

## Minutes of Ufford Parish Council Meeting

Held on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2018 ~ 7.00pm

The Parish Hall, Church Lane, Ufford

### Present

Cllr. Kathryn Jones (*Chair*)

Cllr. Keith Bennett

Cllr. Nick Crocker

Cllr. Patricia Edworthy

Cllr. Guy Foskett

Cllr. Jane Hawthorne

Cllr. David Pearce

Cllr. John Skinner (from 7.20pm)

Judi Hallett (Clerk)

Cnty Cllr. Alexander Nicoll

Zero members of the public

### 1. To receive Apologies for absence:

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr. Nigel Smith (away), Cllr. Tracey Ling (family commitment) and Cllr. Karl Mallett (work commitments). These were accepted.

### 2. To receive any Declarations of Interest on Agenda Items and any applications for dispensation:

Cllr. Foskett declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 5. a), as a neighbour to the property.

### 3. Public Session:

#### a) Reports or comment from any member of the public (notes):

- There were no members of the public present

#### b) Reports or comment from SCDC and SCC Councillors:

- **Cnty. Cllr. Alexander Nicoll** – Cllr. Nicoll's June 2018 Parish Newsletter had been circulated to all Councillors and a report was given on the following items: Grants for the Recreation Ground Car Park; Sizewell C Project and issues for the environment and countryside and the benefits to be gained for the region, Discussions are taking place about the siting of transformers for the offshore wind farm - which could be either close to Sizewell, or possibly at Friston on present agricultural land; Possible new Nuclear Power Station in North Wales and possibility of China acquiring 49% stake in EDF nuclear company; His appointment as Deputy Cabinet Member for Highways, a review is on the cards with an additional evaluation of working with Parish Councils; His appointment as the new chair of the East Anglian Rail Group, working on the East/West Rail Project; Lowestoft Train Line, some works will need to be done and improvements would be logical to improve the service. Question 1: *The EDF representative at the APM implied there was space at Sizewell for some infrastructure; is there?* Much of the space at Sizewell is in the AONB but perhaps some of that land could be used and not land in Friston. Question 2: *Is there any capacity in the pipes coming out of Bawdsey?* This is being investigated.
- **Dist. Cllr. Bidwell** – No report had been submitted
- **Dist. Cllr. Day** – No report had been submitted

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*Chairman's initials.....*

#### 4. To agree Minutes of Council meeting dated 19<sup>th</sup> June 2018:

The minutes of the Full Council meeting dated 19<sup>th</sup> June 2018 were proposed as a true record by Cllr. Hawthorne, seconded by Cllr. Crocker and all Councillors were in agreement that they be signed.

#### 5. To discuss and agree responses to the following Planning Applications:

- a) DC/18/2560/FUL - Single storey side extension to existing dwelling, and construction of short length of boundary wall at Malt House, Spring Lane, Ufford. Councillors made the following comments:

- *The Clerk read comments from Cllr. Smith and it was noted that one objection to the wall by a near neighbour had been posted on the Planning portal*
- Tricky, some officers like the different styles but I personally think it is not in keeping with the existing house
- The section to the side is visible from the road and the pitch of the roof is very different
- The existing extension is in keeping with the original house
- You won't see most of it but you will see the shiny roof and this will be visible from the Water Meadows, i.e. in the Conservation Area
- The wall is very short and the previous wall was an improvement.
- The original extension was turned down and a 'contrast' was requested by SCDC
- **Conclusion: The Clerk was asked to indicate that UPC objected to this application on the grounds that the design (pitch of roof) and materials (shiny zinc roof) were inappropriate for a house in the conservation area and it was therefore not in keeping with the surrounding area. It was also felt to be 'over development' of the site.**

- b) DC/18/2561/LBC - Single storey side extension to existing dwelling, and construction of short length of boundary wall at Malt House, Spring Lane, Ufford. Councillors made the following comments:

- As above
- **Conclusion: As above**

- c) DC/18/2374/FUL – Proposed residential development of 75 dwellings at Rendlesham. Councillors made the following comments:

- It was felt the straight lines of the layout would be in keeping with the Maharishi Church close to the location
- There is an assumption that residents of Rendlesham do not drive and are self-sufficient within Rendlesham – clearly not the case at present
- There will be a great need to access the A12, and because of long queues at Melton, some will take "rat runs" through Ufford and Campsea Ashe
- There will be effect on our roads and therefore we should comment on this
- There are a number of housing schemes that have been refused due to Melton Crossroads being at capacity; there is also no employment being created here
- 1 bed flats will mean people without cars and the bus service from Rendlesham is poor
- We should talk about the effect on our roads and rat run through Ufford, Eyke, Tunstall and Campsea Ashe
- Rendlesham Doctors Surgery will need to be improved
- **Conclusion: The Clerk was asked to indicate that UPC objected to the application on the grounds of the additional traffic it would create in all surrounding villages and at the Melton crossroads**

- d) DC/18/2875/DRC – Details of Condition 5 on DC/18/1888/FUL at Beechwood, Ufford Place, Ufford. Councillors made the following comments:
- 10 trees to be removed, there will not be screening from the Water Meadows
  - They must replant with fast growing trees
  - We would have raised an objection to the original plans if we had known these trees would be removed
  - Not in keeping with the area as it was an old estate with lots of trees
  - **Conclusion: The Clerk was asked to indicate that UPC objected to the removal of so many trees and asked that a condition be placed on any permission that they were replaced as soon as possible.**
- e) DC/18/2889/FUL – Rebuild existing chimney at Walnut Tree Cottage, Lower Street, Ufford. Councillors made the following comments:
- No issues with this, it certainly needs doing
  - **Conclusion: The Clerk was asked to indicate that UPC no objection to this application**

Action: Clerk

**6. To acknowledge the previous month's list of SCDC Planning decisions and to discuss any other planning matters:**

The details of the Planning decisions made during June 2018, which affect properties in Ufford, had been previously circulated (full list available from Clerk). The following additional comments were made on planning matters:

- a) To discuss the SCDC Local Plan 1<sup>st</sup> Draft and consider consultation with residents – The Clerk advised that the official launch of the paper was on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July, but that a copy had been viewed via the SCDC Cabinet Agenda Pages and the good news was that there were no sites in Ufford labelled as 'suitable' for housing allocation for the period 2016 to 2036. However Councillors expressed concern that other earmarked sites and large potential developments (800 in Saxmundham and 100 in Pettistree/Wickham Market) may affect Ufford through increased traffic. Potential largescale developments in Rendlesham and Wickham Market were also felt likely to add to the congestion at Melton Crossroads. However, Councillors were pleased to receive the new parish hierarchy structure; where Ufford is now classed as a 'small village'. Cllrs Jones and Smith (along with the Clerk) had agreed to attend a 1:2:1 meeting with the Planning Officers on 13<sup>th</sup> August and the Clerk agreed to draft a letter following this meeting.
- b) Clapper Path – The Clerk agreed to chase Landex on the renewal of Clapper Path.

Action: Clerk

**7. Highways:**

- a) To discuss purchasing further plastic Grit Bins to replace the Wooden ones – After discussion Cllr Skinner and the Clerk agreed to evaluate all the remaining wooden bins to assess which ones required replacing. Council authorised the purchase up to 4 new bins (including 1 large one) if required.

Action: Clerk

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*Chairman's initials.....*

## 8. Recreation Ground and Parklands Woods

- a. To receive an update on Parklands Wood – A report from Cllr. Hawthorne had previously been circulated and she confirmed that the nomination for the ‘Quality of Place Awards’ had been drafted and would be sent to all Councillors for review before being submitted. Cllr. Foskett agreed to arrange for the hedge along the Avenue to be cut with an industrial hedge cutter.
- b. Car Park Refurbishment – To receive update on grants for refurbishment of Recreation Ground Car Park – The Clerk reported on the status of various grant applications:
- Enabling Communities Grant (Cllr. Bidwell) - £1,000 – Received
  - Enabling Communities Grant (Cllr. Nicoll) - £1,000 – Received
  - Enabling Communities Grant (Cllr. Day) - £1,500 – Requested but nothing yet
  - SCDC Exemplar Grant - £6,000 – Awaiting decision from SCDC (supported by Cllr. Carol Poulter)
  - Adnams Grant - £1,500 – Refused
  - Ufford Community Hall Charity – Donation requested

The Clerk was asked to contact Cllr. Ray Herring regarding the lack of communication from Cllr. Jane Day.

The Clerk reported that she had finally received confirmation that the Community Hall lease had been fully registered with the Land Registry. A copy of the Title would be passed to the secretary of the Ufford Community Hall Charity.

Cllr. Skinner agreed to alert the Community Hall Committee to the availability of Solar Panels under a new scheme.

- c. To receive update on the Boules Terrain from Cllr. Foskett – A second quote for the installation of a Boules Terrain had been received from Mr Moyse at a price of £2,850 (noting that he had installed 4 others). Cllr. Foskett agreed to double check the size of the terrain quoted before the Clerk forwarded the details to Cllr. Bidwell for funding support (as he had offered at a previous meeting).
- d. Play Park – Cllr. Skinner reported the fence around toddler area had been smashed in one area, Cllr. Foskett agreed to take a look.

**Action: Cllrs. Foskett and Skinner and the Clerk**

## 9. Finance Matters:

- a) To review and authorise Accounts as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018:

The monthly accounts had been sent to all Councillors. Questions regarding the ‘Recreation Ground Account’ and allocation of funds for the refurbishment of the carpark were discussed. Cllr. Pearce agreed to check the bank statements.

b) To authorise the following Invoices for Payment:

i. J Hallett (Salary + Office & mileage expenses)	£608.23
ii. SCC Pension Fund (Clerk's pension)	£167.03
iii. A&J Lighting (6th Month Maintenance)	£132.00
iv. SALC (Leadership Skills Training for K Jones)	£123.60
v. E-On (Street Light Electricity)	£137.03

The above payments were proposed by Cllr. Crocker, seconded by Cllr. Edworthy and all Councillors were in agreement that they be paid. The cheques were signed by Cllr. Hawthorne and Cllr. Edworthy.

c) To note Payments made since last meeting:

i. Realise Futures (3 Benches)	£802.72
ii. Friends of Parklands Wood (Refund of part of grant)	£147.57

d) To note Payments received since last meeting:

- i. None

e) CCTV Camera Replacement:

The Clerk informed Council that the damaged CCTV Camera could not be repaired and that a replacement would cost a total of 205.00 + VAT. This was proposed by Cllr. Jones, seconded by Cllr. Pearce and all were in favour. The Clerk was also asked to request 'anti-climb' paint was administered to the pole.

**Action: Clerk**

**10. To receive Clerk's report and items arising from last minutes not covered elsewhere, to include:**

- a. To receive reports on meetings attended by Councillors – The following meetings had been attended:
- Cllr. Jones – Leadership Skills Course at SALC – course was quite good and a debriefing session will be held with the Clerk.
- b. To discuss suggestions and comments received at the Garden Club Show – This was felt a very worthwhile exercise and should be considered for next year.
- c. School Lane / The Avenue Junction – Cllr. Bennett asked if UPC could consider asking SCC if they would put a mirror opposite this junction. The Clerk advised Council of the policy SCC had against mirrors on the highway.
- d. Pavements – It was noted that some pavements were uneven and overgrown in places (especially along High Street). The Clerk agreed to walk the length of High Street and report worst patches to SCC
- e. Gmail accounts – Councillors were asked to notify the Clerk if/when they wished to switch over to their new G-Mail account.
- f. Fire/Water Proof Box – The Clerk advised that this was presently on back-order.

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*Chairman's initials.....*

- g. Parking in Crownfields – Councillors reported that a car was once again parking in Crownfields, very close to the junction with High Street, causing an obstruction and a danger to other road users. The Clerk asked for pictures of the offending vehicle and agreed to report this to the SNT

Action: Clerk

**11. To receive agenda items for the next meeting and agree date of the Next Meeting:**

- None at the time of the meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2018** at The Parish Hall, Church Lane, Ufford. The meeting was closed at 8.47pm

Signed: .....

Chair: Cllr. Kathryn M Jones

Date: .....

*Judi Hallett*

Clerk to Ufford Parish Council

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*Chairman's initials.....*