

**Minutes of Birchanger Parish Council meeting
held on Tuesday 7th November 2017 at 8.00 pm.
in Birchanger Village Hall**

Present: Angie Driscoll (AD) - Chair
Elizabeth Godwin (EG)
Linda Pocklington (LP)
Alex Stewart (AS)
Sandy Dowle (SD)
Maria Davy (MD)
George Taylor (GT)
John Revell (JR)

2 members of the public

Ray Gooding (County councillor)
Thom Goddard (District councillor)
Keith Williams (Parish Clerk)

351. Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed all those present.

352. Apologies and Reason for Absence

Ken Wheatley (KW) – prior engagement

353. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

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

A representative from Birchanger Sports and Social Club made a presentation to the council in respect of the matter to be discussed under item 10 on the agenda.

355. Minutes of the last meeting

Acceptance of the minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 3rd October 2017 was proposed by SD and agreed as a true and accurate record, and duly signed by the Chairman.

356. Recreation Ground Working Group/Allotments – Glebeland

a) Recreation ground report from AS

AS advised that there had been no changes to the grounds. He is due to meet Dave Dednam to discuss what repair work needs to be carried out.

b) LP – nothing to report

357. Planning application

1. UTT/17/2352/FUL – 21 Bradley Common
Comments required by 1st November 2017.
Comments have already been submitted to Uttlesford planning department.
2. UTT/17/2799/FUL – Sion House, Birchanger Lane
Comments required by 3rd November 2017.
Comments have already been submitted to Uttlesford planning department.

358. Finance

- a. Account Balances (already circulated).
- b. The payments were accepted and authorised to be made.

359. Footpaths and waymarkers

- The council was referred to the response, already circulated, from Robin Walbank. No further action to be taken at this time.
- County councillor Gooding will refer the question of improvements to footpaths 8 and 13 to Mr Prior, the landowner.
- The clerk advised that Jay Leaver would be dealing with the fallen tree on footpath 11 when his chain saw had been repaired.
- KW to be asked if he would, as offered, walk the footpaths to see what markers need replacing.

360. Appeal from Birchanger Sports and Social Club for reconsideration of grant

It was agreed that a grant under section 137 could be made, but that it would need to be in next year's budget. The Club was invited to submit a further grant application in the new financial year, which commences in April 2018. In the meantime the Club was encouraged to pursue possible grants available from District Councillors Goddard and Farthing.

361. Assets of Community Value – renewal

It was agreed to renew the following assets whose registration was due to expire on 19/02/18.

- 3 informal car parks
- Birchanger Village Green
- Birchanger Village Hall
- Birchanger Recreation Ground
- Birchanger Church

362. Village Hall Car Park resurfacing – Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference were adopted.

363. Reports from KW already circulated

- a) SSE Town and Parish Council Liaison meeting
- b) MAG Parish Council forum

Both reports were noted. In the absence of KW there was no further discussion.

364. Noise barriers

The response from Highways was noted.

365. Highway

AD reported on the current position with regard to the installation of additional street lights and pedestrian footway at Churton Bend. The following response had been received from Annette Thornton who is the Infrastructure Funding Co-Ordinator for the Transportation, Planning and Development Team.

“Both schemes have been through their RSA 1&2 and will be out to the SCP for tender next week for 21 days.

I anticipate the fixed cost to be with you early December and for delivery by the end of the financial year.

There is an obligation to deliver the schemes in this financial year and our delivery partners are committed to ensuring this happens.

Annette Thornton

Infrastructure Funding Co-Ordinator

Transportation, Planning and Development Team”

366. Action Plan for 2017/2018

The clerk invited councillors to submit any projects they would like to be included in next year's Action Plan.

367. Litter Picking

This would be left until next March 2018.

368. Reports from county and district councillors.

Ray Gooding

- He is encouraging residents to purchase Essex Lottery tickets to assist financing requirements.
- ActiveEssex is awaiting a response from Sport England for grants, particularly for deprived areas.
- Essex MP's recently met with the County to discuss issues including police funding and the reduction of local funding.
- Meeting Sean Perry, who is a senior member of the highways team, and will discuss Churton Bend footpath and new street lights.

Thom Goddard

- Reference the planning application from Welcome Break Services, there is no agreement yet amongst the interested parties. The application will not be heard until next year.
- The developers who built the show home opposite the Walpole Farm development in Stansted, the house having been built without permission on land they did not own, are to be prosecuted under the Illegal Advertising Act. The show home has now been dismantled.

369. Closure of meeting

There being no further matters to discuss the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.16.