

MINUTES OF STEEPLE BUMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 9 MARCH 2017
AT 7.30PM IN THE MOOT HALL

Present: Messrs: Chris Cadman (in the chair), Frank Aldred, Kerry Barnes, Ted Bloxham, Kim Cresswell, Ian Westrope
Mesdames: Alex Rolph, Sophia Girvan
Clerk: Mrs June Argent

Members of the Public: 2

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Apologies

John Fellows – family matters
District Councillor Diana Garrod – another meeting

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Declarations of Interest

Kerry Barnes declared an interest in Agenda Item 7e – Scouts use of Camping Close

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Minutes of the last meeting – previously circulated

Diana Garrod emailed the Clerk with her version of February 2017's District Councillor's report which Parish Councillor's felt was not necessary. The Clerk volunteered to put these comments at the back of the minutes in the minute book as Appendix A. **Clerk to action**

5155

Question Time

Ian Mackenzie spoke of offensive bonfire smoke along The Endway. This smoke came from Blois Meadow. Weather conditions should always be taken into account when lighting a bonfire and the possibility of causing nuisance in the vicinity. If there is a problem then the person lighting the bonfire should be approached and the situation explained to them. Trade waste should not be burned.

Ian Mackenzie wondered why the telecommunications tower had not been discussed at the last Parish Council meeting. The Parish Council had been advised that they may not comment on this item by District Council.

Ian Mackenzie spoke of the Hands Off Steeple Bumpstead fund raising, asking if they could tag onto the Moot Hall's Car Boot Sale in May with a Dog Show. He was advised to write to the Chairman of the Moot Hall Trustees (Jonathan Suckling)

asking for his advice. The HOSB group has fund raising events planned until the end of October.

Hedging has been planted on the field along Finchingfield Road where Gladman wish to develop houses. HOSB has spoken to District Council about this hedging and their legal representative with photos. This new hedging alters the landscape report after the application was presented. Gladmans had asked District Council if a third revised application was presented for 49 houses, how would this be received by District Council. District Council said it would not change the current situation.

Ian Mackenzie said the HOSB group were disappointed to read in February's minutes that a figure of £1,000 was being considered as the Parish Council donation. Meticulous accounts were kept by the HOSB group and so far £20,000 has been raised/promised and another £20,000 will be needed. The Chairman said the Parish Council's donation to the HOSB group would be discussed under Agenda Item 9.

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County Councillor's report

David Finch was not in attendance

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District Councillor's report

Diana Garrod was not in attendance

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Open Spaces, Highways and Lighting

a Footpaths

A reminder has been sent to County Council concerning the state of the bridge on Footpath 11.

Essex County Council pay for one cut per year of certain footpaths around the village and the Parish Council pay for one further cut when necessary. Kerry Barnes requested the footpaths are cut just before the 10K run in June. It was felt by Parish Councillors that if the footpaths needed cutting at this particular time then a cut would be carried out but if the second cut was needed earlier or later than the 10K run then this should take precedence.

b The Village Spring Clean will be held on Saturday 6 May, meeting at the Village Hall car park at 10am.

KB/Clerk to action

c Section 106 – the paperwork has been submitted to District Council for Section 106 monies towards the purchase and erection of oak posts for the village.

d LED street lights – this item was held over until our next Parish Council meeting since John Fellows, who was dealing with the matter, was not in attendance at this meeting.

e The Scouts would like to use the Camping Close on 23 April – agreed.

It was noted that Parsonage Farm had fitted an electronic gate to the front of their driveway. The Clerk to write to Mr & Mrs Gonella giving them dates when their driveway would be needed for access/egress onto the Camping Close. The Parish Council has the right to use and reuse this driveway for access/egress onto the Camping Close as long as the vehicles do not stop on the drive. The pedestrian gate is still fine. **Clerk to action**

f Closed Churchyard wall - Nigel Chapman (Churchyard Wall Project Manager) has written to Essex County Council asking for a site visit and meeting with interested parties.

Kerry Barnes stated this wall is a historical feature and an architectural asset in its own right.

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Planning

a Planning Applications/Decisions

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

16/02163/FUL	Brown, 1 The Endway	GRANTED
Removal of log store and erection of single storey extension and conversion of outbuildings		

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

16/02168/FUL	Jennings, 15 The Endway	REFUSED
Demolition of existing single storey rear extension and erection of two storey 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

17/00074/FUL	Clarke, 62 North Street
Retrospective application for land comprising a culveted ditch to be included within the residential use of the property, together with the erection of a close boarded fence to enclose the land and the replacement of the flat garage roof with a pitched roof.	

Discussion took place regarding 17/00074/FUL – Mr Clarke, 62 North Street.

The retrospective application for the replacement of the flat garage roof with a pitched roof requires more information before a decision can be made ie who owns the neighbouring garage with a flat roof and has damage been done to it.

The second part of this application concerns the ditch at the rear of 62 North Street. When a property backs onto an open ditch then the owner of the property must maintain said ditch although it does not belong to them. Mr Clarke piped this ditch advising the then Parish Council Chairman that he did not intend to try and incorporate this land into his own garden, even offering to put this statement into his deeds. Then a 6ft fence was erected around this ditch after Parish Council had said this should not be done. Following objections to this fence to the Watercourse Manager at Essex County Council we were advised that it was acceptable. The Parish Council feels strongly that Mr Clarke has no right to change of use of land which he does not own.

5160

Finance and Administration

a Clerk's report from 4 February to 3 March 2017

Receipts

Nil

Payments

E.on street lighting	£119.75
Administration	£702.82
R Thorn – bins/litter	£200.00
Moot Hall Charity – hire of hall	<u>£204.00</u>
	<u>£1226.57</u>
	=====

Balances as at 03.03.2017

Current Account:	£ 851.54
Savings Account:	£21,014.62
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 Ted Bloxham and seconded by Kim Cresswell. Agreed.

b The Clerk asked that the Queen's celebrations group take back their £2,082.18p before the end of this financial year. Agreed. **Clerk to action**

c HOSB donation.

Sophia Girvan asked who would be in favour of giving a donation to HOSB. A show of hands showed 6 in favour of giving a donation and 1 against.

Kim Cresswell proposed donating £2,500 to HOSB, Kerry Barnes seconded this proposal.

Frank Aldred wished to make an amendment to this proposal stating the wording should be 'an initial proposal of £2,500 to HOSB'. No-one seconded this amendment so Frank Aldred withdrew it.

Kerry Barnes proposed an amendment in that the Parish Council donated £3,000 to the HOSB and this was seconded by Sophia Girvan.

The vote of hands showed 3 for the proposal and 4 against.
This amendment failed.
A show of hands for those in favour of £2,500 showed 5 for this proposal and 2 against.

Therefore it was carried that a donation of £2,500 would be given to the HOSB group. **Clerk to action**

5161

Essex Village of the Year Competition

Kerry Barnes would be completing the forms this year since he felt more emphasis should be put on the community side of the village. **KB to action**

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Miscellaneous Correspondence - none

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Information Sharing

- 1 Ex District Councillor John Collar will be buried on Monday 20 March at Three Counties Crematorium, Braintree at 12 noon.
Chris Cadman, Ian Westrope and Nigel Chapman will attend.
- 2 Ian Westrope reported a car rally will be travelling through the village on 8 July.
- 3 The Clerk said there will be a Neighbourhood Parish Council meeting on 19 April. Kerry Barnes volunteered to make the tea and coffee.

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Next Meetings: 19 April Neighbourhood Parish Meeting.

Wednesday 26 April – Annual Village Meeting – Lecture Hall – 7.30pm.

Thursday 11 May – Parish Council Annual Meeting – Moot Hall at 7.30pm.

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There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.14pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

DRAFT