**GREAT EASTON AND TILTY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 30th NOVEMBER 2017**

**AT GREAT EASTON VILLAGE HALL**

**Present** Cllrs John Lewis (Chairman) – David Rowland (Vice Chairman)

Terry Francis – Clair Southon – Tristan Martens – Cecile Down

 Cllr John Freeman ( District)

**Clerk**  Audrey Miller

**Residents/Guests** David Chalkley

1. **Welcome**

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed Cllr John Freeman and David Chalkley.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Julia England – Paul Kelly – Nicola Longman – Cllr Martin Foley (District)

1. **Declaration of Members Interests**

John Lewis S.S.E. – David Rowland S.S.E., C.A.B., Friends of the Five Parishes,

Tristan Martens S.S.E., Essex Wildlife Trust

1. **Minutes of last meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 26th October 2017, having been circulated prior to the meeting and there being no matters arising from the minutes, were agreed and signed as a true record.

1. **Public Forum**

Concerns were made regarding the triangle of grass at the crossroads at Cox Hill which is very overgrown. Request for the rangers to tidy it up.

1. **Village Hall**

In the absence of the Treasurer the clerk read out the financial report.

Monies banked during October and November amounted to £1,565.00, this included several regulars paying for a six month period.

Monies paid out: British Gas £85.71. (electric) – Caretaker £52.50 (Sept) – British Gas £47.85 (Gas) – Caretaker £150.00 October, to include painting out the toy room, repairing overflowing gutter)

Total payments £336.06.

The Chairman reported that because taps had been left running on four separate occasions during the last couple of months, new self closing taps had been fitted in the cloakrooms. The Vice Chairman raised concerns over the flushing of the ladies toilets. This will be looked into.

1. **Website Update**

The Vice Chairman informed the meeting that because the Transparency Code has to be adhered to by law, our web site needed to be upgraded.

Application for a grant for computer, printer and maintenance etc has been submitted and has been approved by EALC and has now gone to be approved at National Level.

Martin Astley who prepares web site has updated parts of our web site and will continue to maintain it, as and when we need to add something.

1. **Reports from Representatives**

**Planning:**

UTT/17/2559/FUL Proposed conversion of barn to 2 no. residential dwellings.

 Barn at Bush Farm, Gallows Green Road. Comments sent

UTT/17/3054/AV 1 no. illuminated totem sign

 P&A Wood, Dunmow Road. No objections

UTT/17/3159/OP Outline application with all matters reserved except for

 access and layout for 1 no. dwelling including new access.

 3 Maysland Cottages, Dunmow Road. No objections

UTT/17/2530/DFO Those reserved under condition 1 of UTT/17/0406/OP

 for rural workers dwelling in respect of access, scale,

 layout, appearance and landscaping.

 Dairymeade Farm & Fisheries, Thaxted Rd. No objections

UTT/17/3390/HHF Erection of detached garage. Conversion of outbuilding

 to residential annexe. Erection of new entrance gates.

 Orchard View, Gallows Green Road. No objections.

**Playing Fields:**

The litter bin and pole from Burns playing field has been stolen. It was decided to have a trial period without a litter bin to try and encourage people to take their litter home with them. An email would be sent to the football club to request them to remove all their rubbish from the field. The subject of a

litter bin would be re assessed at a future council meeting.

The new bench for Burns playing field has been delivered and will be sited in the next couple of weeks. Thanks were conveyed to Steve Brett for removing the two metal rods which had held the old seat in place. A request from ‘enviocare’ to allow them to tender for the parish grass cutting. The Parish Council felt it was good to have our present contractor living in the village and we were quite happy to stay with him.

**Footpaths:**

 Cecile commented that the farmer had ploughed up the whole field including the footpath from Tilty to Goodfellows Farm.

**River Interests:**

It was reported that the river was in very good condition, water was crystal clear and there was a lot of wildlife to see along the river.

**Road Safety/Highways:**

Terry reported that the railings on the bridge in Duton Hill have been damaged and a capping stone on the brickwork of the bridge was missing. The clerk would report this to Highways.

**Airport**:

The Chairman informed the council that MAG will be holding a meeting at Foakes Hall on Friday 1st December between 4pm and 8pm. This was to have a dialogue with residents over the amendment they have made to the Scoping Document.

They now hope to apply for an increase in passenger movements to 43mppa instead of 44.5mppa.

They will be submitting their application to UDC early 2018.

1. **Clerks Correspondence**

Notification that the external auditor for 2017/2018 for Essex will be PKF Littlejohn LLP.

Acknowledgement from Essex and Herts Air Ambulance for the donation of £200.

Proposals for Remembrance Sunday 2018 and the lighting of the beacons.

Notification of temporary closures on bridlepaths on Broxted/Byway 99, Thaxted/Byway 22 and Tilty/Byway 33.

Request for support in 2018 from Stop Stanstead Expansion.

Request for support for the Essex Energy Switch with leaflets to be distributed and displayed.

Maintenance of the defibrillators.

 **Expenditure**

S.Smith £110 (extra grass cut on Brocks Mead and Burns Football Pitch) – British Legion £15 (poppy wreath) – N.Messer £360 (ditch clearance) – Social Media Specialists Ltd. £200.20 (web maintenance)

2018/2019 Budget

The Clerk had prepared a budget for 2018/2019 which was discussed. It was approved by the meeting that we request a precept of £25,000 deducting any LCTS grant if this was forthcoming in 2018/2019.

1. **Any other business**

Paul would be asked to deal with the defibrillator issues.

The Nation’s Tribute was covered in Clerk’s correspondence

Stop Easton Park Meeting – Paul attended this meeting and will give a report at the next meeting.

The Christmas Tree on the green will be erected on Saturday 2nd December and Carols round the tree will be on Friday 22nd December. Time to be confirmed.

The garage owned by UDC sited on the car park by Burns Playing Field is now empty and very dilapidated. UDC will be asked if they can either dismantle the garage making more space for car parking or repair and maintain it.

There being no other business to discuss the Chairman wished everyone a Happy Christmas, thanked all for attending and looked forward to seeing them in the New Year at the January meeting.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 25th January 2018. Great Easton Village Hall – 7.30pm.

**Chairman…………………………………………………………………Date………………………………………….**

**SUBJECT TO APPROVAL**