

**Minutes of Birchanger Parish Council meeting
held on Tuesday 1st December 2015 at 8pm.
in Birchanger Village Hall**

Present: Angie Driscoll – Chair (AD)
Elizabeth Godwin (EG)
Linda Pocklington (LP)
Alex Stewart (AS)
Michelle May (MM)
Ken Wheatley (KW)
Matt Zych (MZ)

Ray Gooding (RG) County Councillor

Keith Williams (Parish Clerk)

099. Chairman’s Welcome

The Chairman welcomed all those present.

100. Apologies and Reason for Absence

Received from:

Sandy Dowle (SD) – personal commitments
Maria Davy (MD) – work commitments

101. Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

102. Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.

There were no representations from the public.

103. Minutes of the last meeting

a) Acceptance of the minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 3rd November was proposed by AS and agreed as a true and accurate record.

b) Acceptance of the minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on Tuesday 24th November was proposed by EG and agreed as a true and accurate record.

104. Dog Bins

- a) The parish clerk would investigate commercial dog bin collections.
- b) Councillors would look into the queries for discussion at a later meeting.

105. Planning

UTT/15/3177/HHF – Proposed erection of rear conservatory at 357 Birchanger Lane.

No objections.

106. Recreation Ground Working Group/Allotments – Glebeland

The report from MM had previously been circulated.

MM presented a report from Richard Taylor of Kompan which included an aerial photograph of the recreation ground with suggestions for siting of the equipment.

3 pieces of equipment were recommended (see report for details). The cost including signage, installation, grass matting and circuit board would be £13370 (ex VAT).

MM was asked to obtain 2 further estimates, as required by standing orders, for comparison. AD advised that an additional street light will eventually be installed in the lane alongside the recreation ground.

107. Highways

The report from SD had previously been circulated.

AD advised that there had still been no response from Highways to her queries and requests. RG offered to speak to Mike Thompson at Uttlesford District Council regarding the issues.

108. Additional landscaping work by Ace of Spades Landscaping (AOS)

On a proposal from EG seconded by AS it was agreed unanimously to proceed with the proposal from AOS of an amount of £2500 p.a. to cover all the required work. The parish clerk will contact AOS to advise the decision.

109. Transport

KW advised that there was no evidence that route 307 is being changed.

RG advised that routes 7 and 7A are not being cut. KW will confirm with Transport that there are no intended changes.

110. Finance

Account balances – as previously circulated.

Invoices and standing orders for payment – were approved.

111. Reports from district and county councillors

Ray Gooding

- A new chief executive Gavin Jones will start with Essex in January 2016.
- Uttlesford also has a new chief executive, Dawn French, who also starts in January 2016.
- There is no problem in Uttlesford with regard to school places. In 2015 there were 1093 reception places for 1086 children. In 2018 there will be 1170 reception places for 1043 children.
- Essex County Council will be spending £32 million on primary places over the next 5 years.
- There are currently 320 secondary school places

112. Closure of meeting

There being no further matters to discuss the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.15.