

TAKELEY PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Ordinary Meeting of Takeley Parish Council

Held on Wednesday 15th January 2020, at 7.30pm at The Old School
Community Centre

Present: Chairman- Carol Pratt
Vice Chairman Parish Council/District Councillor – Geoff Bagnall (arrived at 8:30pm)
Julia Peachey – Clerk
Julia Potter – Assistant Clerk

Cllr Pat Burnett
Cllr Peter Hewett (arrived at 8.00pm)
Cllr Dom Roque
Cllr Richard Cheetham
Cllr Jackie Cheetham
Cllr Susan Sprules
Cllr Jim Backus
Cllr Patricia Barber
Cllr Trevor Allen
Cllr John Green
Cllr Linda Steer

Sarah Kirby – Member of public -Molehill Green
Sonia Carr – Member of public - Molehill Green
Martin Carr – Member of public – Molehill Green
Ian Schaffner – Member of public – Molehill Green
Charles Wilkinson – Member of public

Apologies:
District Councillor – Maggie Sutton
District Councillor – Vere Isham

17/519	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>WELCOME & APOLOGIES</u></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed members, and visitors and received apologies as above which were approved by the council.</p> <p>The Chairman then took the opportunity to thank the selected councillors for their help on The Old School Community Centre move. Cllr Peter Hewett, Cllr Richard Cheetham, Cllr Jackie Cheetham, Cllr Patricia Barber, Cllr Pat Burnett and volunteer Paul Burnett for their help. The Chairman also highlighted that she had written to Bob Weston of Weston homes to thank him for his donation and that she was going to personally thank John Monk for his help. Julia Potter was also thanked for her assistance on the build project.</p>	All note/ Clerk
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	Members were asked to direct any comments through the Chairman. All parties present were reminded that proceedings may be filmed, recorded or photographed or otherwise reported about a person attending the meeting.	
17/520	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u></p> <p>Members were reminded that they should declare relevant interests at each meeting for items on the agenda and to request a replacement form if their circumstances have changed and their register of interests needs amending.</p>	All note/ Clerk
17/521	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>MINUTES OF MEETING</u></p> <p>The 4th December 2020 minutes previously circulated were formally approved by the council and signed as a true and accurate record by the Vice Chairman.</p>	All note/ Clerk
17/522	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT</u></p> <p>No District Councillor reports received.</p>	All note/ Clerk
17/523	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>OPEN FORUM</u> (Maximum 15 minutes)</p> <p>Sarah Kirby of Molehill Green Community Group reported on issues with developer C. J. Homes on School Lane who are parking on the verges all along one side of the village hall. Resident Sarah Kirby reported that she had tried reporting to North Essex Parking Partnership but they could do nothing about the situation. She relayed the developer had so many vehicles parked up and that there was no hardcore on the road which was preventing the dustman from coming down the lane.</p> <p>The Chairman relayed that she had spoken to the environment agency who are looking into the issue of water drainage as she had noticed the issue as she had driven past the area. The environment agency had reported that they were going to contact the developer as something did not appear right. It was noted that the developer was using a private building control company who were not linked to UDC. The parish council advised that they could not personally deal with the aggressive behaviour of the developer and any threatening behaviour should be reported to the police. It was noted the same builder was also dealing with The Croft which is also in Molehill Green.</p>	All note/ Clerk
17/524	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>ADMIN</u></p> <p>Peter Hewett's suggestions were noted about an information and induction pack for new councillors. Further follow up on this will occur. Cllr Peter Hewett indicated that he would prepare a draft by early March.</p>	All note/ Clerk

17/525	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CLERKS REPORT</u></p> <p>HIGHWAYS</p> <p><u>Coopers End Roundabout Close Off Sunday 12th January 2020</u> Steve Mills from Stansted Airport has contacted us to say that Stansted Airport will be temporarily closing off the small link road between Coopers End Roundabout and Parsonage Road on Sunday 12th January – 0700 hrs to 1700 hrs to undertake resurfacing works on this section of road. This section is in need of resurfacing due to pot holes and damage to the surface.</p> <p>Cllr Jim Backus reported the uneven drain outside the Four Ashes Pub in Dunmow Road. Update received that there will be a routine inspection during January and that this particular drain will be subject to a site visit with the inspector. The matter can be tracked under 2647346 via the Check a Query page of Essex County Council online Report it Too.</p> <p>THE OLD SCHOOL COMMUNITY CENTRE</p> <p>Window Wash has been contacted in respect of providing a quote for cleaning the windows at the Old School Community Centre.</p> <p>Sterling washrooms to be contacted in respect of a further bin and soap dispenser to be looked into.</p> <p>Peter Hewett discussed with other councillor members the need for a working printer for the Old School Community Centre and is currently looking into purchase as known to quorate of councillors on 09/01/2020. Accounting package to be purchased later in the year as per auditor requirement.</p> <p>Coat hooks have been requested, as well as other facilities for the kitchen.</p> <p>PLANNING</p> <p>Patricia Barber representing Takeley Parish Council on Stop Stansted Expansion Planning application on 17th January 2020</p> <p>DAY CENTRE</p> <p>Cllr Bagnall is liaising with the District Council on possible future use of the day centre for healthcare. The fundamental issue will be if healthcare is funded for extra nurses, doctors etc. I have sent through a request to the NHS and will hopefully hear back within the next 18 days on issues of viability.</p>	All note/ Clerk
17/526	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u></p> <p>Councillors approved the cheque transactions as a true and accurate record and they were signed off by full council accordingly.</p>	All note/ Clerk

	<p>Councillors approved the budget as set out. Councillors noted that there was only a minor uplift from the former year – and that the tax base may alter slightly more in our favour once new housing in the area was taken into account.</p> <p>It was acknowledged that Cllr Dom Roque had suggested more hours for the care-taker. It was noted that these would be put in as uplifted running costs next year when the hires were known and income from the hall hires would be used to temporarily supplement. It was noted that initial hours would start off at 5 hours.</p> <p>The Precept was then agreed on the basis that there would be no uplift to the previous year, by full council on alignment with the set out budget of £153,943.95 with a view it will be very close to the previous year's precept as possible on receipt of the ready reckoner. (The final precept figure after arrival of the ready reckoner was noted as £154,533). Re-acknowledged by full council in the March 2020 minutes.</p>	
17/527	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>THE OLD SCHOOL COMMUNITY CENTRE</u></p> <p>FENCE PANEL ON PERIMETER OF OLD SCHOOL/LUPIN COTTAGE It was highlighted that the gate on Lupin Cottage should not be accessible to the Old School site as there was concern about future security. Cllr Linda Steer suggested it should be removed sooner rather than later.</p> <p>It was highlighted that Project Manager John Monk had spoken to the resident who would be upset to see it removed as it was the only access for her to deal with a tree that has a TPO on it and has access to a World War two bunker that is historically linked to the Old School. Councillor Sue Sprules suggested that instead of a fence panel a gate with a latch our side would be the more amenable option as may be less cumbersome for the elderly resident to remove a fence panel. It was noted that with an entrance gate to the Old School site – permissions could still be sought. Cllr Jim Backus highlighted he agreed with this option. Cllr Peter Hewett suggested that in the first instance a meeting should occur with the resident to discuss anything that the council were considering.</p> <p>SNAGGING & FURTHER NOTIFIED WORKS The front door will be re-hinged. The electrician will return to rewire the socket in the office kitchen and the Cab office. The floor issue just outside the office will be pointed out. Work on the gates for safe access will start on the 10th February 2020</p>	All note/ Clerk
17/528	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT ISSUES</u></p> <p>It was noted that the pavement outside the Old School would likely be a highways matter and that the kerb may need to be dropped.</p> <p>Rainfall at the bottom of Smiths Green is causing flooding on Warish Hall Road. It was noted this needs to be reported to Highways.</p>	All note/ Clerk

	It was noted that Essex County Council have marked the gullies with red paint, but some storm drains are still blocked.	
17/529	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>SPORTSFIELD AND RECREATION GROUND</u></p> <p>Cllr Dom Roque has followed up on the issue of bins. The bin by the Four Ashes was discussed and whether or not to increase the frequency of emptying that bin. It was agreed that monitoring will be ongoing, as more frequent emptying can result in alternative household rubbish being deposited.</p>	All note/ Clerk
17/530	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>PLANNING</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">TPC to consider planning matters. <i>(Councillors approved and noted the December 2019 minute planning notes held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 10:30 am Takeley Park)</i></p> <p>Members of the public may view applications online at Uttlesford at any time and note any responses the parish council have made. Hard copy of minutes can also be requested from the Clerk. The next planning meeting will be held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 10:30am in the Old School Community Centre.</p> <p>The inspectorate has submitted a 24 page document on the local plan indicating that it is unsound. The main issues for were that affordable housing was not being delivered and that the necessary infrastructure was not in place. The inspector also raised concerns on delivering the Easton Park community garden due to its proximity to Hatfield Forest. The result of the local plan not being adopted will mean that Takeley and the rest of Uttlesford will continue to receive planning requests as developers will use the opportunity to build in an ad-hoc arrangement as part of the windfall process and to fulfil the housing need.</p> <p>Parsonage Road Appeal</p> <p>It was noted that the Parsonage Road 4 day appeal concluded in early December. Cllr Peter Hewett highlighted the amount of work involved to prepare evidence for the appeal as well as cross examination by the Queens Council. Thanks also extended to Cllr Cheetham and Cllr Barber for their attendance.</p> <p>Cllr Peter Hewett highlighted that he spent, with others, about 40 hours on this appeal.</p>	
17/531	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>FOOTPATHS & TREES</u></p> <p>No reports on footpaths and trees were given.</p>	

The next meeting of Takeley Parish Council will be held on
Wednesday 5th February 2020 at 7.30pm at the Old School Community Centre
PUBLIC & PRESS ALWAYS WELCOME
Clerk to Takeley Parish Council

Julia Peachey