

DEBDEN PARISH COUNCIL**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DEBDEN PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 7th MARCH 2018 AT 8.00PM IN THE MEMORIAL HALL, DEBDEN**

<u>Present:</u>	Cllr R. Forster	(RF) Chairman
	Cllr E. Blackie	(EB)
	Cllr S. Luck	(SL)
	Cllr A. Tetlow	(AliciaT)
	Cllr A. Tetlow	(AT)

In attendance:

Mrs. C. Griffin, Clerk.	(CG)
Dist Cllr T. Knight	(TK)
3 members of the public	

18/120 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr S. Watson (family commitment), Cllr A. Roper (business commitment) and Cty Cllr S. Walsh.

18/121 Declarations of Interests**To receive disclosures of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in items on the agenda**

No interests were declared.

18/122 Public participation session (15 minutes available if required)**Members of the public are permitted to make representations, and give evidence in respect of any item of business included on the agenda**

Residents raised the following issues:

- A water main burst in Thaxted last week. The leak was repaired but ECC have not repaired the road and this has resulted in a road closure. This has caused considerable inconvenience. Some Councillors reported that they had got through even though the signs said "Road closed", but a formal complaint will be made to ECC.
- Following conversations with the Clerk I delivered the information on the bridges on footpaths at Debden Green to the Footpath Warden but have not received a reply.
The Clerk advised that after the information was delivered she asked the Footpath Warden if she had all the information required but has heard nothing further. The resident pointed out that youngsters taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme will be visiting the area shortly and these bridges are currently dangerous.

It was agreed that more feedback is required on the footpaths and a letter will be sent to the Footpath Warden to enquire whether she wishes to continue in the role as the Council does need to be kept fully informed..

18/123 To receive reports from District and County Councillors

Dist Cllr Knight reported that:

- The support received recently was very much appreciated.
- The planning laws are changing significantly and we could lose more greenfield sites. It is important that Parish Councils respond.
- A number of potholes have been reported to me. The Clerk will contact TK and ensure these have all been reported to ECC.
- The ECC reporting procedure is unsatisfactory and it should be reported that not everyone can use their online service.
- The Rangers service is still operating. RF pointed out that whilst it is a very good service, it is difficult to reserve the Rangers team.
- Complaints have been received about drug dealing in Bell Lane.
- A suspicious vehicle seen in Rook End Lane has been reported. A village google group would be of great benefit in these circumstances.
- A formal complaint has been made concerning the road signs which state the road is closed when it is not. Members of the PC agreed that road closure signs should specify exactly where the road is closed and confirmed that a complaint will be made to ECC.

18/124 To approve and authorise the Chairman to sign the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 17th January 2018

SL requested additions to item 18/102.

The PC agreed to part of the request but stressed that a full explanation was given at the last meeting as to why the request made by SL was not included on the agenda of a previous meeting. SL subsequently switched on the recording of the January meeting on his 'phone which caused a disturbance. The Chairman asked SL to leave but he refused. Following several more requests to leave, which were refused, the Chairman removed the mobile phone from the meeting room.

Following an addition to item 18/102 it was resolved that the Chairman should sign the minutes as approved.

Proposed: EB

Seconded: AT

All agreed

18/125 Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported that he was pleased to see that UDC had published details of all the Precept figures in the district and we are in line with other villages.

18/126 To receive an update from the Parish Clerk

The Clerk reported that:

- The ECC Arboriculturist has now completed her investigations and the results have been received. The Chairman will follow these up.
- The blocked drain at the High Street/Deynes Road junction was unblocked after a lot of chasing. There is a small piece of hedge at the bottom of Deynes Road that need trimming. The Chairman will inspect.
- No further news on the Byways at Debden Green. AT contacted the resident.
- The Footpath Warden has informed me that all reports are made via the ECC website and they make the arrangements for cutting. She has asked if the PC would like to make a grant for cutting and general maintenance. As this comes under ECC's remit the PC were not prepared to do this.
- We had a tree down on one of the paths near the Old Windmill which the Chairman attended to.
- The Debden Green resident advised after the January meeting that no cutting was done on Byway 75.
- Further comments about the new house and garage on Ivy Todd Hill. The retrospective planning application for the garage has now been approved. The ECC Records Office will be contacted regarding the area below this site in order to try and establish ownership.
- The bank mandate forms were completed and they have now confirmed that I have been added to the signatory list.
- The potholes on Walden Road have been reported. Most of the potholes on Newport Road have been repaired
- There was a Transport Group meeting on 6th February.
- The Mobile library will not be coming to the village from April this year owing to lack of demand and access problems for the larger vehicle to the car park.
- The First Responders have been in touch regarding details of our Defibrillator. A note will be included in Parish Pump regarding the possibility of another training session.
- Charges for street lighting are increasing
- I contacted LCPAS regarding my contract and she has advised me that I could have an appendix to cover the Secretary/Administrator role for the Recreation Ground. I am awaiting the appropriate wording.

Members of the PC expressed their condolences to the family of Colin Luckley who passed away recently.

18/127 To review the Asset Register and Risk Assessment

The current Asset Register and Risk Assessment were circulated prior to the meeting. It was proposed that the Asset Register, total £268,220.00 should be approved and the Risk Assessment approved following a minor addition on the cheque signatories.

Proposed: AT

Seconded: RF

All agreed

18/128 To receive an update on the Annual Assembly arranged on Wednesday 25th April 2018

The Clerk reported that invitations had been sent but very little response. The Chairman of the Village Hall Group will give a report on behalf of the Co-ordinating group.

18/129 To consider entering the 2018 Essex Village of the Year Competition

This item was included as it was on the Action list but as Debden did not renew their membership of the RCCE, the Clerk will check that they can still enter into the competition.

18/130 To discuss the Litter Pick organised on Saturday 17th March

Cllr Watson has organised the litter pick on behalf of the PC. Residents who would like to help have been asked to meet outside the village shop at 10.00am on the 17th.

18/131 To receive an update on the progress of the co-ordinating group for the new Village Hall

RF reported that an application for consent to enter into a land exchange to build a new village hall on the site where the pavilion currently stands has been sent to the Charity Commission. Our solicitor has indicated that the Village Hall Trust is at liberty to chase the application. The last meeting of the group was on 25th January.

18/132 To discuss planning applications received including UTT/18/0460/FUL from Stansted Airport Ltd and agree a response

The following applications have been received, no comments submitted:

UTT/18/0446/HHF Hand Post Cottage, Chickney Road

Replace existing lean-to with a conservatory.

UTT/17/3567/FUL Tennis Courts, Mill Road

Installation of 8 floodlights to two existing courts.

UTT/18/0460/FUL Airfield works comprising two new taxiway links to the existing Runway (a Rapid Access Taxiway and a Raid Exit Taxiway) six additional aircraft stands (extension of the Echo Apron) to enable combined airfield operations of 274,000 aircraft movements and a throughput of 43 million terminal passengers following a twelve month period

Following discussion the PC decided not to respond to the above application.

18/133 To receive an update on the Data Protection regulations and discuss appointing a Data Protection Officer

The Clerk reported on information received to date, some of which has been conflicting. It has now been confirmed that the Parish Clerk cannot be the Data Protection Officer but we could take out an agreement with LCPAS, or designate our Internal Auditor or a member of the PC to take on the role.

The Clerk will approach the Internal Auditor and ask if he is willing to take this on and also obtain more information on the role and the service LCPAS offer.

