road/School Road yellow lines – The Parish Council is aware of dangerous parking on the Mill Road bend by School Lane. The PCSO has been asked to speak to the owners of the vehicles. Following a discussion, it was agreed the clerk would email County Cllr Gooding with a formal request to extend the yellow lines round the bend.

Residents are encouraged to also report any matters to Essex Highways direct via the Essex Highways web site www.essex.gov.uk/highways (details also on the Henham Website), as the more people who complain regarding Highways matters the more likely something will get done.

5. Correspondence

Sent/Received:

Planning Applications - see 4(iii) above

- Clerk – approximately 200 emails in October 2021

6. Waste and Minerals Development Issues – Nothing to report.

7. SAW (Stop Stansted Expansion) – At a special meeting of Uttlesford District Council ('UDC') on 6 October 2021, District councillors decided not to proceed any further with its intended High Court appeal against the approval of the Stansted Airport planning application for a throughput of 43 million passengers per annum ('mppa') due to unlikelihood of success and costs.

Cllr Rutterford contacted SAW to seek advice as to whether HPC should send a representative to the Future Airspace Programme meetings organised by the Airport and their advice was that HPC should participate in these stakeholder engagement sessions. Cllr Rutterford has signed up to two virtual meetings. Cllr Rutterford will put forward a draft response to be approved by the Parish Council to contest the night flight issue and the proposed flight path review.

It was noted that there has been an increase in aircraft noise recently and all residents are encouraged to submit any complaints to stanstednoiseline@stanstedairport.com with details of time, location, date of the aircraft and copy in SAW, info@stanstedairportwatch.com, so that SAW can monitor the complaint.

8. Governance – The Parish Council Standing Orders and Financial Regulations have been circulated by the Clerk to all Councillors for review in the coming months.

9. Local Plan – A List of approved sites is awaited from UDC. UDC has requested a technical check. Cllr Franklin has written to UDC expressing the Parish Council's concerns about the accuracy of travel times stipulated in the Local Plan..

10. Henham SOV 100 Club draw Cllr. Fisher –

October Draw

Cllr King conducted the draw on behalf of the Henham SOV 100 Club. She drew from a black bag containing 164 lottery balls. The winning numbers were:

1st Prize Number 118 (A Deady-Fiddler) £238

2nd Prize Number 79 (I & G Scott) £115

3rd Prize Christmas Bonus Ball Accumulator £57 Cumulative total £609

Total funds received per draw were £820. Half will be paid in prizes with the balance of £410 paid to Henham Parish Council SOV Funds. Many thanks for everyone's ongoing support.

13. Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 2nd December 2021, 7:30pm at OSCA.

Mareike Dacey, Clerk