

3rd October 2022

At a Meeting of Ashdon Parish Council held on Monday 3rd October 2022 in the Baptist Schoolroom at 7.30pm.

Present.

Councillors Mike Elsey (Chairman), Mrs. Michelle Lee and Mrs. Alice Olley

Mr. David Green (Clerk)

The Chairman, Cllr. Mike Elsey, requested a minutes silence be observed to mark the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on the 8th September.

Following the minutes silence the Clerk reported the sudden passing of Mr. Keith Williams on Sunday 2nd October. Mr. Williams had kept the cemetery records and acted as liaison with Undertakers and Clergy for well over forty years having followed on from his father Mr. Cyril Williams. The Clerk said that this was both a great loss to the village and him personally and that Mr. Williams would be greatly missed. The Chairman offered his and the Council's condolences to the family

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence had been received from Cllr. John Moran, Cllr. George Smith and Cllr. Steve Hayler

Apologies for Absence had also been received from Cllr. Martin Foley (ECC)

2. Public Representations

Mr. Stuart Hastie. Mr. Hastie, The Old Smithy, Radwinter Road reiterated resident's concerns regarding the water run off problems emanating from the development south of "Little House". He said that water was running down the newly installed approach road to the development, down Radwinter Road and adding to the already existing problems of blocked gullies. During the recent heavier rainfall this had caused a water build up at Crown Hill flooding across the road. Fortunately water had not entered any properties. He said that the drainage needed investigating at the earliest possibility to ensure that when the development was completed residents were not in fear of flooding. It was also stated that the water flow that had been present over the centuries keeping the foundations of the older properties in Radwinter Road stable, including listed properties had been interrupted and this was beginning to have an adverse effect of the foundations. This had been signalled by the ponds to the rear of the properties which had existed for very many years, drying up. He urged that the authorities investigate as soon as possible. The drainage system in Radwinter Road was also in need of investigation and overhaul.

Mr Hastie, who is also the Treasurer of the Village Hall Committee said that the financing of the needed upgrade of the village hall fire alarm system could either be funded by the Parish Council (public funding) or by the Village Hall Trustees.

3. Short address by Cllr. Martin Foley on County Council matters

A short report had been received from Councillor Foley before the meeting and circulated to Members. He reported that Mrs. Rissa Long had now been replaced at Highways by Sarah Tomlin (Sara.Tomlin@essexhighways.org).

A new date for the inspection of Radwinter Road flood problems would now be set
He had been in touch with Bren the Baptist Minister regarding the setting up of a youth club in the village, possibly with some financial aid to get it established.

4. Short address by Cllr. James De Vries on District Council Matters.

There was no report from Councillor De Vries

5. Declaration of Interests

Cllr. Mrs. Olley declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 8.9 in that she was a personal friend of one of the owners of the Rose & Crown and also Item 11i in that she was a personal friend of the applicant

6. Minutes.

Resolved - that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 22nd August 2022, previously circulated, be approved (Cllr. Lee)

7. Matters Arising.

i. Playing Fields.

- a. Rectory Lane. A ball park figure of £7000.00 had been received from Fenland Leisure for the replacement of the wooden components of the zip wire. Accordingly a suitable sum would be put in the 2023/24 Budget and further quotations sought. (Action Clerk)
- b. Dog faeces and glass at the play areas. The Clerk reported that he had emptied the two bins at Rectory Lane and would check on the bins at Church Field. Other bins in the village were emptied by UDC. The purchase of a new bin for Rectory Lane would be held in abeyance.

Resolved - that the Clerk purchase two new goal nets as required in the RoSPA Report for the 5 a-side goals. (Unanimous)

ii Highways. Traffic Management.

- a. Water End/Spriggs Lane. Nothing to report
- b. Spoil Butlers Lane/Byrds Farm. Nothing to report.
- c. Speeding. Nothing to report.

iii. Village Hall and White Horse House.

The Chairman reported that the following quotations had been received for a new improved fire alarm system in the old hall and passageway:-

Anglia Fire Protection	£16,000.00 wireless
Ellen Group (Fairstone)	£14,094.00 hard wired
Prestige	£7,225.00 hard wired

It was noted that Fairstone Group would cover the cost of the system for White Horse House. The funding of the updated system for the listed part of the village Hall would be negotiated with the Village Hall Committee.

In view of the wide variation in cost the Village Hall Insurers would be consulted to determine if all quotes fulfilled their requirements. (Action Village Hall Committee)

- iv. To receive an update on the Neighbourhood Plan.

Currently with the District Council. The date for the referendum had been set for Thursday 20th October with an exhibition in the Village Hall

- v. Community Led Housing.

No further progress. Waiting for a reply from Peter Holt Chief Executive of the District Council

- vi. Neighbourhood Watch. Nothing to report.

- vii. Planting of a Jubilee Oak at the "Fir" trees, Walden Road.

The District Council Landscape Officer had completed the underground services search and had nothing to report. He said that the Parish Council could go ahead and plant a suitable tree(s) keeping a minimum of 5m from the Highway. To be done when ground conditions were suitable.

- viii. Commemoration of the centenary of Ashdon Meteorite 9th March 2023.

Mr. Gerald Lucy had recently reverted saying that the plans were well in hand, funding and relevant permissions had been secured and an exhibition would be held in the Village Hall on the 9th March 2023

- ix. Proposed Shop at the Rose & Crown

The Chairman had met with the owners and seen the proposed plans which, he understood, included an area to provide seating for a café/small meeting place. An updated plan had been received from the architect replacing the previous plan sent in error. The planning application was awaited following which the Parish Council would comment.

- x. Defribulator at Village Hall. Not yet resolved. It was understood that there was a Software fault although it was still functioning in an emergency. A replacement was required when the unit was returned for modification.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Various emails distributed to Members. Members had been requested to raise any matters received by email under correspondence. No matters raised.

9. NEW ITEMS.

- i. To start planning for the forthcoming Coronation of H.M. King Charles III.

Cllr. Mrs. Lee would start putting preparations in place and would form a small committee from the village. A suitable sum would be put in the 2023/24 Budget.

10. NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

- I. UTT/22/2309/FUL. Proposed erection of 2 no. detached dwellings accessed from existing access on Church Hill, with associated works
Land south of Church Hill

The council was unable to comment as they were not quorate following the declaration of an interest by Cllr Mrs. Olley.

Resolved - that a special meeting be convened on Monday 10th October, 7.30pm. Baptist Schoolroom, with only one item on the Agenda, the above planning application. The public could attend but there would not be a public speaking session. (Chairman)

- ii. UTT/22/2407/FUL. Removal of condition 17 (details of works to ditch and ground level electric transformer) attached to planning permission UTT/21/1754/DFO
Land to west of Radwinter Road

It was noted that:-

- a. The entrance to the site had been moved further down Radwinter Road
The entrance was now below the spring line.
- b. It was understood that Prior Associates, the developer's drainage engineers, had carried out their survey on the basis of there being no spring line. The spring line has now been acknowledged but a further investigation is required to determine the effect this is having on both the development run off to Radwinter Road and the water flow being maintained to stabilise the foundations of the properties in Radwinter Road.

Resolved - that:-

- a. **Due to the delay in the proposed site meeting with a drainage engineer to discuss the problems regarding this site being arranged by County Councillor Cllr. Martin Foley and the grave reservations and concerns voiced by residents that a decision be withheld until that site meeting has taken place and a report received from the engineer.**
 - b. **that the District Council Planning Department be informed to that effect. (Unanimous)**
- iii. UTT/22/2420/TCA. 1 no. Copper Beech. Reduce height by approx. 3m, reduce spread by 1-2m to balance shape
The Old Smithy, Radwinter Road

No Objections UDC. 2/9/22

11. PLANNING APPLICATIONS DETERMINED.

- i. UTT/22/1724/HHF & UTT/22/1725/LB. Single storey rear extension
2 Bridge Cottages, Water End

Conditional Approval

- i. UTT/22/2147/DOC. Application to discharge condition 3 (materials), 4 (ecology mitigation and enhancement), 5 (Great Crested Newt method Statement), 6 Biodiversity Enhancement Layout) and 7 (lighting and design scheme) attached to UTT/22/2378/HHF
Spriggs Farm, Water End

Discharge Conditions in Part – 8th September 2022

APPEALS.

- i. UTT/21/2049/FUL. Change of use from agricultural to residential and erection of 1 no detached dwelling and associated single storey garage/hobby room.
Land to the east of Fairfields, Water End.
Appeal Ref: APP/C1570/W/21/3287404

Appeal Dismissed

- ii. UTT/20/2009/FUL. Proposed erection of five family dwellings with private road access from Radwinter Road, gardens, landscaping and new wild planted shared green space
Land to the west of Radwinter Road
Appeal Ref: APP/C1570/W/21/3272469

Appeal Dismissed

12. FINANCE.

- i. Notice of Conclusion of Audit.

Report received from the External Auditor (Appendix i). No outstanding matters other than the one point raised which had been discussed with the Internal Auditor. The required notices had been put in place. The invoice had been received.
- ii. Accounts for payment. The Accounts (Appendix ii) were passed for payment. (Cllr. Elsey)

13. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA.

- i. Notice of and public participation in meeting (Cllr. Olley)

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.34pm

Date of next Parish Council meeting 7th November

Signed Chairman Date

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY 3rd OCTOBER 2022
22nd AUGUST 2022 to 3rd OCTOBER 2022

Monies Received.	£
UDC. Community Grant. Birds Nest Swing	2,600.00
UDC. Precept	21,580.00

Invoices for Payment

Fenland Leisure. Purchase and installation of Birds Nest Swing	4,762.80	Ch.No. 102753
Acorn Services. Removal of old play equipment Rectory Lane	1,876.80	Ch.No. 102754
Andrew Everitt. Trim Cemetery Hedge	420.00	
Cut grass in closed cemetery	600.00	
Hedge at War Memorial	160.00	1,180.00 Ch.No. 102755
D. Green. 6 months salary	2,392.00	Ch.No. 102756
HMCE. Income Tax	598.00	Ch.No. 102757
Haward Horological. New control mechanism at school clock	550.00	Ch.No. 102758
MD Landscapes. Grass August Account	226.80	Ch.No. 102759
D. Green. Telephone/Broadband	19.00	Ch.No. 102760
NPower Electricity. August Account	38.61	Ch.No. 102761
CPRE Annual subscription	36.00	Ch.No. 102762
D. Green. Stamps	10.88	Ch.No. 102763
D. Green. Stationery	18.00	Ch.No. 102764
MD Landscapes. Village grass Sept. 2 cuts	769.20	Ch.No. 102765
Ashdon Baptist Church. Hire of meeting room x 3 plus previous	70.00	Ch.No. 102766
PKF Littlejohn. External Audit fee	360.00	Ch.No. 102767

Balances at Bank on 3rd October 2022:-

Current Account:-	£2467.63
Saver Account:-	£1,071.77
Saver Account:-	£82,517.37

