

Minutes of the Clavering Parish Council meeting held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup>. April 2015 at 7.15pm in the Village Hall Clavering

Present - Cllrs: Stephanie Gill (Chairman), Richard Carter, Jenny Allan, Mike Patmore, Stuart Boardman, Ron Couchman and Brian Barrow

Also present - District Councillor Oliver and 3 parishioners

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and went on to say that this was the last meeting for Cllr Jenny Allan who has served 6 years as a Councillor, editor of the newsletter, checking the RFO books and organising litter picking events. This was greatly appreciated and she was thanked for this: she will be sadly missed.

The Chairman raised the problem regarding Affinity Water laying pipes in Clatterbury Lane. Cllr Carter and Cllr Patmore both thought that being a public body, time should have been taken to find out what pipework was under the road and this was a complete waste of public money. The Clerk was asked to write to the contractors Amey also sending a copy to Affinity Water expressing the concern of CPC regarding having the public inconvenienced and ascertain when the works are being rescheduled.

## **2. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Stanford and Smith

## **3. Declaration of Interest**

Cllrs. Boardman and Allan both declared a non-pecuniary interest in Planning application UTT/15/0993/HHF

Cllrs Allan and Gill both declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Jubilee Field

## **4. Public Participation Session**

Colin Howland asked about the update of the new bus shelter. The Clerk informed him that he had again emailed Andrew Scullion to request an update. To date he had had no response. As a Village Hall Trustee, Mr Howland also thanked the Council for their hard effort in obtaining the New Marquee for the village hall committee to use at the Art Show which had saved money on hiring a marquee.

## **5. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup>. March 2015**

These minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record

## **8. Information Board**

Mrs Cooper advised the Council on which design was best to go into the bus shelter. After a discussion between the Councillors and Mrs Cooper it was decided that Mrs Cooper should supply the Council with how much the additional costs would be i.e. Artwork and having the words ECC removed and CPC inserted, and cost of a frame if necessary. Cllr Couchman suggested that the Council "approves in principle" to purchase and have erected a new information board. Cllr Patmore asked that Mrs Cooper get a formal quotation. Mrs Cooper wished to come back with further details for the Council to make an informed formal, resolution

## **6. Clerks report**

The Clerk had circulated before the meeting the "General correspondence" and "Matters from Prior Meetings" documents. He went through these again quickly.

**At this point Cllrs Gill and Carter left the meeting, both declaring an interest as a personal friend of one of those quoting. Cllr Barrow was elected to take the chair.**

The Clerk brought to the attention the 2 quotes he had received regarding the Dick Ball Meadow works requirements. The Councillors were a little surprised at the variance of the 2 quotes and the clerk was asked by Cllr Boardman to contact a 3<sup>rd</sup>. person to see where in the parameters the quote comes in at. Cllr Allan suggested to the clerk to contact Peter Hockley. Cllr Boardman proposed and Cllr Couchman seconded that a 3<sup>rd</sup>. quote be obtained to compare with the 2 the clerk had already received.

**This was carried unanimously**

**At this point Cllrs Gill and Carter re-joined the meeting and Cllr Gill resumed the Chair**

**7. District Council Edward Oliver update**

Cllr Oliver said he only had 2 points to mention. The first being that the Gladman Development of **51 houses** had gone to appeal and this could be heard about November this year. Nigel Brown of UDC is fighting this appeal and is using the same lawyer as has been used in the past appeals. The planning consultant for this appeal is Alison Hutchins. English Heritage has submitted 3 objections letters to UDC. Regarding the Gypsy & Travellers issue. The planning group have approved 3 sites of 2 pitches each. They have not approved the 5 Acres site and are holding back on this as there is a major problem regarding flooding on the site and are awaiting the applicant's reports. The Chairman, on behalf of the Council, thanked Cllr Oliver for all his hard work for Clavering Parish during his term in office. Parishioner Colin Howland asked the Chair if he might ask a question of Cllr Oliver; though she noted this was irregular, the Chair allowed this. Mr Howland asked DC Oliver about the superfast broadband and why UDC has not helped finance it. The Chairman interjected and asked Mr Howland where had he obtained this information. Cllr Couchman informed that Chairman that he had passed information over to Mr Howland of this issue before the meeting from the privileged papers he had received from the Clerk prior to the meeting. The Clerk reminded Cllr Couchman that such information is not in the public domain until after the Council meeting at which it is presented

**9. Planning Applications:**

**UTT/15/0699/OP** – Land at Ashcroft Wicken Road Wicken Bonhunt CB11 3UL  
Outline application with some matters reserved for the erection of 1 no. dwelling  
**CPC Objects to this application as it outside the development envelope of Clavering**

**UTT/15/0684/FUL – REVISED PLANS** - Hill Green Farm Cottage Clatterbury Lane  
Proposed demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling.

*AMENDED APPLICATION UTT/15/0684/FUL AS AT 06.03.15*

**CPC Objects to this application as the building is too large for the site. In front of the building line. The size of the proposed property is inappropriate**

**At this point Cllr Boardman and Allan left the meeting**

**UTT/15/0993/HHF** – 16 Pelham Road CB11 4PQ

Proposed conversion of garage to living accommodation

**CPC has No objections**

**At this point Cllr Boardman and Allan rejoined the meeting**

**UTT/15/0953/CLP** – Oaklands Middle Street

Certificate of lawfulness for the proposed erection of 1 no. dwelling on plot 1 and 1 no. dwelling on plot 2 without demolishing the existing bungalow and erecting 1 no. dwelling on plot 3 – Cllr Gill was instructed to verify with UDC as to whether this was asking for the plot to have 4 dwellings.

**UDC: Decision Made**

**UTT/15/0021/HHF** – 15 Pelham Road CB11 4PQ

Erection of extension to outbuilding and conversion to residential annexe –

**Approve with conditions – 23.03.15**

**UTT/15/0297/FUL** – The Cricketers Hill Green

Removal of external staircase and erection of single storey rear extension with roof guard rail and external staircase - **Approve with conditions** - 25.03.15

**UTT/15/0298/LB** - The Cricketers Hill Green

Removal of external staircase and erection of single storey rear extension with roof guard rail and external staircase - **Approve with conditions** - 25.03.15

**10. Finance:**

To approve Cheque/s below

Credit Received February £744.76p VAT - £177.92p Langley Green Waste – £97.50p Allotments - £19.50p Allotments					
Chq No	Inv. No	Payee	Cost	VAT	Total
	s/o	Kevin Money salary	£287.17	-	£287.17
1434		HMRC	£236.40	-	£236.40
1435	12508	Acumen Payroll	£ 18.50	£ 3.70	£ 22.20
1436		Clavering Churches – meeting	£ 20.00	-	£ 20.00
1437		Clerk February expenses	£ 48.93	-	£ 48.93
1438		Clerk March expenses	£ 56.33	-	£ 56.33

The books have been returned from the auditor with NO report of any problems attached. Cllr Gill proposed and Cllr Carter seconded that the above cheques be paid.

**This was carried unanimously**

**11. To sign of end of year accounts**

The accounts have been fully audited to month 11 by the auditor. Waiting on final audit and final paperwork to be completed

**12. Representative reports**

*Allotments* update given by Cllr Patmore

The remaining allotment rent was collected before the year end. So everything is up-to-date

*Village Hall* update given by Cllr Couchman

A very successful Art Show took place despite the road closures and produced a substantial increase in profit for the village hall. The marquee which was purchased for, then donated by CPC to the village hall was a success.

*Jubilee Field* update given by Cllr Allan

The fencing had been replaced. £1000 was raised by the Easter Grand Draw and the next event is the Car Boot Sale on May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

*Jubilee Field working party* update by Cllr Boardman

A provisional meeting has been arranged for Thursday 30<sup>th</sup>. April

*Employment Committee* update by Cllr Boardman

A meeting took place on 25<sup>th</sup>. March and the outcome and recommendations will be discussed after this meeting

**13. Speedwatch**

Cllr Couchman asked the Council for a reply to a letter sent to them in November 2014 concerning VAS/SID signs. He stated that the PC was responsible for the lack of morale of the Speedwatch Team. The Chair felt this comment was disingenuous as the PC had put forward the Team for the Essex PCC Awards,

Cllr Boardman asked Cllr Couchman exactly what was the Speedwatch team asking for and who is the liaison person as Mr Smith had retired. It was agreed by Councillors that the Clerk write to Cllr Couchman asking the Speedwatch team to furnish CPC with actual costings etc.. for the equipment they sought to be purchased.

**14. Superfast Broadband – Given by Cllr Gill**

A presentation, attended by resident Ben Gill on the Council's behalf, by ECC and BT informed the Rural Parish Councils of Essex of the improved internet connection to the

rural areas of the County. This initiative is being run by ECC with money being provided by ECC, BT, and The Department for Culture Media and Sport. The 1<sup>st</sup> phase is in on time and the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase is now going out to tender; the final outcome should be that 95% of the County will have the ability to receive superfast broadband with speeds approaching 24Mbps, although the legal requirement will be at 2Mbps. There were numerous presentations by the ECC representatives, with all the information being put onto the web site [www.superfastessex.org](http://www.superfastessex.org). The website is being updated to have a more active map which would allow residents to see when they would get upgrades. It is possible to get updates via twitter.

The presentation is on the web site and it answers all the normal questions you could expect to ask. ECC is asking for 'champions' to be nominated by individual Parish Councils who will be the point of contact, as well as being the person who will advertise the availability of fibre broadband. This is because, although there are over 300 internet service providers (ISP), only about 40 of these will provide the superfast speeds. As end-users we will need to be prepared to change our ISP to a superfast provider when the time arrives, otherwise we will continue to get slow speeds.

Outside of the presentation the only notable remark was that UDC is the only rural District Council who has not put funds into the pot to help bring in superfast broadband; in fact the impression was that UDC and ECC are not a happy mix. Unfortunately because UDC are not prepared to put cash into the pot it would not be surprising if the UDC area would not be at the top of the list when it comes to rolling out the upgrades. Cllr Gill was asked to clarify the tasks of the 'champions'.

#### **15. Replacement PC Noticeboard**

The clerk produced 3 quotations and photographs of the noticeboard which were circulated to the Councillors before the meeting. The Councillors discussed the quotations then Cllr Carter proposed and Cllr Patmore seconded that the quotation from Greenbarnes Ltd (Ref. No. 16230/2) be accepted with 2 alterations. That is to remove items E and G from the quotation i.e. the fixing posts.

This reduced the quote to £1284.76p + VAT £256.96p = £1541.72p. It was also agreed that the clerk place this order and to make sure that THREE keys for the locks be provided. **This was carried unanimously**

#### **16. Risk Assessment book**

Blacksmiths Corner / B1038 Middle Street – The pole supporting the 30mph is in a precarious position – ECC Highways to be informed

#### **17. Items for next agenda:**

Nothing requested

Date of next meeting Monday 18<sup>th</sup>. May 2015 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

The Chairman read out that a resolution be put forward to the Council that the public are excluded from any discussions on employment matters concerning the clerk in accordance with Standing Order 24(a), pursuant to 1(c)

Proposed by Cllr Gill and Seconded by Cllr Barrow

The Councillors voted **F6 Ag1 Ab0**

There being no other formal business to this part of the meeting the meeting was closed at 9.20pm and the Councillors remained to discuss the employment committee recommendations.

Signed .....Date: 18<sup>th</sup>. May 2015

**Stephanie M. Gill**