

Message from Cllr Howard Rolfe following meeting on 3rd April 2019

Newport Parish Council representative Cllr Sandra Amos and Newport resident Mr David Mayle along with Cllr Howard Rolfe, Uttlesford District Council Leader and Cllr Ray Gooding, Essex County Councillor, recently met with Senior Officers of both UDC and ECC.

The purpose of the meeting was to achieve a consensus on how to best address and resolve the issues currently facing Whiteditch Lane, School Lane and Bury Water Lane, as a result of the on-going development in the area.

Bury Water Lane

UK Power Network plan to close Bury Water Lane for a week between 6th April and 14th April (school holidays) and are aware that residents' access is required during this time.

ECC Street Works Team will contact UK Power Network to make sure that they fully inform residents of what works they are carrying out and the Parish Council will use the community information pages to alert residents of the closure and going forward to disseminate information on future works or updates from ECC or UDC.

An emergency Traffic Restriction Order will be implemented by ECC to prevent all parking on School Lane for the duration of the UK Power Network works.

ECC will also share a longer term parking restriction scheme on Bury Water Lane and School Lane (for the period of the construction) with the PC to determine if there is wider support for this. In addition a permanent parking restriction scheme for (old) Bury Water Lane will be put forward for consultation by ECC and implemented if required.

As part of the Newport Neighbourhood Plan a traffic study of the wider area is being prepared to see what potential measures can be introduced to alleviate the traffic and parking issues in the short, medium and longer term.

Lastly, we are contacting all developers in the area reminding them of their responsibilities to the local community when undertaking construction works. This will include issues such as requesting they car share whenever possible, park responsibly, and keep residents updated through the Parish Council in a more proactive way.

The PC are also looking to see what options are available for alternative parking.

Whiteditch Lane

ECC are preparing a costed plan for Whiteditch Lane (WDL) to address all relevant issues including physical design (such as road surface, parking bays) and surface water/flooding related issues so that a comprehensive solution can be implemented.

It was agreed there needed to be a "developers summit" to get all relevant parties (including ECC, UDC and the PC as well as the decision makers from the developers) together to hammer out all the issues and the way forward regarding surface water, drainage and parking. This invitation has already gone

out and a date is being arranged.

We also discussed the state of the footbridge which ECC will investigate and a particular pot-hole on WDL that is considered dangerous and which ECC will respond to.

It was a productive meeting but it is all about what happens next and we will continue to keep you updated.