

Full Council Meeting 6 October 2021

Part 1 Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Takeley Parish Council held on 6 October at 7:30pm At the Old School House

Present: Cllrs Trevor Allen, Jim Backus, Carol Pratt (Chairman), Tricia Barber, Pat Burnett

Phill Bodsworth, Sonja Carr, Jackie Cheetham, Richard Cheetham, Dom Roque,

Linda Steer

Apologies: Cllrs Geoff Bagnall (Vice Chair), Sue Sprules

Absent: -

In attendance: Lisa Chambers (Clerk), Peter Hewett (Advisor), Graham Mann (Observer)

Item	Summary	Actions
21/10 /01	Attendees were reminded that the meeting may be filmed, recorded, photographed or otherwise reported by a person attending the meeting. Members of the public who are minors, vulnerable adults and those not participating who do not wish to be filmed, recorded, photographed or otherwise reported about were advised to sit in the designated separate area. It was noted that no recordings were due to take place.	
21/10 /02	Welcome from Chair The meeting opened at 7:30pm. Chairman Cllr Carol Pratt welcomed all Councillors and members of the public to the meeting.	-
21/10/ 03	Receive and approve apologies Apologies were received in advance and agreed from Cllrs Geoff Bagnall and Sue Sprules and also from Maggie Sutton. Councillors were reminded to send apologies to both the Clerk and Chair in advance of the meeting.	-
21/10/ 04	Declarations and Conflicts of interests No declarations were made	-
21/10/ 05	Public Forum No members of the public requested to speak.	-
21/10/ 06	Disctrict and County Councillors reports No District or County Councillors were present to give verbal reports and no written reports were received.	-
21/10/07	Neighbourhood Plan	-



Cllr Tricia Barber, Cllr Jackie Cheetham, Martin Peachey and Peter Hewett, Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group met on Zoom with Uttlesford's Planning Policy Officer Demetria McDonald who will assist the Steering Group and advise on how the grants applied for can be spent. Michelle Carter from Uttlesford will assist the Group in completing the application for funding from Locality. The Steering Group have agreed that a landscape and heritage survey are needed. Demetria McDonald confirmed that Uttlesford work from 2011 census data as they don't yet have an updated census from Government. Uttlesford are completing Call for sites and sustainability appraisals. Work has started with the RCCE to gain information on local housing needs. The Steering Group will meet again on 25 October. Peter Hewett has been working on action plans to drive the	
Neighbourhood Plan's direction. Briefs have been written and Heritage and Landscape consultants have been contacted. Dunmow Town Council's former deputy clerk, Jackie Deane has also offered the Group her support.	
Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 1 September 2021	-
The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 1 September 2021 were approved as a true and accurate reflection of the meeting. The minutes were signed by Cllr Carol Pratt.	
Matters arising from meeting (not detailed elsewhere on the agenda) All actions from the meeting held on 1 September had been completed. It was noted that work continue regarding bins within the parish.	
Clerk's report	-
The Clerk added to her report that she had been contacted by the local Police and hoped to work with them to increase their presence locally. She had also invited them to speak with Peter Granger regarding the anticipated number of attendees to the Fireworks display.	
Finance Committe Report	
The Clerk confirmed that the delay in receiving the laptop meant that the Rialtas Finance package was still not in operation. A Finance Committee meeting will be held once the Finance system could generate reports. Cllr Richard Cheetham asked for an update on the figures in the bank. The Clerk confirmed the following: Current acount stands at £180,446.08 Instant Access Account stands at £4,587.44 The Old School House Account stands at 21,436.32	
	Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group met on Zoom with Uttlesford's Planning Policy Officer Demetria McDonald who will assist the Steering Group and advise on how the grants applied for can be spent. Michelle Carter from Uttlesford will assist the Group in completing the application for funding from Locality. The Steering Group have agreed that a landscape and heritage survey are needed. Demetria McDonald confirmed that Uttlesford work from 2011 census data as they don't yet have an updated census from Government. Uttlesford are completing Call for sites and sustainability appraisals. Work has started with the RCCE to gain information on local housing needs. The Steering Group will meet again on 25 October. Peter Hewett has been working on action plans to drive the Neighbourhood Plan's direction. Briefs have been written and Heritage and Landscape consultants have been contacted. Dunmow Town Council's former deputy clerk, Jackie Deane has also offered the Group her support. Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 1 September 2021 The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 1 September 2021 were approved as a true and accurate reflection of the meeting. The minutes were signed by Cllr Carol Pratt. Matters arising from meeting (not detailed elsewhere on the agenda) All actions from the meeting held on 1 September had been completed. It was noted that work continue regarding bins within the parish. Clerk's report The Clerk added to her report that she had been contacted by the local Police and hoped to work with them to increase their presence locally. She had also invited them to speak with Peter Granger regarding the anticipated number of attendees to the Fireworks display. Finance Committe Report The Clerk confirmed that the delay in receiving the laptop meant that the Rialtas Finance package was still not in operation. A Finance Committee meeting will be held once the Finance system could generate reports. Cllr Richard Cheetham asked for an update on the figures in the bank. Th



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21/10/ 12	Planning Committee Report	
	The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 14 September 2021 had been circulated.	
	Cllr Cheetham reported her attandance at the STACC meeting. Solar Farms were discussed as part of the meeting. The planning committee's response regarding MAG's application for a Solar Farm had included concerns regarding nesting birds attracting raptors and the loss of prime agricultural land. MAG had responded to say that they could deal with the birds. Suggestions that solar panels could be placed on hanger buildings were dismissed as MAG do not own them.	
	Takeley Parish Council will receive a copy of the brochure produced on Solar Farms.	
	MAG have responded to the Night Flights consultation.	
	It was noted that the Uttlesford Planning department had undergone an independent review.	
	ACTION: Clerk to work with the Planning Committee to draft a letter for our MP regarding the amount of housing allocated to Takeley.	Clerk
21/10/13	Community Café	
	The Community café opened for its 9 th year on 2 September. 2 volunteers have resigned due to Covid concerns. All previous customers including a walking group and childminders have all retuned. Weston Homes staff have not returned. A new group of parents with Autistic children now visit on a Friday. Posts on Facebook have increased the number of people attending. ACTION: Cllr Burnett to contact other councillors if she needs assistance when low on volunteers.	Cllr Burnett
	Cllr Burnett highlighted the problems she had experienced with the cooker noting her concern that it was not fit for purpose. It had already had two failures of the gas system despite only having been used for 20 days. The Site Manager had complained to the highest level that the cooker should have been fixed under warranty. Cllr Steer proposed that costs to replace the cooker be explored Cllr Roque seconded the proposal. ACTION: Cllr Burnett to investigate costs for replacing the cooker with a more suitable model.	Cllr Burnett
	The Community Cafe has purchased a bench from the Men's Shed. Cllr Pratt advised that the Day Centre had donated £32,000 plus some tables and chairs ringfenced to the cafe.	
	The Clerk and Site Manager are investigating grants to cover the costs of installing blinds and an outdoor canopy.	



21/10/ 14	Policy Review	
	Cllr Steer confirmed that she had completed a review of the policies in place and created a template for policies noting that many of the statutory required policies were not in place. ACTION: Cllr Steer to re-send the policy review to all councillors for feedback on the approach with a deadline noted and priorities listed.	Cllr Steer
21/10/ 15	Meet the Councillor	
	Geoff Bagnall, Maggie Sutton and Vere Isham held an open evening at the OSCC attended by Takeley residents.	
	ACTION: Clerk to ask Geoff Bagnall, Maggie Sutton and Vere Isham to draw up a regular schedule to hold District Councillor surgeries for Takeley residents.	Clerk
	Cllrs noted the importance of ensuring that any Councillor in post be welcomed to hold such surgeries.	
	It was noted that before closures due to Covid, Councillors used to meet weekly with members of the public. A suggestion had been made that Councillors attend the café on a Thursday as members of the public are already in the building to visit the cafe. It was resolved that Meet the Parish Councillor be moved to Thursday mornings whilst the café is open.	
	ACTION: Cllr Roque requested that a timetable be drawn up for all Councillors to attend the Meet the Parish Councillor sessions and asked that evening sessions be added to allow those who work during the day to attend.	Clerk
	The Clerk described the need for a community engagement and communications strategy. Cllr Bodsworth asked for confirmation that any strategy be brought before the council for agreement.	
	ACTION: Each month two councillors to hold an evening 'Meet the Parish Councillor' session from 7-8pm, starting in November. Cllrs Roque and Bodsworth volunteered to attend the first session.	Clerk/All
21/10/16	Bins, Green Spaces & Woodland Planting Scheme	
	Bin collections The bin collections cost £300+ per month. The Clerk is looking at options to reduce this cost.	
	Parish Maintenance Cllr Pratt suggested employing a Parish maintenance assistant for approximately 10 hours per month, subject to finding reductions in the bin costs, to maintain the assets and areas owned by the Parish Council e.g. bus shelters, notice boards, green spaces. Cllrs noted the need for a maintenance schedule to bring the village back up to scratch	



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	Cllr J Cheetham proposed the employment of a maintenance assistant be	
	explored further. Cllr Roque seconded the proposal.	
	Priors Green	
	It was noted that maintenance of the green areas of Priors Green was not	
	the responsibility of the Parish Council but that more could be done to	
	support residents in raising their concerns. Cllrs questioned whether	
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	Rospa checks had been carried out on the play equipment. Cllr agreed	
	residents needed the Parish Council's support in writing to Countryside	
	and Uttlesford to get the areas maintained, including grass verges, hedges,	
	trees and play areas.	
	lim Packus raised that the car park at the chans on Driers groon was also	
	Jim Backus raised that the car park at the shops on Priors green was also	
	in a state of disrepair.	
	Cllr J Cheetham proposed pursuit of maintenance for all areas of Takeley	
	with the relevant authorities. Cllr Roque seconded the proposal.	
	Woodland Planting Scheme	
	Uttlesford's Landscape Officer had contacted the Clerk to ask whether the	
	Parish Council owned any land that could be considered for woodland	
	planting, possibly in connection with the Queen Jubilee planting scheme.	
	Cllr Pratt proposed the planting of trees on Molehill Green. The proposal	
	was seconded by Cllr Carr.	
	Cllr Allen suggested the trees not be Whips.	
	It was noted that Land to the West of Russel Francis Way had a sparce	Clauli
	planting of trees.	Clerk
	ACTION: Ask Landscape officers who had taken over the land opposite	
	Clapton/Harris Road and ask if it could it be planted with Rowan's and	
	Mountain Ashes?	
	Football Pitches	
	ACTION: Clerk to investigate Takeley FC's contract for use of the Sports	Clerk
	Fields including the porta cabins.	CICIK
	Trefas including the porta cashis.	
	Morrells Green Play area	
	The area has not been cut back for a long time. A quote for £4,600 to	
	attend to the area had been received but a further quote was outstanding.	
	Cllr Roque proposed agreement of the clear up to the land subject to	
	quotes. Cllr Barber seconded he proposal.	
	The play area was installed by the developer. A locked gate is regularly	
	accessed despite signs, which then gives access to the balancing pond. A	
	site visit has been completed by the clerk and Cllr Pratt and Cllr Carr. The	
	suggestion is the fencing be moved to reduce access to the balancing pond	
	and give access to the green.	
	ACTION: Long term maintenance of Morrels Green play area to be added	Clerk
	to a future agenda once the remedial maintenance works have been	
	agreed and completed.	
21/10/17	Meeting Dates	
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	The meeting dates for 2022 were agreed.	
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	It was noted that the dates for the Annual Meeting and the Annual Parish Meeting needed to be set. ACTION: Clerk to propose dates for the Annual Meeting and the Annual Parish Meeting.	Clerk
21/10/18	Councillor Training	
	Cllr Bodworth noted that he intends to attend new Councillor training when the course becomes available	
21/10/19	AOB and items for future agendas Cllr Backus reported that he had attempted to speak to Uttlesford Council regarding Goar Lane. Cllr J Cheetham reported that she had arranged for the overgrowth to be cut back. Ownership of the area between the fenced house and the pond remains unknown. ACTION: Cllr Backus to pursue ownership of Goar Lane with Uttlesford. Cllr Backus proposed that he attend the community café and find volunteers to man the community speed watch. ACTION: Queen's Jubilee to be on the November agenda. The meeting closed at 9:42pm	Cllr Backus Clerk.

These minutes are signed as a true and accurate reflection of the Full Council Meeting held on 6 October 2021

Chairman	Signed:		
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Date:			