

# **New Parish of Flitch Green Created**

Uttlesford District Council this Wednesday (26th November) made an order creating a new parish of Flitch Green and establishing a new parish council for the parish. The order will come into effect on 1st April 2009.

The new parish has been created from that part of the existing parish of Little Dunmow known as Oakwood Park. It follows a long process of consultation under the now superseded parish review provisions in the Local Government and Rating Act 1997.

Extensive consultation in 2005 and 2006 established overwhelming support for a separate parish to be formed to give a distinctive voice to the community at Oakwood Park which has effectively existed only since development commenced there in 2001.

The name of Flitch Green was chosen by the majority of people who expressed a view during the review. It commemorates the association of the area with the famous Flitch Trials which can be traced back for several hundred years, and are still celebrated today. In addition, the parish is bounded by the Flitch Way long-distance path.

Having submitted a proposal for the new parish to the Secretary of State, the Council was invited to complete and implement the review itself under the new devolved provisions in the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. This order is a result of that invitation.

Elections to the new parish council, and to the now altered parish council of Little Dunmow, will take place on 4th June 2009. The order provides that existing parish councillors living in the new parish area will represent the new parish between 1st April and the first election. Further elections will take place in 2011 and every four years thereafter.

The order will come into effect immediately for the purposes of establishing the first parish precept for Flitch Green and any arrangements that will need to be made for the election. A new electoral arrangements scheme for both parishes will come into effect on the ordinary day of election. From that day, Little Dunmow will be reduced from eleven to seven parish councillors and the number for Flitch Green will be set at nine.

The District of Uttlesford (Parishes of Flitch Green and Little Dunmow) Order 2008 and the accompanying map defining the area of the new parish may be viewed by clicking the links below or in person at the Council Offices, London Road, Saffron Walden CB11 4ER.

<http://www.uttlesford.gov.uk>