

**Minutes of Birchanger Parish Council meeting  
held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2017 at 8.00 pm.  
in Birchanger Village Hall**

**Present:** Angie Driscoll (AD) - Chair  
Elizabeth Godwin (EG)  
Linda Pocklington (LP)  
Alex Stewart (AS)  
John Revell (JR)  
Sandy Dowle (SD)  
Ken Wheatley

Ray Gooding (County councillor)  
Keith Williams (Parish Clerk)

**296. Chairman's Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed all those present.

**297. Apologies and Reason for Absence**

George Taylor – prior commitment  
Marie Davy – work commitment

**298. Declarations of Interest**

KW declared an interest in Planning item a) The Cottage Guest House as next door neighbour.

**299. Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.**

There were no representations from the public.

**300. Minutes of the last meeting**

Acceptance of the minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2017 was proposed by SD and agreed as a true and accurate record, and duly signed by the Chairman.

**301. Recreation Ground Working Group/Allotments – Glebeland**

**a) Agree estimate from David Debnam for renovation work**

It was agreed that a budget of £200 be allocated.  
AS will contact David Debnam.

**b) Update on installation of bicycle racks**

LP has discussed and agreed the siting for the racks.  
The quotation of £250 from David Debnam was agreed.  
The siting as proposed by LP was agreed.  
AS will contact David Debnam.

**c) Inspection report from AS (already circulated)**

Noted

**302. Renovation of village sign**

AS has discussed this with David Debnam who has given a verbal estimate of £200. It was stressed that there was to be no work on the actual art work. The estimate was agreed. AS will contact David Debnam.

**303. Agree funding of Duck End triangle landscaping**

A budget of £200 was agreed.

**304. Finance**

- a. Account Balances (already circulated).
- b. The payments were accepted and authorised to be made.
- c. The Accounting Statement for the annual audit was approved and signed by the Chairman and Parish Clerk.

**305. UDC Local Plan update**

EG had attended a meeting in which the plan was discussed. EG reported that development within Birchanger had been ruled out, which may be partly due to a proposed re-development of junction 8 of the M11.

UDC has 6 sites for consideration;

- Takely
- Great Chesterford
- Little Dunmow
- Elsenham
- Stebbing
- Little Easton

The decision will be taken following a vote on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2017.

**306. Planning**

UTT/17/1563/FUL and UTT/17/1564/LB – The Cottage Guest House. Proposed single-storey extension and demolition of conservatory.

The following comments are to be submitted to UDC;

- The window glass must be opaque.
- There is to be no porch enclosure.
- There must be disabled parking.
- All guest cars must be parked in the guest house car park.
- The entrance to the car park to be enlarged.
- Confirmation required that there is parking for 17 cars.
- The hedging near the car park entrance to be cut back.

**307. Reports from county and district councillors**

Councillor Ray Gooding advised that, following his re-election as Essex County Councillor, he will be continuing with the education portfolio. In addition he will be involved with Passenger Transport, with particular responsibility for buses. Essex Council spends £55m per annum on buses.

He advised that there is a growing problem with gang culture, often associated with drugs. There is also an issue of prostitution at the service station.

**308. Closure of meeting**

There being no further matters to discuss the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.00.

[2017/065]