

**MINUTES OF STEEPLE BUMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2017 AT 7.30AM**  
**IN THE MOOT HALL**

Present: Messrs: Chris Cadman (in the chair), Kerry Barnes, Ted Bloxham, Kim Cresswell, John Fellows, Ian Westrope  
Mesdames: Alex Rolph, Sophia Girvan.  
County Councillor David Finch by invitation.  
District Councillor Diana Garrod by invitation.

Members of the Public: 0

**5139**

Apologies Frank Aldred – holiday

**5140**

Declarations of Interest

Ian Westrope declared an interest in planning.

**5141**

Minutes of the last meeting previously circulated

Acceptance of the minutes of the last meeting was proposed by Kim Cresswell and seconded by Ted Bloxham. Agreed.

**5142**

Question Time There were no questions asked nor statements made

**5143**

County Councillor's report

There would be a 3% social care levy but no council tax increase. County Council has launched an innovation fund for communities to help themselves. The winners of this fund were the Post Natal Depression group who won £10,000 to spread the word. Other work will be for the care of vulnerable people, roads and potholes plus work for 3 garden communities each with 15,000 new homes. A total of 130,000 new homes are planned for Essex over the next 10-15 years.

Kerry Barnes asked David Finch if he could help with any potential funding for the closed churchyard wall. David said Essex County Council could not help but personally he might have a contact name to whom Nigel Chapman could send all relevant papers.

David Finch left the meeting at 7.52pm.

## 5144

### District Councillor's report

Diana Garrod reported that there was a lack of science facilities in the Braintree area and this was being looked into plus the building of more flats and eco homes. She also reported that District Council has approved a farmer's application for an additional 131 wild boars to add to his already 55 boars site/enclosure at New England/Sturmer. These boars have been checked by a District Council approved vet.

There will be a 100% rural rate relief for small businesses.

Council tax for Band D will be £169.47 an increase of £4.95 ie 3% for the year.

Diana Garrod left the meeting at 8pm.

## 5145

### Open Spaces, Highways and Lighting

a Footpaths – Kim Cresswell, our footpaths representative, said he would check on Footpath 11 where District Council had said work to the bridge across the footpath was necessary. **KC to action**

b Play area on the Camping Close – Kerry Barnes has met with a representative of Playdale concerning the varied inconsistencies of repairs required and those carried out to the play equipment. Playdale said due to the time factor, they would finish the work on the juke box at no cost to the Parish Council.

c Closed churchyard wall – Nigel Chapman is seeking quotes for both rebuilding and repairing the closed churchyard wall. This would give both the Parish Council and the Parochial Church Council some figures to work on. **NC to action**

d Section 106 monies – oak posts. The Parish Council still needs another quote for installing oak posts on the Camping Close. One quote is for £80 installation per post (not concreted in); second quote received is for £35 per post (not concreted in) and £55 per post (concreted in). We await third quote.

e The Wildlife and Environment Group have begun laying a part of Humphrey's Meadow hedge. They have planted some trees around the village under the scattered orchard project. Bellropes hedge has been cleared and replanted. Some 8 to 10 tree stumps will require removal and bracken needs clearing. **AC to action**

f War Memorial - Ian Westrope has sent in an application for a grant from the War Memorial Trust. Hopefully this will be granted.  
Cemetery – there appears to be a problem with a tree in the cemetery which the Church should deal with.

## 5146

### Planning

a Planning Applications/Decisions

16/01525/OUT Mark Weatherhead Ltd - 4 Helions Road RANTED  
 Application for outline planning permission with all matters reserved – redevelopment of an agricultural machinery depot to residential development of 9no three bedroom dwellings with associated works.

16/01665/OUT Gladman Developments Ltd – land west of REFUSED  
 Finchingfield Road – resubmission of application 16/00410/OUT – outline planning permission for up to 65 residential dwellings (including up to 40% affordable housing), introduction of structural planting and landscaping informal public open space and children’s play area, surface water flood mitigation and attenuation, vehicular access point from Finchingfield Road, pedestrian access from George Gent Close and associated ancillary works. All matters to be reserved with the exception of the main vehicular site access.

16/00298/TPOCON Bartlett, 12 Church Street – tree work GRANTED

16/00320/TPOCON Webb, The Red Lion, Church Street – GRANTED  
 Tree work

16/00382/TPOCON – Kinsey, Pegson House, Chapel Street WITHDRAWN  
 Tree work

16/02149/FUL Parkes, Wakelands Farm, Finchingfield Road No  
 16/02150/LBC Refurbishment and erection of extension to Objection  
 existing domestic annexe, insertion of dormer window to front elevation and internal alterations to main farmhouse.

16/02163/FUL Brown, 1 The Endway – removal of log store No  
 and erection of single storey extension and conversion of Objection  
 outbuildings

16/00386/TPOCON Kinsey, 25 Chapel Street – tree work

16/02168/FUL Jennings, 15 The Endway – demolition of No  
 existing single storey rear extension and erection of two storey Objection  
 side/rear extension

17/00021/T56 Wireless Infrastructure Group –  
 Telecommunications tower at sewage works, Sturmer Road

17/00011/TPOCON Thake, 40 North Street – tree work

17/00013/TPOCON Clarke, 62 North Street – tree work

17/00017/TPOCON Moon, 14 North Street – tree work

b At a Braintree District Council planning meeting, the second Gladman's outline planning application was discussed. This application was then refused.

## 5147

### Finance and Administration

a Clerk's report from 7<sup>th</sup> January to 3 February 2017

<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Payments</u>	
	E.on street lighting	£119.75
	R Thorn – bins/litter	£200.00
	Administration	£673.19
	McDonald street light repair	£168.84
		£1161.78
		=====

Balances as at 03.02.2017

Current Account: £ 838.53

Savings Account: £22,014.62

Earmarked Reserves: £ 6,529.24

(this includes £2,082.18 for the Queen's celebrations group)

Acceptance of the Clerk's report was proposed by Sophia Girvan and seconded by Kim Cresswell. Agreed.

b Donation - The amount of donation awarded by the Parish Council to the Hands Off Steeple Bumpstead Group to help with their funds was discussed again. This group will need £40,000 to fight any appeal by Gladman and so far they have raised £20,000. They state that any donation would be welcome.

Sophia Girvan proposed the Parish Council donates £1,000 to this group. This proposal was seconded by Ted Bloxham.

Kerry Barnes wished to make an amendment to this proposal. He proposed the Parish Council donates £5,000. There was no seconder to this proposal. Therefore the amendment failed and the proposal was withdrawn.

Kerry Barnes then wished to make an amendment to the above proposal and said a donation of £3,000 should be made. There was no seconder to this proposal.

Therefore this amendment failed and the proposal was withdrawn.

Sophia Girvan withdrew her proposal and it was agreed to discuss the matter at the next Parish Council meeting.

## 5148

### Miscellaneous Correspondence

a There is a planning briefing at Dunmow on 25 March for new councillors.

b The Endway is to be closed by Highways until the 10<sup>th</sup> February.

c The date of the Spring clean of the Village to be decided later.

**5149**

Information Sharing

a Sophia Girvan was concerned that 'Your Parish Council News' written by Alex Rolph has been considerably added to by the editor. It was felt that if the editor wished to say anything about the Parish Council's work then he should do so under a separate heading. All agreed.

b Ted Bloxham reported that the dial up bus service was going from strength to strength with passenger numbers going up.

c Kerry Barnes reported 4 street lights which were not working. These have already been reported to County Council.

d Kerry Barnes reported that the Red Lion pub in Ridgewell had had a change of use application. A group of residents was formed who applied for this building to be designated an asset of community value. This means that when a change of use is made then certain buildings/playing fields/stations etc could be made available to the community to buy before selling on the open market. District Council holds a register of these assets of community service. We should ask Helions Bumpstead Parish Council to attend our next meeting since they have gone down this route. Also Helions Bumpstead could advise us on Neighbourhood Plans.

e John Fellows asked for printed cards/letters to be made which could be put through letter boxes of houses where overgrown gardens interfered with pathways. John Fellows was also looking into LED options for street lighting.

**5150**

Next Meeting – Thursday 9 March 2017 at 7.30pm in the Moot Hall.

**5151**

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Signed.....

Date.....