

GREAT CANFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
held at Great Canfield Village Hall on Monday 11th March 2024

Present: Cllrs Ginny Barlow (chair), Keir Donald, Jenny Jewell, Michael Knight (arriving at during 7.1), Richard Stratton, and the Clerk Allison Ward

2 residents (one leaving after item 3)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllr Mildwater (holiday) and accepted by the parish council. Cllr Anderson and Cllr Knight had sent notification that they would be late to the meeting.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS FOR THIS MEETING - None

3. PUBLIC FORUM

A resident provided information to support the license application, item 7.3. The farm at Canfield Hall are using locally grown potatoes to produce their own vodka which is distilled offsite, the license is necessary to carry out online sales.

A resident commented in objection to planning application UTT/24/0340/OP due to correlation between new and existing housing, impact on local environment including wildlife, further eradication of the countryside and the harm caused by the loss of openness and agricultural land. It was further noted lack of ditch maintenance following the previous development in this location has resulted in overflowing ditches and surface water highway flooding. It was suggested the proposed development would be purely for personal gain and not in support of social or affordable housing.

1 resident leaves the meeting

4. The MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING of 12th February 2024 were proposed as a correct record by Cllr Barlow, seconded by Cllr Stratton with all in agreement.

5. COUNTY AND DISTRICT CLLRS REPORT

Due to a full council meeting taking place at Uttlesford District Council this evening, District Cllr Geof Driscoll, District Cllr Neil Reeve and County Cllr Susan Barker all sent apologies to the meeting.

6. CLERK'S PROGRESS UPDATE and CORRESPONDENCE

6.1. Further to correspondence from District Cllr Driscoll re the lighting at the Uttlesford Depot in Little Canfield the meeting was of the view the changes have seen improvements, however there was a general view that further reductions should be possible.

6.2. The Government is consulting on proposals for the next night flight regime at Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted Airports. The consultation document is available online by searching 'Stansted Airport night flight consultation', or from the clerk. The closing date is 22nd May, the consultation will be considered at the next parish council meeting.

6.3. The loss of historic road names, agenda item 12 of the February 2024 meeting has been progressed with both the County and District Council. Uttlesford has acknowledged receipt and confirmed it will respond by mid-April

6.4. The clerk responded to an Essex County Council (ECC) questionnaire on EV charging in parishes to support the ECC bid for capital funding from the government's Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Fund. Cllrs who responded noted no need for central EV charging in the parish.

6.5. Reminder of village litter pick on Saturday 23rd March. Equipment available at the village hall 9-9.30am.

7. PLANNING

7.1. Applications for decision

Signed
Cllr Ginny Barlow, Chair

Application No	UTT/24/0340/OP
Location	Land West Of Great Canfield Road
Development	Outline application with all matters reserved except for access for the erection of 6 no. dwelling houses

Cllr Michael Knight arrives

A lengthy discussion concluded with Cllr Barlow proposing objection to this application due to,

- a. Inappropriate and unsustainable development in the countryside.
- b. Urbanisation and erosion of rural character of Hope End.
- c. Access, the road width is less than stated in the application.
- d. Reliance on cars to reach local services due to lack of footpaths and lighting.
- e. Piece meal development which avoids the applicant contributing to affordable housing in the parish.
- f. Local surface water flooding.

This was seconded by Cllr Donald with all in agreement

7.2. Decisions for information only

Application No	UTT/23/2966/FUL & UTT/23/2967/LB
Location	Peckers Farm, Green Street
Development	Amendments to Plot 4 of previously approved and implemented scheme under references UTT/21/1769/FUL & UTT/21/1770/LB - Replacement of previously approved lean-to with single storey extension to the South-West and erection of two-bay cart lodge, with associated alterations, operational development and landscaping works.
Decision	Conditional approval

Application No	UTT/23/2493/FUL
Location	Hartwood Bungalow Green Street
Development	Change of use of site from residential to commercial. Demolition of bungalow and replacement with 3 no. single storey commercial storage B8 buildings to form small employment site
Decision	Conditional approval

Cllr Michael Knight declares a pecuniary interest in agenda item 7.3 as the applicant is his wife.

Cllr Knight leaves the meeting.

- 7.3. Cllr Donald proposed no comment on the premises license application for the sale of alcohol at Great Canfield Hall, Church End, this was seconded by Cllr Jewell with all in agreement.

Cllr Knight returns to the meeting.

- 7.4. There is no further information on actions being taken following the illegal dumping of waste at Crumps Farm. Cllrs expressed their disappointment with the apparent lack of progress on an issue first raised in September 2023 and what it sees as a serious threat to public health and safety. The clerk was asked to write to Kemi Badenoch MP asking that she intervene and confirm the actions being taken to ensure public safety and to rectify the issue.
- 7.5. Cllr Driscoll had sent correspondence confirming changes that had been made to the external lighting at Uttlesford depot, see item 6.1.

8. ESSEX MINERALS LOCAL PLAN REVIEW

Further to agenda item 8 at the February 2024 meeting, the clerk had reviewed the documentation and circulated a proposed response to the parish council which Cllr Barlow proposed is submitted on behalf of the parish council, this was seconded by Cllr Jewell with all in agreement.

The response included agreement to a change to policy S9 whereby allocated sites would be considered in relevant planning applications and not just approved sites, and disagreement with policy S12, site restoration and after use. Here the

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parish council seeks two policies, one dealing with ‘sustainable after-use’ as outlined in this proposal policy, and a second policy specifically for ‘landfill’.

In addition, the meeting agreed to comment on the inclusion of sites A22 and A23 at Little Bullocks Farm, specific points being,

- a. Inappropriate inclusion given the unresolved illegal dumping of waste at the adjacent Crumps Farm site.
- b. Amendment to red-amber rating for site A22 due to proximity to Canfield Pastures a Local Wildlife Site.
- c. Unachievable buffer for Local Wildlife Sites.
- d. Site A23 extraction is c.60,000 tons, the mitigation necessary would make this site non-cost effective.
- e. Site A23 is in the Waste Local Plan as a site to be in-filled with hazardous waste, this site is c.250m from housing and would fail to meet proposed policy S12.

9. PARISH COUNCIL PROJECTS

- 9.1. Cllr Knight confirmed the previously agreed works to maintain the ditches at Bacon End would be completed by 31st March
- 9.2. There is no further progress on outstanding projects, ponds and highway jetting.

10. PARISH COUNCIL MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL RISK REVIEW

The clerk had circulated a draft, due to time constraints this item will be carried forward to the April meeting.

11. HIGHWAYS, FOOTPATHS, TREES, CRIME

- 11.1. Footpaths, Byways, Bridleways and Greens – Discussions took place during the month with Cllr Jewell and Cllr Knight re ditch clearance adjacent to footpath 5 and an additional discussion with a representative of Uttlesford rambles who have agreed to carry out clearance works on footpath 5. Once this is complete the further works necessary to improve the flow where it is piped will be discussed with Essex.
- 11.2. Highways/Road Safety – The clerk was asked to report the damaged highway sign which is lying on the verge on Green Street.
- 11.3. Crime Prevention/Neighbourhood Watch – Cllr Barlow proposed the parish council purchases two security cameras to place at known hot-spots for fly tipping, cost c.£250. This was seconded by Cllr Knight with all in agreement. Clerk to discuss the most appropriate equipment with Cllr Anderson.
- 11.4. Tree Warden – Nothing to report.

12. VILLAGE HALL REPORT

- 12.1. Village hall committee general update – The committee is in conversation with the church re the works necessary to resolve the damp issue, currently the work is being tendered and is scheduled to take place during the summer months. The clerk provided information on potential loss of income per week. In addition, if the hall is unavailable for more than one month, the parish council is able to withhold the monthly rental of £61. Cllr Barlow proposed that assuming works progress as planned the parish council would not pause payments as this would not be in the best interests of relationships, this was seconded by Cllr Jewell with all in agreement.
- 12.2. Village D-Day celebrations, it was confirmed the parish council will take responsibility for the beacon event on Thursday 6th June, Clerk to contact cricket club to confirm availability, and relevant people to manage the beacon. The village hall committee will lead on the event planned for Saturday 8th June at the village hall, this will be a 1940s themed party. Parish council to complete risk assessments for both events.
- 12.3. General hall risk assessment, the village hall committee confirmed the major points identified have been addressed, the clerk has r Outstanding is the draft risk assessment schedule, clerk to complete.
- 12.4. The clerk confirmed the energy contract is now correct for the hall, there remains an outstanding issue with the July 2023 payment and the clerk is chasing the various parties. In addition, it was noted the monthly costs are high, the

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clerk will work with the village hall committee to monitor costs to identify if there is a specific piece of equipment with high energy usage.

12.5. The meeting confirmed the following direct debit payments made between meetings.

<i>PAYMENT TO</i>	<i>METHOD</i>	<i>VALUE</i>
Great Canfield Parochial Church Council – Monthly Hall Rent	Direct Debit	£ 61.00
Scottish Power – Electricity	Direct Debit	£ 439.69

12.6. Cllr Barlow proposed the following payment relating to the village hall be made, this was seconded by Cllr Jewell with all in agreement.

<i>PAYMENT TO</i>	<i>VALUE</i>
Alison Clark – Hall Cleaning February wk 2 2024	£ 30.00
FirstAid4Less, via clerk – replacement first aid box for village hall	£ 22.68

12.7 The meeting noted the receipts of £180 from hall hire in February 2024.

13. FINANCE

13.1. Cllr Barlow proposed the following payment, this was seconded by Cllr Knight with all in agreement.

<i>PAYMENT TO</i>	<i>VALUE</i>
Allison Ward - Parish Clerk February 2024	£ 219.74

13.2. To record receipts of £632.80, this being the VAT refund from 2022/23.

14. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA – Government Night Flight consultation, annual review of parish council policies

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 8th April 2024 at 8pm in Great Canfield Village Hall.

TIME AND CLOSE OF MEETING 9.40pm