

14/119 To receive an update from the Parish Clerk

CG reported that:

- The hedge at Smiths Green was reduced in height. The resident who made the request advised that he was very satisfied with the work carried out by UDC.
- An invitation to RCCE to attend a PC meeting has still not been sent in view of the availability of the Village Hall.
- There is no news on the VAS signs but they have been included in the ECC Budget for 2014/15.
- Several emails have been received on Emergency Planning, particularly following the recent flooding. Richard Cawte and Stephanie Watson agreed to be points of contact and details will be passed to UDC.
- Jeanette added some points to the UDC Consultation on Housing Sites and the response was sent just before the deadline.
- The manhole in the village was reported in November. Affinity Water came out but said it was not their responsibility and it was then reported to Highways. Following the problem last weekend the Police were informed. Either the Police or ECC have been out and added the flashing light. ECC will be contacted again.
- The procedure for requesting items from the Rangers has changed, details will be circulated.
- Information has been received from UDC on empty homes
- From April the Council will have to pay HMRC electronically. The necessary arrangements will be made with the bank.
- A complaint was received today about the Byway at the back of Fellowes Farm and Wieldbarns. ECC will be informed.
- Residents of the village are being given more time to return the questionnaire regarding a new village hall. A full analysis will be given to the Council at some stage and questionnaires will be returned to the Parish Clerk for safe keeping.
- Enquiries have been made regarding the Annual Meeting of the Village Hall. SW will advise date and include in Parish Pump.
- A meeting with the Auditor will be organised in the next few weeks. As he gave advice on a loan from the PWLB is there anything that should be discussed with him? No matters were raised.
- EALC have been consulted regarding the letter from NALC dated 9th April, 2001. Advice was obtained from them on the recreation ground which led to the ground being registered as a Charitable Trust. The letter states that the recreation ground is an "open space" as defined by statute and NALC (National Association of Local Councils) would not advise any arrangement for a permanent building to be erected by the V.H. Committee on land owned by the Council. . Would the Council like me to pursue this?
It was agreed that the situation must be clarified. CG will contact EALC again and JO'B offered to assist with this.
- ECC has advised that the potholes will be repaired within 28days from being sprayed with orange paint. The resurfacing team have been contacted regarding a more substantial repair of the road from Waddington, past the

Barracks to the junction with the B184, and also the road through Debden to Thaxted during this financial year.

- A report has been received from Simon Walsh stating:
 - (a) At an ECC Budget meeting it was agreed that their part of the Precept should be held at last year's level
Additional funds have been allocated for road repairs
 - (b) An additional emergency fund has been agreed to deal with highway flooding problems.
 - (c) Youth Services have been reviewed
 - (d) The Passenger Transport consultation is entering the next phase, so please reply.
 - (e) Please continue to report pot-holes. (Pot-holes can be reported and tracked on the ECC website. It would be helpful if any other reports could be copied to the Parish Clerk)

Dist Cllr Tina Knight reported that:

- A feasibility study is being carried out on a cycle path to Audley End. For the last ten years she has been endeavouring to get a cycle path from Carver Barracks. Thaxted PC would like a cycle path from Thaxted to Saffron Walden which the Town Council has supported. It would be helpful if Debden Parish Council could support these by providing a letter for the April meeting of the Highways panel.
- Carver Barracks are working on a new project on the airfield which will be of benefit to the whole community.
- The PC can write to the District Council regarding the closure of Byways. TK will supply contact details.
- The District Council is providing money for flood defenses and if any local companies lost business owing to flooding they can get a business rate reduction.
- Community Infrastructure Levy is a replacement for Section 106. It would be in the PC's interest to support this as it would mean that the PC would receive a percentage from any new houses built and large extensions. If a local plan is produced for Debden the percentage payable would be higher. Members of the Council reported that they attended a meeting some time ago at RCCE but decided not to go ahead with a plan. UDC has not yet got their Local Plan in place but the PC should write to them and urge them to get this completed as quickly as possible.

14/153 To receive an update on meeting dates for 2014/15

The Village Hall has been provisionally booked for the Annual Assembly on 1st May and the next meeting on 3rd July. The next meetings will be on September 4th and November 6th in the green room at the Village Hall, shared with the Table Tennis Club.

14/154 To review the roles and responsibilities of Parish Councilors as listed in the Parish Pump

The responsibilities were reviewed and will be passed to Parish Pump:

Andrew Tetlow	-	Finance
Roger Forster	-	Open Spaces

Stewart Luck	-	Stansted Airport & Best Kept Village
Steve Jasper	-	Allotments
Jeanette O'Brien	-	Planning
Richard Simmonds	-	Debden Green
Stephanie Watson	-	Pavilion

14/155 To discuss arrangements for the 2014 Annual Assembly, 1st May at 8.00pm

Dist Cllr T. Knight, Cty Cllr S. Walsh, PC H. Griffiths and Antony Kriehn from Carver Barracks will be invited to attend and give a report. As the Annual Assembly is an opportunity for residents of the village to raise any matters with the PC, written reports will be requested from all the usual groups (Village Hall, School, Speedwatch, History Recorders, Tennis Club, Bathurst Charity, Searle Trust, Pre-School) and these will be copied and available at the meeting, but not read out. .

AT will organise the wine, RS will bring glasses and soft drinks.

The Annual Meeting of the Council will be at 7.30pm on 1st May.

14/156 To receive an update on the village entry on the 100 Parishes website

Mike Fairchild will pass the update to CG as soon as possible.

14/157 To receive an update on the crossroads at Debden Green

CG has been in touch with Cty Cllr Simon Walsh and the Local Highways Panel and is awaiting a reply. It is understood the resident of No. 2. Brook Cottages cuts the hedge.

14/158 To receive an update on the re-classification of the road from Henham to Debden Green

J0'B explained that, initially, this was raised by a resident who noticed that the road was being gritted. It was reclassified in 2005 and is now a PR2. It is not a bus route at the moment, but I am trying to establish whether it is a link road or a county road which means priority is to traffic over pedestrians and it is used by HGV's. It will not be in the interests of Debden if it is a county road. Dist Cllr Knight has said she will take this further.

14/159 To receive an update on the event to mark the start of World War 1

CG confirmed that there will be a service on Monday 4th August, but details have not yet been finalised. If this is held on the recreation ground the PC insurance cover will be used.

14/160 To consider entering the 2014 Essex Village of the Year and Best Kept Village Competition

It was agreed that the village should enter the competitions and SL will complete the forms. RS will organise a litter pick.

14/161 To receive an update on the cutting of the footpaths in 2014

Following the last meeting CG contacted the Footpath Warden and an email was circulated asking if there were any additional paths to add to last year's list.

It was agreed that arrangements should be the same as last year.

RF advised that the Army have volunteered to level the path around the churchyard wall and down to the Stables and also deal with the paving slabs in the church yard.

14/162 To review charges for hiring the Recreation Ground

It was agreed that the fees for the Boot Camp, Rounders and Football Club should all be reviewed when costs are available for the year. RF will obtain contact details.

14/163 To receive an update on repairing and resurfacing the recreation ground car park

RF advised that the Army have very kindly offered to do this for the PC.

14/164 To discuss a request for off road parking at Smiths Green.

RF reported on an accident at Smiths Green. A nearby resident has been in touch with UDC and they advised that if a letter was submitted to them they would make a request to ECC. It was felt that the request should be for plastic material to be placed on the verge which could be driven over. JO'B will obtain a map and a letter will be forwarded.

14/165 To receive an update on the Pavilion

SW unable to give an update at present.

14/166 To receive an update on the Allotments

SJ advised that there are currently two plots free and it is hoped that some of the paths can be realigned. Following the last meeting CG sent a letter to one tenant and a meeting will be organised with him as soon as possible.

Notification of the new charges is on the notice board at the Allotments.

14/167 To receive a progress report on the new Village Hall

SL had nothing to report.

14/168 To discuss and agree circumstances in which the Council and Parish Clerk should accept responses to surveys carried out by names or unnamed members of the parish

JO'B advised that there has been a lot of discussion in the village regarding the recent survey which gave the impression that it was from the PC because it was returned to the Parish Clerk.

CG pointed out that the box in the village shop was organised following the NVHG meeting on 30th January as a number of residents were very unhappy and were requested to put their complaints in writing and return to a box in the Village Shop. It was subsequently used for the questionnaires as well.

Members of the NVHG felt the questionnaire should not have been returned to the Parish Clerk.

SJ said he felt this was one-sided propaganda and the Parish Pump and the Walden Local have now become a political tool.

Following discussion it was agreed that the Parish Clerk should not be the recipient or collator of letters from an anonymous group. Any PC questionnaire must be approved at a Council meeting.

14/169 To discuss and agree which Training Days the Parish Councillors and Clerk should attend

CG circulated a list from EALC and if members wish to attend they should notify her. Not more than one Councillor should attend a training course.

14/170 To receive a report on the Parish Forum on 27th January

Members were unable to attend this meeting.

14/171 To receive a report on the Community Infrastructure Levy

This item was covered by Dist Cllr Knight under 14/152.

14/172 To receive a report on meeting held on 20th January with Local Councils re Planning Consultation

JO'B attended and it dealt with the handling of planning applications. There was widespread discussion about new developments and the feeling that UDC is granting planning permission regardless of the infrastructure. PC's would like more co-ordination.

14/173 To discuss planning applications received

The following application has been received. No comments submitted.

UTT/13/3360/HHF Victoria Cottage, Deynes Road

UTT/14/0052/HHF Mellings, High Street

UTT/14/0073/FUL Demolition of buildings and replacement house on land at Hamperden End

UTT/14/0227/HHF Sparrows Farm, Hamperden End

UTT/14/0428/FUL Change of use of agricultural barn opposite Newport Lodge into office space

14/134 To approve accounts for payment

The following cheques were approved for payment and signed

C. Griffin	£315.01	Net salary + expenses (January)
C. Griffin	£313.31	Net salary + expenses (February)
Debden Parish Pump	£250.00	Annual Subscription
Zurich Ins	£300.82	Insurance (Pavilion)
Debden Village Hall	£100.00	Contribution to emptying bins

14/135 Items for next Agenda

To receive an update on the Pavilion

To receive an update on the Allotments

To receive an update on letter from NALC dated 9th April 2001

To receive an update on the event to mark the start of World War 1

14/136 To discuss any Urgent matters of interest to the parish

136.1 Members of the NVHG felt the issue concerning pecuniary interests must be resolved and it was suggested that a list of questions should be made and independent legal advice obtained. It was also suggested that a referendum, organised by UDC, should be held later in the year. It was pointed out by JO'B that, initially, the situation regarding the recreation ground land needs to be dealt with,

14/137 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be the Annual Meeting of the Council on Thursday, 1st May, at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall, followed by the Annual Assembly at 8.00pm.

The meeting closed at 10.15 pm

Signed..... (Chairman)

Dated: 01.05.14