

# MEETING OF THE BLACKMORE, HOOK END & WYATTS GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> April 2014 in the committee room of Tipps Cross Remembrance Hall.  
Commenced at 7.30pm.

Members present: Cllr Keeble (Acting Chairman), Cllr Hall, Cllr Bennett, Cllr McCarthy, Cllr Town, Cllr Spiers, Cllr Mason and Cllr Lennon. Also present, Susan Barnes (Parish Clerk) and Rosemarie Nelson (Responsible Financial Officer - RFO).

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from: County Cllr Ann Naylor, Cllr Watley, Cllr Henwood, Cllr Dean and Cllr Frost.

Also present: Terry Smith, Herald Magazine.

## AMENDMENTS

The March minutes were approved and signed by Cllr Watley as a correct record with the following amendment: Page 8), item 2788) should read 'Cllr Town reported that the pile of rubbish was scheduled to be removed' and not that it had since been removed.

## DECLARATION OF INTEREST

To receive any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Pecuniary Interests, or Non-Pecuniary Interests relating to items on the agenda. No interests were declared.

## OPEN FORUM

There were two members of the Public in attendance. The following representations were made:

### Heather Eltham – Thrift Green Trotters running club

She advised that this year's 10k run would be coming through Blackmore. It would be starting and finishing at Blackmore on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July. Commencing 11am at the edge of Meadow Rise and the route would finish at Blackmore Primary School. The event would be fully marshalled and did not require any road closures with approximately 500-600 runners participating. There would also be a children's fun run possibly to be held on the Millennium field with a BBQ afterwards.

Mrs Nelson, RFO also mentioned the dedication service of the two newly installed memorial benches in the names of Mr John Fleetwood and Mr John Daldry to be held on the same day but there was no conflict of events.

Mr Terry Smith mentioned the commemorative First World War Celebrations and asked if the Parish Council knew of, or would be organising an event. Cllr Keeble would look into this.

## PROGRESS CHECK

[ Nothing to report.

## CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported on the following correspondence received at the Parish Office since the last Ordinary meeting and subsequent committee meetings:-

**2812** The Clerk had received from Brentwood Borough Council (BBC), the Local Development Plan (LDP) draft site assessment document (of some 90 pages). The Clerk read out the excerpts relevant to the Parish as follows:

Site Ref: 052 - Land rear of Little Jericho, Church St, Blackmore.  
Brownfield and part developed. Is within Blackmore Conservation area.  
Outcome of site assessment for draft plan: Retain current use. Reasonable alternative for residential use.

Site Ref: 056A/056B - Land at Hayden and Ardslia, Wyatts Green Rd, Wyatts Green.  
Previously developed Brownfield land.  
Outcome of site assessment for draft plan: Retain current use. Reasonable alternative for residential use.

Site Ref: 065 – Land adjacent to 1-3 Orchard Piece, Blackmore.  
Outcome of site assessment for draft plan: Discount site, currently being developed (data post April 2012).

Site Ref: 071 – Wyatts Field, Wyatts Green.  
Outcome of site assessment for draft plan: Discount site, does not meet Draft Plan Spatial Strategy.

Site Ref: 072 – Land adjacent to Whitelands, Wyatts Green.  
Outcome of site assessment for draft plan: Discount site, does not meet Draft Plan Spatial Strategy.

Site Ref: 076 – Land south of Redrose Lane, backing onto Orchard Piece, Blackmore.  
Is Green belt land.  
Outcome of site assessment for draft plan: Discount site, does not meet Draft Plan Spatial Strategy.

Site Ref: 077 – Land south of Redrose Lane, backing onto Woollard Way, Blackmore.  
Is Green belt land.  
Outcome of site assessment for draft plan: Discount site, does not meet Draft Plan Spatial Strategy.

Site Ref: 085 – Land adjacent to Tipps Cross Community Hall, Blackmore Rd, Tipps Cross.  
Outcome of site assessment for draft plan: Discount site, is Greenfield land in Green Belt, remote location away from Borough's main centres.

The Clerk went on to advise that she had been contacted on 27<sup>th</sup> March, via telephone, by a Consultant on behalf of Crest Nicholson National House builder in relation to Site ref: 076 – land south of Red Rose Lane, East of Fingrith Hall, backing onto Orchard Piece. They were in very early discussions with Brentwood Borough Council (BBC) regarding this plot of land which they had an interest in. The Clerk will update the Council as soon as further updates become available. At present, no actual planning applications have been presented. The Clerk, on behalf of the Parish Council, advised that the current position based on previous experience of this nature, was that the Parish Council would not support the development of Green Belt land within its Parish.

An email dated 17/4/14 from Philip Drane, Senior Policy Planner at BBC was read out as follows:

“Just to clarify, no planning application has been submitted for either site” – (ref. 076 & 077) - “The owners have made representations in response to our LDP consultation document, and I imagine will continue to promote the sites through the LDP process. If the sites are not allocated the owners/agents will likely make their case at LDP examination as to why they should be. However, an application could be submitted at any time. The Site Assessment document is a work in progress. We will ensure information from Essex County Council regarding school capacity is used in the assessment going forward, along with other information about infrastructure capacity etc. This evidence is being undertaken in parallel to the LDP and so we will publish in due course”.

- 2813** The Clerk had received an email from Transport for London confirming TFL's introduction of cash free bus travel from Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2014.
- 2814** The Clerk had received an email from BBC advising that the Brentwood Community Fund is now open for applications. Full details can be found on [www.brentwood.gov.uk/funding](http://www.brentwood.gov.uk/funding)  
The Clerk would be happy to apply if the Committees have any projects they would like to push forward.
- 2815** The Clerk had received an update from County Cllr Ann Naylor regarding the leaking pipe and surface water on the road at Outings Lane, Doddinghurst – Ref: ECC-035006-13. The Clerk and Cllr Keeble had received various complaints regarding this so it was read out for information purposes. ECC confirmed that investigations had been undertaken by Affinity Water who had carried out work in this area and should have reinstated the road. Affinity Water had advised ECC that after investigation no mains leak was found near the carriage way. However, they did establish that there is a defective, leaking private pipe which is a matter for the owner to repair. They would be revisiting the site and deal with the resident in question.
- 2816** The Clerk read out details of a circular from Essex Police regarding rogue Traders. Everyone was reminded to be vigilant and report all incidents to Essex Police using dial 101. They also conveyed the best practise for checking details of legitimate trader's details nearest to you by searching on [www.buywithconfidence.co.uk](http://www.buywithconfidence.co.uk). All companies listed would be approved by trading Standards.
- 2817** The Clerk had received a letter from the residents at 26 Wyatts Green Lane. They asked if the Parish Council could consider lopping the large overgrown trees in the Ted Marriage field backing onto their garden. **Action:** The Clerk will contact BBC's Arboriculture officer, Alan Marsh as to check if protected by TPO's. Advice would be taken and if any work to be undertaken, the Clerk would obtain quotations as necessary.
- 2818** The Clerk read out the thank you letter from St Francis Hospice for the Parish Council's donation of £50.00.
- 2819** The Clerk had received an email from ECC regarding a public inquiry held in December 2013 relating to commercial bus services. It was noted that none were relevant to the Parish.
- 2820** The Clerk advised that she had received an enquiry from a resident to have installed a viewing mirror outside the Blackmore village hall onto the road. The Clerk read out the response from Cllr Ann Naylor advising that this was not something which was supported by ECC Highways Department as viewing mirrors were seen as a hindrance rather than an aid to drivers. The Clerk would relay this information to the resident.

## **BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

- 2821** Cllr Keeble advised that he, along with the Clerk, is to attend a meeting at the Town Hall with key BBC members dealing with the Traveller incursion appeal case. This was scheduled for 7<sup>th</sup> May at 12 noon.

## **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

### **POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

#### **2822 FINANCE**

##### **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT –**

The Clerk presented the following payment schedules and cheques requiring three Member signatures:

-	S Barnes	April salary (Clerk)
-	HM Revenue & Customs	pending end of year submission before 2014/15 can be calculated.
-	R Nelson	Book Keeping (April)
75.00	petty cash	April
506.25	Blackmore Parochial Charities	
1259.99	Giles Insurance Brokers	Bus insurance renewal 5.5.14
786.41	MD Landscapes (Anglia) Ltd	Grass cutting inv. 2551
598.54	BBC	play area inspection fee. Inv. 100068632 For period Oct.'13 – March '14
99.47	A-Z Supplies	Inv. 5542624-042 (TXR Hall to reimburse £53.80)
545.93	EALC	Inv. 3995 – Affiliation renewal
45.00	EALC	Training course (Clerk) – Freedom of Information Act and Data Protection
24.36	Mark Harrod Ltd	To be reimbursed by Cricket club (RK)
165.00	Post Office Ltd	Bus road tax (1 year)
1188.00	K Stanbridge	Maintenance man work carried out
72.80	K Stanbridge	Reimbursable amount for goods purchased
-	Essex Pension Fund	April contributions

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- (i) the statutory basis for this item be noted as the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011;
- (ii) the List of Payments is approved as presented in the schedule.

**Receipts:**

- [ The Clerk reported she had received the BAC's remittance advice from BBC confirming the deposit of the £30,566.03 precept amount.
- [ The Clerk confirmed she had received the grant amount (cheque) from Essex Environment Trust for £10,000. Letter of thanks and receipt of the cheque had been sent to EET by the Clerk.

**Payments:**

Approval given for payment of £1259.99 to Giles Insurance Brokers for renewal of the Community mini bus insurance. This had reduced from last year's payment of £1266.56. The Clerk will renew the policy.

Approval given for a one third contribution towards the Blackmore sports and social club CCTV maintenance fee of £226.67.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

**Financial Reports to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014**

Mrs Nelson (RFO), reported that all was in accordance with the March 2014 Financial Report distributed prior to the meeting. Generally, it was presently running under budget with an approximate excess of income over expenditure of £3,000. This included the recent legal fees expenditure of £2,500.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- (i) the statutory basis for this item be noted as the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011; and,
- (ii) the March 2014 Financial Report be noted with no other action necessary.

## **2823 FINANCIAL POWERS**

The Clerk advised that she had received details from BBC regarding Legislative Reform (Payments by Parish Councils, Community Councils and Charter Trustees) Order 2014 (SI 2014/580); The order which comes in force on 12 March 2014, removes a burden on Parish and Community Councils and Charter Trustees and facilitates the use of electronic means of payment. It removes the requirement for every cheque or other order for the payment of money to be signed by *two*\* members of the Council or by two Charter trustees.

\*by *three* members in respect of this Parish Council's Standing Orders.

The Council reviewed and considered its current methods of payment for salaries.

It was proposed by Cllr Spiers, Seconded by Cllr Hall and **RESOLVED** that:

- [ The Parish Clerk would in future, be paid her salary by means of an electronic bank transfer and not by cheque. This would commence from May 2014.
- [ The RFO would receive her payment for the time being by means of a cheque in payment of her monthly invoice to the Parish Council for her services.
- [ Creditors would remain to be paid by means of a cheque as payment for services as invoiced in the usual way.

Mrs Nelson advised that the Clerk had received a letter from David Cameron's office regarding the Employers Class 1 – NICS allowance of £2,000 which could be claimed. However, this does not apply to Parish Councils but could apply to Tipps Cross Remembrance Hall as Charities can apply. Mrs Nelson will look into this on their behalf as Treasurer to the Trustees.

## **2824 COMMUNITY POLICE MEETING**

It was reported that future meeting dates were still pending. Nothing new to report.

## **2825 COMMUNITY BUS**

The Clerk advised that the insurance renewal was for 4.5.14 and as per item 2822, she would proceed. The MOT was booked and the Clerk would organise the road Tax at the cost of £165 for the year. Mrs Nelson reported that the bus had shown a loss of approximately £300 in the last financial year and this would continue to be reviewed annually.

## **2826 BLACKMORE CENTRE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

Cllr Keeble advised that all was going OK at present.

## **2827 BLACKMORE SPORTS ARENA – (formerly MUGA)**

Cllr Keeble advised that all was going OK at present.

## **2828 MOBILE LIBRARY**

The Clerk reported that all was going OK.

## **2829 BRENTWOOD BOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL ASSOCIATION**

The Clerk advised that she had attended, with Cllr Watley, the liaison meeting held at the Town Hall on 4<sup>th</sup> April, with the Parish Council representatives, Brentwood Council members and officials. The meeting was 'chaired' by the Rt Hon. Eric Pickles MP. The Clerk advised it was a very promising and productive meeting and she read out the follow up email from Cllr Louise McKinlay confirming the following changes which she will have implemented based on the discussions and items raised:

- [ Planning enforcement issues – Each Parish Council to provide a list of outstanding enforcements in question and she will ensure updates are given.
- [ Commencing June 2014, dates to be put in diaries for individual meetings with Parish Councils to address some of the financial issues raised.
- [ Future dates for more regular liaison meetings to be organised.
- [ BBC Officers to investigate a dedicated communication and enquiry system for Parish Councils to ensure they have a consistent and single point of contact within the Council. Once this is scoped out, details of when it will be operational from will be issued.

**2830 ROADWAY RENTS (2014)**

The Clerk has re-invoiced, pending payments.

**BLACKMORE MILLENNIUM PARK**

**2831 PROGRESS REPORT**

Cllr Keeble will obtain quotes for dog fouling signs to be installed.

**PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**2832 PLANS**

The following planning committee meeting(s) had taken place and plans discussed and the reports distributed prior to the PC meeting:

8<sup>th</sup> April 2014 –

Application No. 14/00274/FUL – Re: Mizpah, Hook End Road, Hook End. CM15 0HB.  
Comments: No objections to single storey rear extension *revised application*.

Application No. 14/00207/FUL – Re: New Beginnings, Wyatts Green Rd, Wyatts Green, CM15 0PT.

Comments: No objections providing the ménage is solely for personal and family use.

The PC received and approved the planning committee meeting minutes.

**2833 OUTSTANDING ENFORCEMENT ISSUES – (refer attached appendix 1):**

The Clerk had attached appendix 1 showing outstanding enforcements.

Appeal Ref: APP/H1515/A/14/2216001 – The Bull Public House, Church St. Blackmore, CM4 0RN– The Clerk read out a letter received from BBC regarding the above appeal, ‘Planning appeal against refusal of proposed development: Erection of two dwellings and car barn, alterations to listed building’. Appeal starting date: 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014. Objections must be received in by the Planning Inspectorate, Bristol, in triplicate and no later than 12<sup>th</sup> May 2014.

The Council resolved that Cllr Watley and/or Cllr Keeble would draft a letter highlighting the relevant information regarding the above and do a leaflet drop to residents in Blackmore who may wish to write in giving their objections. The Parish Council would also send in its objections to the proposed development.

Elm View – Cllr Keeble confirmed he is dealing with this with BBC.

Wyatts Willows, Wyatts Green Road (erection of large out building) - Cllr Keeble confirmed he investigated this with the Planning Department, BBC who investigated and confirmed that although the structure is rather large, it does confirm to permitted development regulations. The roof had to be lowered but the overall size is within scale. BBC is taking no further action.

Traveller Incursion, Chelmsford Rd, Blackmore – The Clerk confirmed she would be attending a meeting with Cllrs Roger Keeble and Peter Mason on 7.5.14 with Louise McKinaly and Planning Officers at the Town Hall to discuss the above, and the next course of any action.

## **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

There was a meeting of the Environment Committee on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2014 (rescheduled from 8<sup>th</sup> April 2014) and copies of the minutes were distributed at the PC meeting by Cllr Town.

- [ The Council received and accepted the Committee meeting minutes and the following discussions took place, relating to items:

### **2836 Allotments**

Cllr Town reported that Cllr Watley felt that the plots could be ready by winter 2014.

### **2837 Pond**

Clerk to place new fishing regulation notices on the pond notice board now that it is accessible.

### **2838 Posts**

Main Green posts – The quotation received by the Committee from the maintenance man to install new wooden posts around the perimeter of the Green was felt to be too expensive so the Committee wish to give the solution more thought and further quotes. A Councillor did suggest the installation of a slight dip around the perimeter adjacent to the houses and the access lane as per the main road side which has stopped vehicles gaining access onto the Green. The Committee will give further consideration to all options.

**RESOLUTION: No further expenditure to be allocated to reinstatement of the posts until further consideration given to a more permanent solution.**

### **Other Items (AOB):**

- [ Clerk to compile list of Committee and Councillor contact details for displaying on the notice boards.
- [ Environment Committee feel a copy of the list of Green Belt land and all listed buildings in the Parish plus any supporting maps would be useful to have. Clerk to contact Paulette McAllister, BBC for copies of documentation.
- [ The Committee reported a dangerous tree in the front of Kelby, The Green. Cllr Keeble would investigate further.
- [ Cllr Mason reported on the wall of Jericho Priory which now leans rather dangerously into the grounds of the Churchyard and Church Street. This is of concern to the Church and the Parish Council but it is on private land, not owned by the Parish Council.  
Action: Cllr Mason will ask the Church for copies of relevant correspondence relating to this between the owner and the Church and the Clerk will then write to the owner on behalf of the PC to seek a repair. In the meantime Cllr Keeble will investigate further with BBC the Health and Safety implications and report back.
- [ The Committee reported that brambles from the neighbouring property are now growing and going into the pond and river. Cllr Town will give the details of the owner for the Clerk to contact them in writing asking that they tackle this problem and tidy the brambles to avoid further problems.
- [ Cllr Town advised that the Parish Spring Clean was very well attended this year.
- [ The Committee reported that the seat at Mr Drain's house was in need of repair. **Cllr Keeble will contact Mr Drain and ask if he can repair it.**

## **HERALD MAGAZINE**

## 2845 NEXT EDITION

Terry Smith advised that all was going OK at present. The next deadline is the last weekend in April, 30.4.14. The Council reviewed the magazine advert prices which had not been increased since April 2007.

It was proposed by Cllr Mason, seconded by Cllr Hall and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the following price increase would be implemented from September 2014:

Half page, from £17.00 to £18.00

Full page, from £34.00 to £36.00

Inside back and inside front cover, £45.00 to £47.00

Back cover, £45.00 to £50.00

Mr Smith confirmed that the Magazine had made it through to the finals of the Essex Magazine of the Year Awards and was pending results.

## RECREATION COMMITTEE

There was a meeting of the Recreation Committee on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2014 and copies of the minutes were distributed prior to the PC meeting.

[ The Council received and accepted the Committee meeting minutes and the following discussions took place, relating to items:

### 2846 Ted Marriage Recreation Field

Arson incident – damage to wooden bench and wooden components under the wooden climbing frame. The maintenance man had reported to Mrs Nelson and the Clerk that some minor damage had been caused by youths lighting a fire underneath the equipment. Photographs were passed around the Council by the Clerk.

#### Mill Lane Play area

Arson incident –The maintenance man had reported to Mrs Nelson and the Clerk, that some damage had been caused by youths lighting a fire by using spare wood they found lying around near to the picnic bench which had also caused some damage to the bench itself. Photographs were passed around the Council by the Clerk.

The Clerk will monitor the situation with the Maintenance man and Recreation Committee and report the incidents to the Police/PCSO. In the meantime, Cllr McCarthy and Cllr Mason will visit the two sites (on 18/4/14) and inspect the extent of damage and report back to the Clerk with their findings and any action if required.

#### Walter Hobbs Recreation Field

F.09.13 – Wear to hexagonal swings – Clerk confirmed Playquip have now replaced swing components and the invoice received. It was completed slightly under budget, from £650 to £525.60. The Clerk had raised the invoice for payment.

H.09.13 – Aerial runway – wire adjustment – The Clerk had tried contacting the equipment supplier, Playscene, Ipswich but they no longer existed. The Clerk had then contacted Playquip who confirmed that they could undertake the adjustment whilst on site at a reduced cost of £180 plus VAT. It was proposed by Cllr Dean, Seconded by Cllr Lennon and unanimously **RESOLVED** that Playquip would be instructed by the Clerk to undertake the work as quoted.

H.09.13b – Aerial runway – bark landing pits – Kevin had provided an estimate to clear and re-bark the pits for approximately £200. The PC decided to leave this for now as further consideration to be given to this by the Recreation Committee.

**Walter Hobbs Play area project**

The Clerk had received the grant from Essex Environment Trust in the form of a cheque for £10,000 to be banked. The Clerk had sent acknowledgement of its receipt with a thank you letter to EET.

The Clerk had received an update from Cllr McCarthy and the contractor, Playquip Leisure. They advised that after delivering the red ant to be finished at their powder coaters, they had to report that several components of the ‘red ant’ system had gone missing and their whereabouts was being investigated. After which time, it was established that the parts could not be found, Playquip confirmed they would re-manufacture the missing parts and would install the system as soon as possible, thus delaying the installation by a further two to three weeks. As way of apology for the delay, they offered the two wooden benches on order for £825, free of charge to the Parish Council as a gesture of good will. Playquip had attended the site and installed all other finished components of play equipment and benches minus the red ant system and had made good the area so it could be safely used over the bank holiday period. The Council expressed its concern over the delays, some of which was due to unavoidable bad weather but agreed that the Clerk and Committee would work closely with Playquip to monitor the situation so as to avoid any further delays or set backs as was possible.

Cllr Keeble reported that the white lining machine used for the football pitch had broken. The price for a 13 litre replacement was £315 as quoted by supplier Mark Harrod. It was proposed by Cllr Bennett, seconded by Cllr Hall and unanimously **RESOLVED** that Cllr Keeble will purchase this item on behalf of the PC, as quoted, if a suitable repair could not be sought.

**2847 Play area safety inspections (all play areas)**

Cllr McCarthy confirmed that the Committee had commenced its new regime of inspections and regular inspection reports would be given to the Clerk.

Cllr McCarthy also advised that the ROSPA annual play inspections had been booked to be carried out in May 2014.

**Dog Waste Bins (all areas)**

Cllr McCarthy reported that the dog bins were being monitored to ensure they were being correctly used and emptied by BBC contractors as some bins were regularly full to over-flowing. Clerk to monitor services are being carried out as contracted.

**CLERK’S REPORT**

**2848 Clerk’s CILCA update**

The Clerk confirmed that all was going well with the course.

<b>2849</b>	<b><u>COMMITTEE MEETINGS</u></b>		
Environment	12.5.14	7.30 pm	Crosse House, Blackmore
Planning	TBC	-	Anvil House, Blackmore
Recreation	6.5.14	7.00 pm	Tipps X R Hall
<b>Parish Council:</b>	<b>15.5.14</b>		<b>Tipps X Remembrance Hall</b>

Annual Assembly	7.00pm
Annual Meeting (AGM)	7.30pm

**2850 Website / Communications information**

Superfast Broadband, Essex – Cllr McCarthy reported that this is slowly moving forward, in fact more slowly for some than was anticipated. Cllr McCarthy has been keeping track of the situation and giving updates via the Herald magazine which some may be familiar with. There is a website postcode checker where you can type in your post code and an update for your area is given. This information and updates regarding superfast broadband can be found at [www.superfastessex.org](http://www.superfastessex.org) as it appears the service and speeds anticipated are quite varied and is greatly dependent on your post code and the proximity of the green cabinet to your address.

**2851 Library Green (back half) – Ownership checks**

The Clerk reported that after investigation into this, the Parish Council had started the Library Green registration application in April 2002. It had employed Solicitors ‘Raggett, Tiffen & Harries, paid legal registration fees but failed after two years work. The application was rejected on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2004. Therefore the land belongs to the Essex Highways Authority and not the Parish Council.

**2852 Hay Green Lane (ford signage)**

The Clerk advised she is still awaiting a response. She will chase ECC.

**2853 BBC’s revised Code of Conduct**

The Councillors had received the above information on 20.3.14, and the contents duly noted and accepted.

**2854 Parishioner request for a viewing mirror to be installed at the entrance of the Blackmore Village Hall.**

As per item 2820, the Clerk had received a response from County Cllr Ann Naylor to her members request with ECC. ECC confirmed that it did not support the use or installation of viewing mirrors as they were seen as a hindrance rather than an aid to motorists. The Clerk would inform the parishioner accordingly.

**2855 Parishioner request – to mow/strim the overgrown grass on the verge between the vacant Bull Public House and the Blackmore Antiques shop.**

It was reported that the owners of the Antiques shop had been temporarily mowing the above strip of grass which was owned by the Bull Public House, whilst it was vacant to avoid it becoming an eye sore. However, due to ill health, they were no longer able to undertake this and made a request to the Parish Council if it could mow the area.

The Council considered this and understood that it was not their responsibility to mow this verge as it was not owned by them, and agreed to the following:

- [ The Council would cut the grass as a one-off as it agreed that the grass had become very long and overgrown and did not want the area to become an eye sore for the village.
- [ It did not take responsibility to cut the grass on a regular basis.
- [ The responsibility is with the owners of the Public House to maintain the area but the Council accepted this was not being done due to vacant possession whilst the

refurbishment and planning applications were being dealt with at Borough Council level with the Owners.

- [ The Clerk will organise the above work.
- [ The Clerk would ask the maintenance man if removing the posts altogether would make it easier to cut this area should residents wish to mow the area more regularly.

This was proposed by Cllr Town, Seconded by Cllr Keeble and a majority vote was cast in favour 5 to 3.

**INFORMATION EXCHANGE / NEXT AGENDA ITEMS – (for discussion only)**

**2856 Support the CPRE charter** – Cllr Town passed around a postcard and website link [www.saveourcountryside.org.uk](http://www.saveourcountryside.org.uk) for a campaign to protect rural England and put a stop to the destruction of England’s countryside from unnecessary development.

**2857 Community Orchard** – Cllr McCarthy had looked into this idea and said that upon investigating, the best time to plant an orchard is in summer time. He had received the help from one volunteer who was interested in this. Cllr Keeble will contact Alan Marsh at BBC as well as landscaper John Sharpe for advice.

***END: There being no further business, the Meeting was closed by the Chairman at 10.05 pm***

Signed (Chairman): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_