

GREAT YELDHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
Thursday 13th April 2023 at 7.30pm, Reading Room, Gt Yeldham

Present: Cllr Philip Rawlinson (Chairman)
 Cllr John Marks (Vice-Chairman)
 Cllr Georgina Burr
 Cllr Anne Burrows
 Cllr Phil King
 Cllr Mark Lovell
 Cllr Bikaramjit Singh
 Cllr Gary Theobald

In attendance: Tracy Wigmore (Parish Clerk)
 4 members of the public present.

23/055 Welcome and apologies for absence.
 Apologies received from Cllr Sargeant.

23/056 Declarations of Interest.
 Cllrs Marks, King and Lovell declared a non-pecuniary interest at item 23/062 Men's Shed. Cllrs Rawlinson, Lovell, Burr, Burrows, Singh, Theobald declared a non-pecuniary interest at item 23/064 UK Power Networks (proposed works at the Recreation Ground).

23/057 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council
RESOLVED that the minutes of meeting held on 2nd March 2023 were a correct record. All in favour. Chairman signed the minutes.

23/058 Public Participation Session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters of mutual interest.
 Julia Allen, introduced herself as the Independent candidate for the Yeldham Ward for the up and coming elections on 4th May, extended an invitation for electors to contact her.

23/059 Invitation to Cllr Peter Schwier, Essex County Council (ECC) and Cllr Richard van Dulken, Braintree District Council (BDC) to address the meeting on matters of mutual interest.

Cllr Van Dulken

- Road issues and potholes in the area – e.g. Highfields extremely dangerous and Braintree A1017 turnoff to Halstead, have been escalated to Cllr Schwier, response stated that micro surfacing is planned for the summer.
- Pathway from Strawberry Fields to the Recreation Ground (s106 agreement) Planning are liaising with ECC and legal papers are being commissioned following the agreement with PC to take on the pathway maintenance once installed.
- Men's Shed supported the project from the beginning, the last thing wanted was to let people down, the project is a tremendous opportunity to do good.
- Enforcement action is being progressed by the senior enforcement. The 'slipe' caught in probate legal battle - starting to find a solution. Fishing lakes, owner has 6 months to move the caravans from site and to stop serving food. Caine Hall is being proceeded with.
- Will be standing for the 'Yeldham' ward in the May election.

Cllr Peter Schwier
 Apologies received.

23/060 Planning Applications – Received as at 06/04/23

23/00476/PLD: Application for Certificate of Lawfulness for a proposed development - Log Cabin to be used as annex by family member. 25 Market Grove Great Yeldham Essex CO9 4EF. **For information only**

23/061 Planning Decisions as at 06/04/23

22/00552/HH Retention of 1.8m boundary fence adjacent to highway. Canie Hall, Toppesfield Road. **PENDING**

22/01781/HH Retention of single storey rear extension to outbuilding | Canie Hall Toppesfield Road. **PENDING**

22/02812/TPOCON Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a conservation Area: Yew (T1) Crown reduction of 1.5 metres. Oak House, Church Rd. **PENDING**

22/03455/FUL Erection of No.2 two storey two-bedroom semi-detached houses Land South Of, 4 Little Hyde Close, Great Yeldham. **REFUSED**

23/00150/FUL: Change of use of land and retention of 2 No. storage containers for the use by the Gt Yeldham Men's Shed project. **REFUSED**

23/00260/FUL Siting of 1 No. storage containers for the use by the Gt Yeldham Men's Shed project. Sports Ground Toppesfield Road Gt Yeldham **REFUSED.**

23/062 Great Yeldham Men's Shed (GYMS)

Update by Cllr Lovell. The planning permission required for the retention/addition of the storage containers was refused by the local planning authority. Work on the shed has been limited, the project does not want to spend further funds until a resolution can be found. The Men's Shed committee members have initiated a various strategies including: a petition (obtained over 500 signatures and growing), social media posting to bring awareness about the project's plight; Anglia ITV interview held on Friday 14th; article in the Halstead gazette; meeting with James Cleverly MP. The Parish Council has sent a letter of complaint about the decision and planning process regarding the inconsistency of the investigation and decision.

Parish Clerk collating information shared by the Men's Shed Project Leader to put together ideas for resolution and/or appeal. The Parish Council have 12 weeks from the date of the decision notice to submit an appeal to the Planning Inspectorate. (Planning Decision Notice circu).

RESOLVED that the Parish Council will seek a meeting with the Planning Authority to seek a resolution, if this is not possible the Parish Council will submit an appeal to the Planning Inspectorate.

Proposed Cllr Theobald. Seconded: Cllr Burrows. All in favour.

23/063 Bowtells' Meadow

The Parish Council received communication from Rose Builders confirming that the 16th dwelling on Nun's Green is nearing competition. The Parish Council need to appoint a Solicitor to act on its behalf in the transfer of Bowtells Meadow. The Clerk invited 3 Solicitors to provide quotes for work to complete the transfer which were circulated to councillors prior to the meeting for comments. As cited under 4.1 of the Parish Council's Financial Regulations: *the Clerk, in conjunction with the Chairman, for any items over £500 but below £1,000; Such authority is to be evidenced by a minute or authorisation signed by the Clerk, and where necessary also by the Chairman.* The preferred Solicitor appointed for the transfer of Bowtells Meadow was Holmes & Hills at £825 plus VAT.

Cllr Theobald reported that Cllr Singh had made fantastic progress in investigating resources, equipment and suppliers. A draft proposal and shopping list have been identified with preferred suppliers. Volunteers meeting has taken place and suggestions taken forward. Funding has been secured with Essex Wildlife Trust for onsite planting. St

Andrews School keen to get involved, working group to meet with pupils. Formal proposal will be reported back to Council, next step will then engage with the village. ECC will need to use half the meadow later this year for storage whilst works are completed on the bridge, realistically the project will not commence until next year and depends on funds available.

Cllr King photograph the meadow from the Church Tower before works commence to ensure that ECC put everything back as it was.

RESOLVED that under 4.1 of the Parish Council's Financial Regulations (for any items over £500 but below £1,000) the Clerk, in conjunction with the Chairman, Authorised the appointment of Holmes & Hills to undertake the transfer of Bowtells Meadow. All in favour.

23/064 UK Power Networks (Proposed Works)

Update by Cllr Lovell. The Parish Council received a Wayleave Agreement for works required at the Sports and Recreation Ground near the Skate Park. Concerns were raised at the last meeting regarding the works outlined and an on-site meeting was arranged with UK Power Networks. The current electrical wires under the trees are interfering with the power lines. UK Power Networks wish to remove the current line and bury new lines on the farmers land (not PC land), and the installation of an additional pole in the far-left hand corner. UK Power Networks will require access to the Recreation Ground to undertake the works. A request was also made for the Electrical wires cutting across the corner above the shed be diverted so that they are not running across the concrete area above the Men's Shed, these cause difficulties in offloading containers. It was highlighted that no works could be undertaken until permission is granted by the farmer. The 'Wayleave Agreement' states the Parish Council would receive payment of £ £110.56.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council agree for the work to proceed and for the Chairman to sign the Wayleave Agreement EX976424.

Proposed: Cllr Lovell. Seconded Cllr Marks. Chairman signed the agreement.

23/065 Clerks Report

Councillors to review actions list, update and report progress to date (Rpt circu).

- Vertical Flagpole. The request was presented to the Reading Room Management Committee, trustees not keen on flagpole being located outside the Reading. Consensus that the cost of purchase/installation outweighed the benefit

For note.

23/066 To approve the monthly invoices and accounts due for payment (Rpt circu).

The Clerk presented the list of payments. **RESOLVED: that payments be approved of £5,026.01. All in favour.** Cllrs Rawlinson and Burrows signed the Accounts for Payment.

23/067 Receipts and Payments for the period ending 28th February 2023 (Rpt circu).

The Clerk presented the Receipts and Payments report. There were no queries or comments **RESOLVED: That the report is approved. All in favour**

23/068 Information Exchange/Communication Received/Next Agenda Items Only

- **Warm Places** (Village Hub) Update. 25-30 people attending every Monday, now attracting younger people. Once funding has ended, attendees will be asked to contribute to continue the Hub
- **Coronation Big Lunch** Update. Sunday 7th May 2023, 1.00 – 4.00pm. Entertainment and activities: Inflatables, giant games, crazy golf, toddler soft play zone, arts and crafts, coronation games, nerf tag, raffle; scouts will be managing the BBQ for a donation to the club. Church café will be providing refreshments and serving cupcakes.

- **Local Elections (District/Town/Parish) – Thursday 4th May 2023. Uncontested election for Great Yeldham Parish.** Candidates appointed include Cllrs Rawlinson, Marks, Burr, Burrows, King, Lovell, Singh and Theobald. 1 vacant seat which can be filled by co-option at the June/July meeting (depends on the notice date set by Braintree District Council).

23/069 The next meeting of the Parish Council will be the Annual meeting to be held on Thursday 11th May 2023 at 7.30 pm in the Reading Room.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

Future Meeting Dates:

- Future dates to be agreed at the Annual Parish Council Meeting in May.