
1. Apologies: None

2. Public Speaking:
Charles Allen Jones was opposed to the proposed housing development at Mulberry House on the grounds of too many houses creating almost as many vehicle movements as the previously refused applications. Although the access on to Newland End Road had been closed, the problems with increased traffic on the Wenden Road still remain.
Mark Phillips reiterated the traffic issues and agreed that new houses currently generate more delivery vehicles than in previous times. Nine houses with thirty seven bedrooms will put pressure on schools and other facilities.
Chairman responded that the PC had received fifteen objections and one letter of support. He restated that the PC can only look at what is in front of them and are not in a position to “negotiate” the number of houses in an application. He noted that this application refers to the appeal decision at Pebblings Field as a positive for this application but the appeal inspector repeatedly referred to the fact that the application in that case was only for three houses.
Rupert Bull stated that S106 agreements could contribute to village facilities and be used to limit further development.
Clerk responded to clarify that S106 agreements are normally part of the preapplication consultations with the planning dept.
Ted Buttling asked if UDC planning department could consider this for a S106 scheme
Clerk agreed to ask UDC for overall guidance on S106 agreements to prevent this argument recurring until the new planning protocols are in place.
Chris Coady said that she was alarmed by the comment in the Heritage Statement that declared that these proposals “replaced farm buildings with a suburban cul-de-sac”, which is not suitable for a rural location.
Edward Oliver stated that for a development of this size he would call it in if required by the PC.
Chairman stated that the PC might need to “tweak” the Transport Review that it had commissioned during previous applications at this site.
The Parish Council agreed that it would not make its decision until the February meeting and the clerk would confirm with UDC that this is acceptable.

3. Declaration of Interests: Rupert Bull declared an interest in item 6.1.1

4. Minutes of the meeting of 14th December 2020: Agreed

5. Matters arising from the minutes of 14th December 2021

5.1 Christmas Cards
The final tally was 325 cards sold and the Parish Council thanked Rupert Bull for his efforts in achieving this. The clerk reported that the “profit” from the sale of the cards would be in the region of £125 when all payments were received. The Parish Council agreed a donation to the Uttlesford Foodbank of £120
5.2 Website development
Satu Lawrence and the clerk had spoken with a website designer (specialising in Parish Councils) and had been quoted £649 to redevelop the Arkesden Village website to be compliant with new accessibility requirements and to provide an email account for parish councillors.

5.3 New clerk
There had been no response to the announcement in the Village News of the impending retirement of the clerk. The Parish Council agreed to circulate a flyer to all households and make preparation for advert with EALC.

5.4 Draft Questionnaire for Village Plan update
Ted Buttling had produced a draft questionnaire for when a “new” village plan takes place. Clerk had spoken to RCCE about the best way forward, and funding. Other Parish Councils with similar plans to Arkesden had undertaken a Village Plan “Refresh” but these are normally carried out by a separate committee with some Parish Council involvement. There is no specific funding (from outside sources) for this at present and the questionnaire and subsequent analysis of results has to be done independently. Clerk would circulate examples of other village plan “refreshes”.

6. Planning matters

6.1 New Applications.
6.1.1 UTT/20/3319/FUL Reubens Change of use of outbuilding
The Parish Council had no objections
6.1.2 UTT/20/3147/HHF Deans Meadow Change of windows
The Parish Council was disappointed to discover that this had been approved. Notification of the revised amendments had not been received and no extra time for consultation had been given. The changes to the windows were minor and had not reduced the overlooking problem with May Barn. The Parish Council had wished to support the owners of May Barn but had not been given the opportunity. It was agreed that the clerk should write to the planning department to complain that that small amendments had not been notified to the council and was this common practice?
6.1.3 UTT/20/3266/HHF and 3267/LB Watts Folly Single storey glazed extension
The Parish Council had no objections

6.2 Determinations
6.2.1 UTT/20/2714/FUL Plot 5 Wood Hall New 1.5 storey dwelling Refused
6.2.2 UTT/20/2802/CLP 6 Quicksie Hill Annexe at rear Refused

7. Report from District Councillor
Cllr. Oliver stated that December was always a quiet time of year for the district council, although the Stansted Airport enquiry had started (today) and that Manchester Airports Group were seeking approval with conditions. The difficulties with signing off UDC’s accounts was not an accounting problem but a concern with the annual governance statement.

8. Playing Field Report
The MFC had sent thanks for the parish council’s contribution to the new shed.

9. Village Hall
Clerk had received a letter of thanks from the village hall committee for the donations and also a note to say that they had received £1334 from UDC for lockdown support and that further money would be available for lockdown 3. Also, they were “on top of village hall maintenance”

10. Highways
Clerk to report damage to footbridge over the ford at Great Becketts and also to chase up repairs to the other footbridge on Clodmore Hill. Repairs to railings near bridge opposite Watts Folly also not done.
On a brighter note the finger posts for the footpaths had been repaired/replaced.
11. Activities report
Rupert Bull gave his end of year report on Activities in the village during the very difficult 2020. Despite the pandemic many activities had taken place and it is hoped that others curtailed by restrictions would be continued once social distancing measures are removed. Other ideas not yet off the ground but worth pursuing include a Rambling Group, a History Group, U11 cricket, Backyard cricket and a Gardening Club. Another proposal was for an E-gaming club for youngsters but as this would involve some capital outlay it was decided to gauge interest amongst residents first.

11. Correspondence  As circulated via email

12. Finance
12.1 Balance
Current account balance  £ 7305.69

12.2 Invoices
The following invoices were agreed for payment
AVS Fencing (shed for Millennium Field) £ 666.00 inc. VAT
(ACP net contribution = £250)
Peter Holland (internal audit) £ 120.00
Uttlesford foodbank (from sale of cards) £ 120.00

13. Further Discussion Points
13.1 Review of tasks and projects
Some of these had been dealt with at items 5.2 and 5.4. Clerk apologised for not having produced a working spreadsheet and said he would try again for February.

13.2 Statement from Rupert Bull
Rupert Bull read out a statement regarding his position as parish councillor and then tendered his resignation.

14. Date of next meeting.
The next meeting would be online again scheduled for Monday 15th February at 7.30pm