

**LITTLE BARDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY  
MARCH 18, 2013 IN GARDINER'S BARN AT 7.30 PM.**

**Members Present:** Cllr John Judson, (Chairman), Cllr W Gardiner (Vice Chairman), Cllr Mac Beanland, Cllr Terry Cutmore, Cllr Kathy Goldsmith.

CCllr Simon Walsh, DCllr Martin Foley.

**1. Apologies** There were none.

No members of the public attended and there was no Public Forum.

**2. Minutes of the last meeting** on November 19, were read, approved and signed.

**3. Matters arising from the minutes:-**

a) Pot holes - Cllr Cutmore said that he had reported 56 pot holes to Highways 39 had been recorded and 16 have been repaired. The road closed signs are still lying on the verge at the top of Dairy Lane - Highways are aware. The broken drain cover at the bottom of Dairy Lane has been reported and has not been replaced.

b) Water leaks - the leak outside Damions, Hawkspur Green re-reported in January 2013 has now been marked with a blue line and work will be completed week ending March 22.

A parishioner has been pumping water down the road by the Old Rectory for approximately 35 yards causing damage to the road edge and the bank which has a main cable and pipes running through it. Clerk to report to Highways.

The Bus Shelter is deteriorating and passengers have to wait outside the shelter due to the water being sprayed from a dip in the road when it is raining.

A new Highway Local Panel Scheme for 2013/14 will be approached to ask for funding.

c) Fallen trees - 3 trees have fallen into the River Pant. Environmental Agency to be made aware as there could be a danger of flooding.

d) Footpath sign at Rectory corner has been removed. PROW officer to be contacted.

e) Bore Hole at Hawkspur Green. Any contamination is likely to be iron/magnesium. More work will commence shortly.

**4. Overhanging hedge** at Burnt House, Oxen End is causing problems especially for tractors turning on to the Dunmow Road as it limits the sight line on the corner.

Cllr Mac Beanland to talk to owners.

Stones Corner, Little Bardfield has an overgrown hedge over the road. Chairman to request that the owners cut it back.

**5. A development at Haywards Barn** on the lane up to Bushetts, Oxen End for 5 houses is being considered by Braintree District Council. It will lead to more traffic plus the farm traffic that already exists. Council members to attend meeting with the Inspector. *Passed. Convert barn before new build*

**6. 40 mph Speed Limit** - no further information has been received from Highways.

**7. C Cllrs Report** - Simon Walsh had sent this to all councillors. It will be attached to the minutes

**D Cllrs Report** - Martin Foley reported that he is trying get a 20 mph speed limit round Blackbird's corner.

There has been a 1% rise in Council Tax.

He asked the Parish Council to support Thaxted P. C. in its campaign to prevent the closure of Clarence House and the loss of the Library. The Council agreed to write to Thaxted P. C.

8. **Planning** - District Councillors are against the Cabinet System at Uttlesford. Parish Council unhappy that its views are no longer taken into account. It is likely that the development of Social Housing will be taken away.

9. **Finance**

The Parish Council had lowered the Precept by £50. Uttlesford increased the Council Tax by 5.9% . Clerk to contact Stephen Joyce to ask for an explanation in layman's language.

	£
Current Account including VAT refund	1,722.28
Deposit Account	2,071.66
(Repayment of verge cut to come £1,271.64)	
<u>Cheque to pay</u>	
Clerk's Salary (September to March 31 2013)	375.00
Expenses	<u>104.78</u>
	<u>£479.78</u>

10. **Correspondence**

David Low has put in a tender for the verge cutting for the coming season

The Council accepted and Clerk to write to David Low.

11. **AOB**

Small brown bins are being broken by the bin men throwing them onto the verge. Clerk to contact UDC.

Emergency Plan the contact numbers are to be reviewed.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

The next meeting will be the Annual Meeting at 7pm followed by the Parish Council Meeting at 8 pm.on Monday May 13, 2013 in Gardiner's Barn.