

Radwinter Parish Council
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Minutes of the Radwinter Parish Council held on Monday 25th January 2016.

Present Cllr Halls
 Cllr Rains
 Cllr Fitch
 Cllr Duck
 Cllr Boyden

16/01 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Mary
Cllr Kleber
DC Howell

16/02 Members of the public are welcome to attend the Parish Council meeting. Those wishing to speak or raise any issue are requested to do so at.

There were none present.

16/03 Members' Declarations of interest

There were none

16/04 The Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 21st December 2015 were approved and signed. Proposed Cllr Duck, Seconded Cllr Fitch

16/05 Clerks Report

The Clerk reported that she had received a grant for a new computer £350.

The Clerk had received a letter from a resident asking that a sign be put up to show where the Recreation Ground is. This to be an Agenda Item for February the Clerk to get a price of a sign.

16/06 District Councils Report

The Local Plan

The results of the Call for Sites were published shortly before Christmas. The results are available to view on Uttlesford's website at

<http://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/callforsites>. There is also a very useful interactive map.

Two sites have been put forward by their owners in Radwinter. It is important to emphasise that just because the owner believes a site is suitable for development does not mean that Uttlesford will share this view. However, we are now in for a period of some uncertainty while each of the sites put forward is assessed by the planners.

There will be a further consultation in November - December 2016 on the Local Plan (this will include details of the sites that have been selected for development). The Local Plan will then be submitted in March 2017, with the public examination by the Inspector in August-September 2017. As you are aware, the 'Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation', which closed on 4th December 2015, forms a critical part in the preparation of the Local Plan and how each site put forward by their owners is assessed.

Uttlesford's Finances

As the Member for Finance I have been busy in recent weeks preparing the budget for Uttlesford for the new financial year, starting on 1 April 2016, and also preparing a Medium Term Financial Strategy for the Council through to 2020/21. The Chancellor's Autumn Statement and subsequent announcements by the Government have made the task particularly challenging this year. There has been a general change in the way district councils are financed – though for local residents the one constant remains Council Tax. In particular, the Government has announced a major reduction in our core source of finance from Central Government – the so-called 'New Homes Bonus'. Uttlesford has been identified as the Council in the whole of England that is likely to be worst affected by this change.

The new financial year (2016/17) looks to be fine, and perhaps even 2017/18 will be manageable. However, put bluntly, thereafter we face some real challenges. Putting together a balanced budget is beginning to feel like one of those party tricks that just gets more difficult each year. However, I am determined to do everything I can to protect front-line services.

Fly tipping and litter

Like you, I am thoroughly depressed by the amount of rubbish that litters the roads in our parish. I drive a lot for work and, on balance, I think that Uttlesford is not as bad as many other areas. Nevertheless, it is a real problem. Uttlesford currently spends about £300,000 a year on litter picking and there have been two unpleasant instances of fly-tipping in the Ward in the last few weeks which I am pleased were promptly sorted by Uttlesford. I know Radwinter WI are planning a litter pick as part of the Clean for the Queen campaign. I have been pleased to help them with a small grant.

16/07 County Councillors

The County Council is working through the implications of the recent Government settlement of grants for local authorities, and Essex has been particularly badly hit. Consequently my colleagues on the Cabinet have been working hard across their portfolios to see where further savings can be made ahead of next month's budget meeting and agreeing of the level of Council Tax. Early indications are that there may be an increase as this is the only way to ensure key services remain in place.

The other element is the ability to separately precept for adult social care. Again this seems a real possibility, but the council leader, Cllr Finch is having regular meetings

with Government ministers to seek some sort of relief around the social services budget.

16/08 Recreation Ground:

16/08.1 Recreation Ground Entrance

Cllr Halls has spoken to Jeremy about doing a drawing of the entrance to the Recreation Ground

16/08.2 Recreation Ground

The Recreation Ground Committee have ordered a Zip Line and asked that the Parish Council pay for it out of the money for the new development.

16/08.3 Recreation Ground Car Park to receive update

The Clerk to get quotes for marking the Parking bays

16/9 Finance:

To agree the following payments:

16/9.1	Cathryn Carlisle –	salary	8
16/9.2	£85.20	E-on Electricity	d/d
16/9.3	£23.00	Cathryn Carlisle Clerk Expenses	9
16/9.4	£48.38	A & J Lighting Maintenance	S/O
16/9.5	£968.94	Uttlesford DC Green Skip	10
16.9.6	£201.79	Radwinter Over 60's Xmas Lunch	11
16/9.6	£516.00	TBS Hygiene Dog Bins	12

Invoices were checked by Cllr Fitch, payments were agreed by all members of the council present.

16/9.6 Monthly Budget and Bank Reconciliation

Cllr Fitch checked the Bank Statement to the Bank Reconciliation.

16/9.7 Bank Account No Update

16/9.8 Budget sheet for 2016/17 to set the budget for 2016/17

The Councillor agreed to set the Precept for 2017-17 at £13,598.61 Which in an increase of 1.01%, which works out at £52.16 per household.

16/10 Recent Planning Applications:

16/10.1 Planning Applications

There are none

16/10.2 Planning Results

There are none

16/10.3 New Development of East View

The hedge has been taken down near the Walden Road.

16/11 Highways: Updates

The finger post has rotted away and needs replacing Clerk to report on the Ashdon Road.

The High Path between Hall Farm and Maple End needs clearing Clerk to report.

16/12 Stocking Green

Cllr Halls will talk to David Low.

16/13 To look into a five year plan on what the Parish Council would like to achieve.

This to be talked about in the Neighbourhood Plan.

16/14 Website and Broadband

Cllr Fitch will be in contact with Stephen Graves to see if he can get copies of all the historical minutes to put on the website.

Broadband

The Clerk has arranged for County Broadband to have a meeting in the Village Hall on Monday 7th March at 7.30 pm. Posters are up, Notice has gone in the Ambo also its gone on the website and The Village email group.

The Clerk has had an email from Paul Camp with regards to the Village Hall Committee putting in Broadband into the Village Hall. Mr Camps asked if there was a line into the upstairs office, and what sort of contract the PC has with BT. The Clerk met with Mr Camps prior to the meeting to look at whats up in the office there is a phone line but we're not sure if the phone is working.

Mr Camps will get this check out. The Parish Council were happy to let the VH Committee take this on but they would like to keep the broadband separate. The Parish Council suggests that we pay for the Broadband and bill the VHC.

16/15 Reports from Councillors with matters affecting the village

16/16 Village Furniture

Cllr Mary no report

16/17 Neighbourhood Plan

A meeting was held on the 18th January with Sarah Sapsford from the RCCE the Parish Council has decided to go ahead with a Neighbourhood Plan; Cllr Fitch proposed this it was seconded by Cllr Rains.

Cllr Fitch to put something in the Ambo regarding the Plan.

16/18 Other updates

16/19 Date of next Meeting

29th February 2016

16/20 Matters to be raised by members for the next agenda

16/21 Meeting Closed at 9.16pm

Signed.....

Dated.....