

**Minutes of Birchanger Parish Council meeting
held on Tuesday 4th July 2017 at 8.00 pm.
in Birchanger Village Hall**

Present: Angie Driscoll (AD) - Chair
Elizabeth Godwin (EG)
Linda Pocklington (LP)
Alex Stewart (AS)
Sandy Dowle (SD)
Maria Davy (MD)
George Taylor

Ray Gooding (County councillor)
Thom Goddard (District councillor)
Keith Williams (Parish Clerk)

309. Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed all those present.

310. Apologies and Reason for Absence

Ken Wheatley - holiday
John Revell - holiday

311. Declarations of Interest

None.

312. 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.

313. Minutes of the last meeting

Acceptance of the minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 6th June 2017 was proposed by LP and agreed as a true and accurate record, and duly signed by the Chairman.

314. Recreation Ground Working Group/Allotments – Glebeland

a) Adoption of revised allotments rules

On a proposal from MD the revised rules were adopted. It was agreed that the allotment plots needed clearing and the parish clerk will contact Ace of Spades to make the necessary arrangements.

b) Allotment plot allocation sheet (already circulated)

Noted.

315. Update on UDC Local Plan

EG reported that there is a proposal to create three new garden villages at;

- Little Easton
- Stebbing
- Great Chesterford

There will be a full council meeting next week to decide whether to proceed.

The council wishes to maintain the Green Belt area which should preclude Birchanger from being considered. It is likely that Birchanger will only come in for consideration if the proposal for the 3 garden village sites does not proceed. [At this point Councillor Thom Goddard advised that it was his understanding that Birchanger was at the bottom of the list for consideration].

14100 new home are required for the county of which 2500 had already been built. Every new home is to have a garden.

The overall plan is to be submitted by March 2018, with formal adoption scheduled for March 2019. The public consultation dates are between 12th July and 1st September.

316. Report on Police Conference attended by AS

The report from AS had already been circulated, and was noted. AS advised, in addition, that there is no neighbourhood policing in Birchanger. The question of speed guns was raised, to be operated by residents, but AS felt that it would not be practicable for the village to use its own speed gun.

317. Finance

- a. Account Balances (already circulated).
- b. The payments were accepted and authorised to be made.
- c. On a proposal from SD, seconded by AS, a donation of £500 to SSE was agreed.

318. Report on Transport meeting attended by KW

Report already circulated. Noted.

319. Report on SSE Liason Group meeting attended by KW.

Report already circulated. Noted.

320. Footpaths

Report already circulated. Noted.

321. Reports from county and district councillors

Thom Goddard

- Essex Police have a roving patrol unit. They can be contacted to ask if they will attend Birchanger.
- The parish council should definitely respond to the Local Plan proposals.
- There is still some £250,000 of Forest Hall Park section 106 funds still available.
- He has £4200 of District Councillor grant money available.
- He will ask the Essex Rangers to have a look around the village to identify potential repair sites.
- Applications for Rangers to attend can be channelled through Thom.

Ray Gooding

- SATS results for Essex are 2% above the national average.
- The council will be checking on fire precautions for buildings, following the Grenfell tragedy. It is considered that sprinklers are not necessarily the answer.
- The council is looking to recruit more school crossing volunteers.

322. Closure of meeting

There being no further matters to discuss the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.20.