



Minutes of the Meeting of Great Notley Parish Council Held on Monday 14th March 2016 at the Community Centre Great Notley

Meeting commenced at 7.37pm

Those present: Councillors Ricci (Acting Chair), Price, Crawford, Paul and the Clerk.

One member of the public was present.

In the absence of both the Chair and Vice-Chair it was agreed that Councillor Ricci shall be the acting Chair for this meeting.

16/23: Apologies

Received from Councillors Heady, Butland, Cunningham and Cooper.

16/24: Declarations of Interest

Councillor Paul declared a non-pecuniary interest as a member of Braintree District Council.

Councillor Ricci declared a non-pecuniary interest as a member of Braintree District Council and in relation to any discussions surrounding the prospective Skyline 2 site he declared a non-pecuniary interest as he provides a service to the landowner.

16/25: Public Question Time

A member of the public explained that she has been trying to obtain planning permission for her land for some years and so far it has been refused by Braintree District Council and she wishes to have some assistance in her efforts. It was noted that as the lady lives outside the Parish this is not a matter for the Parish Council however as she does reside in the ward she may take up the issue with a District Councillor. It was explained to her that if she makes a formal planning application it may come before the Parish Council as being in close proximity to the Parish and comments can be made by Councillors at that stage.

16/26: Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 8th February 2016 & progress update

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th February 2016 were agreed by members as a correct record and signed by the Acting Chair.

16/27: Chairman's report

Councillor Heady had circulated the following report which was noted –

Since the last meeting I have posted four items on the Facebook Group. Two regarding our decisions on the planning application for the development of Brook Green, Land north of the Flitch Way, Pods Brook Rd, Braintree (on which there were three comments) and on the Essex P3 pathway Scheme (in respect of which there have been no responses as yet). One posting drew attention to a letter received from the Police Commissioner on 24th February 2016 setting out progress in changes to policing in Essex (on which no comment has been made). The final posting invited residents to let me or the clerk know if they had any comments on Braintree's development proposals which are on this agenda: to date no comments have been received.

I have chased those responsible for minuting the County's consultation meetings on consultation in respect of proposals for improving the A120 between Great Notley and Marks Tey. The meeting I attended with the Chairs of several other parishes around the A120 was on 10th February and I await the minutes of the meeting so to be able to arrange for consultation with parishioners.

16/28: Parish Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported as follows –

1. White Court School have thanked the Parish Council for the bat box and confirmed they will undertake all necessary action to relocate it in the school's wildlife area.
2. John Slade has repainted the white entrance gates at Panners and also cleaned the adjacent road signs at no extra charge.
3. On 11th February 2016 I attended a course on Procurement which was extremely useful in order to comply with the recent legislative changes.
4. As requested at the last meeting I wrote to the local bus company in relation to the allegation of buses exceeding the speed limit along the London Road. I have received a response stating that the bus company can only act if a specific complaint is lodged providing the bus number, location time and date of the incident.
5. On 25th February 2016 I attended the Larger Local Council Forum in Dunmow. There were interesting talks from Councillor Rodney Bass in relation to highways and infrastructure, from the PCC office on restorative justice and general discussions about devolution and grants. The next LLCF meeting will take place on 7th July 2016 in Epping so do let me know if you would like to come along.
6. The Cuckoo Wood Guided spring walk has been organised for Wednesday 6th April 2016. It has been promoted on the website and Facebook and an article will appear in the Great Notley Times. The capacity is 25 people and so far 15 people have signed up.
7. I have again entered the Great Notley Times magazine into the RCCE Community magazine awards.

8. I have a number of businesses within the Parish in relation to advertising in the Great Notley Times but at the time of writing have not received any new advertising requests.
9. I have been in liaison with the dog warden at Braintree District Council regarding issues of dog fouling. In particular one individual is allowing a dog to foul multiple times along Great Notley Avenue on a daily basis. Residents have also been asked to report any issues to the dog warden.
10. I have updated Councillors with the latest police statistics.
11. I am pleased to confirm that I have received confirmation that the Church of Great Notley has been officially booked for the Carol service and has a capacity of 400.
12. I have circulated correspondence on the following items to all members which in the absence of any substantive response, following consultation with the Chair, no further action has been taken –
 - Proposals for new Lower Thames Crossing
 - Clean for the Queen
 - Replacement Waste Local Plan engagement event
 - Consultation for strategic advice (transportation) and Community Infrastructure pre-application advice
 - EALC Police conference invitation
 - Consultation regarding Uttlesford Statement of Community involvement
 - Letter from the Police regarding forthcoming re-organisation
13. Finally I am listing some matters where no action is required by the Parish Council but where a response is awaited from others.

Application for a 'warning 'pedestrians' sign on the A131 – the Local Highway Panel are carrying out a feasibility study into having a formal crossing at that point in the road.
The addition of the lights at the Play area adjacent to the Community Centre to the night time lighting scheme by Essex County Council.
Land transfer between Countryside Properties and Braintree District Council.
Application for traffic calming at London Road – response awaited from LHP in relation to the monitoring scheme on site.
Broken roundabout sign at Tesco mini roundabout – repair expected by ECC in April at which time the white lines on site will be reviewed

Councillor Ricci asked that an update is obtained from the Local Highway Panel in relation to progress of the 'warning pedestrians' sign near the Hungry Horse for the next meeting. The report was otherwise noted and accepted.

In addition the Clerk had been contacted by Braintree District Council regarding a proposal for a children's funfair on the green on 14th and 15th May. Councillors had no objection to the suggestion in principle but asked that Braintree District Council make it a term of use that the users make sure that parking is considerate of local residents.

16/29: Financial Report

16/29.1 Bank reconciliation

The bank reconciliation statement calculated to 29th February 2016 was noted and approved.

16/29.2 Payments for approval

The following payments were formally approved –

13/2/16	DD	BT	71.55
15/2/16	DD	RAC	39.62
18/2/16	102187	K Emery	10.00
	102188	NGCA	11.00
	102189	John Callaghan (electrician)	226.00
	102190	S Walker Clerk's expenses	102.43
	102191 –		
	102195	Salaries	3,293.59
	102196	HMRC	765.74
	102197	Essex Pension Fund	330.75
10/3/16	102198	JCS External Solutions	190.00
	102199	SLCC Enterprises Ltd.	23.40
	102200	S Walker (Clerk's expenses)	49.69
	102201 –		
	102205	salaries	3,457.39
	102206	HMRC	533.66
	102207	Essex Pension Fund	330.75
	102208	Paul Clark Printing	660.00
	102209	Paul Clark Printing	1,770.00
13/3/16	DD	BT	59.86
27/3/16	DD	RAC	12.00

16/29.3 Approval of payroll provider for 2016/17

Richard Edwards LLP had provided the contract for the forthcoming financial year with only a minimal increase in fees. It was noted that they provide an excellent service and it was agreed to accept the contract for payroll services for the next 12 months.

16/30: Other matters for discussion

16/30.1 To consider request for emergency lighting at the storage unit

The NGCA had requested that an emergency light is installed at the storage unit for fire safety reasons and this was agreed by Councillors.

16/30.2 To consider quotation for exterior work to storage unit

Councillors agreed to accept the quotation for repair of the broken guttering and the repainting of the storage unit obtained from John Slade.

16/30.3 To consider request from UK Power Networks

UK Power Networks wish to promote the priority service number to vulnerable residents and depending on the amount of engagement from the Parish Council are willing to make a grant payment for work carried out to promote the scheme. It was agreed that as this is a useful service for residents, an article is published in the Great Notley Times and that approaches are made by the Clerk to the groups that meet at the community centre for whom the service may be of use. It was agreed to request the sum of £250 for the work carried out.

16/30.4 To consider possible commemoration of Queen's 90th birthday

The Clerk provided samples of coins and bookmarks together with estimated costings. Members had a preference for the bookmarks and requested that the Clerk approach the schools to see if they would be interested in receiving bookmarks for students and then to discuss the matter at the next meeting.

16/31: Planning applications, Tree Preservation Orders and other planning matters.

16/31.1 New Planning matters

Application No.	Application	Response
16/00190/FUL	The Car Park, Great Notley Country Park – reconfiguration/expansion of the main car park to provide additional spaces	No comment
16/00042/TPO	9 Crummock Close, Great Notley – work to tree covered by Tree Preservation order	No comment
16/00050/TPO	18 Langdale, Great Notley – work to tree covered by Tree Preservation order	In view of the Tree Warden's report no objection.

16/31.2 To consider the Proposals contained in the Braintree Local Plan

Members considered and discussed the sites in the Parish and in very close proximity to the Parish. Councillors took the view that they recognise the need for additional housing in general terms but consider that housing should be sustainable and measured and agreed to make the following representations to Braintree District Council –

GRNO260 Skyline 2- This area is within the Parish and it has been noted for some time that the area is earmarked for business development however the current proposals now include an additional 500 houses and members take the view that this is not in keeping with the development of that area. Such houses would be completely isolated from the existing community of Great Notley and are opposed in principle.

BLAN114 – This area is within the Parish of Black Notley but in extremely close proximity to the Parish. The proposal is for 2,000 houses. It was noted that due to proximity to the Parish such additional houses would use services within Great Notley and the access would be from London Road which would struggle to cope with the additional traffic. Councillors took the view that this is not a sustainable or appropriate location for such a large concentration of housing and would put a substantial strain both upon road infrastructure and also upon the existing services such as schools, GP surgery and shops within the Parish of Great Notley. It was noted that when Great Notley was constructed studies were carried out on appropriate services required for the existing size of community and thus to dramatically increase the number of users of those facilities may overload those services. It was also noted that as the prospective development would be in the Parish of Black Notley, any section 106 contribution would be paid to that Parish. Braintree District Council would therefore need to note that the effect of such housing would predominantly impact upon Great Notley rather than Black Notley which should be reflected in any payment.

BLAN 115 – Again an area within the Parish of Black Notley but very close to the Parish and a proposal for 99 houses without any associated services. Again due to the impact upon services within the Parish and the impact on roads it was considered by members that the location is not appropriate and is unsustainable.

BLAN116 – Although in Black Notley this prospective development would again impact upon Great Notley and concern was raised in relation to the increased traffic using Baker's Lane.

BLAN112 – This area at the top of Baker's Lane is for 10 houses. Members were concerned that comments in documentation referred to such a development being a 'meaningful gateway approach' into Braintree. It was considered that it is erroneous to consider the area in this way. It was noted that representations have already been made to Chelmsford City Council regarding prospective development in Great Leighs and there

was concern to avoid development that will effectively be a sprawl between the Chelmsford and Braintree Districts.

In relation to various other small developments in the unparished area there were no comments.

16/32: Committee Reports

32.1 District/County Update

Councillor Ricci confirmed that officers at Braintree District Council are working hard to progress the local plan which will go out to public consultation in the summer. The District Council are working to a final adoption date of September 2017.

16/33: Any Matters to be raised by members for the next agenda

It was confirmed that the issue of Twinning will be on the next agenda.

Meeting concluded at 8.30pm

**The next Parish Council meeting is on:
Tuesday 26th April 2016
8pm
The Community Centre, Great Notley**