

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

Held on Thursday, 17th November 2011 in the Committee Room of Tipps Cross Remembrance Hall.
Commenced at 7.30pm.

Members present: Cllr Keeble (Acting Chairman), Cllr Bennett, Cllr Sue Wheeler, Cllr Steve Wheeler, Cllr Dean, Cllr Spiers, Cllr Frost, Cllr McCarthy, Cllr Watley and Cllr Town. Also Mrs R Nelson (Treasurer) and Susan Barnes (Parish Clerk).

Apologies for absence were received from:

Cllr Henwood (who was on holiday), Cllr Thomas, Cllr Brown and County Cllr Ann Naylor.

AMENDMENTS

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 20th October 2011 were signed by Cllr Keeble as a correct record with the following amendment: item 1678) should read ‘.....Terry *and* Eileen.....’ and not ‘Terry *as* Eileen’ as mis-typed.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Nil.

OPEN FORUM

Representative, Andrew Dutton, Town Planner for JDS Construction and three further representatives, including one from ‘Shelter’ attended the meeting to discuss an affordable housing scheme proposal within Blackmore. Plans had not yet been submitted to Brentwood Borough Council (BBC) and they wished to seek the views and support of the Parish Council in advance of this. All proposal documents and tabled plans were not concrete or to scale and were only indicative of the type of housing layout and scheme they were proposing at this stage. Within this, was shown to be, a selection of affordable housing in accordance with the information supplied and distributed by the Clerk to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

The general view from the Parish Council was that based on the information and scheme layout shown was that it was slightly overdeveloped with too many houses in such a concentrated area and general access and road safety aspect, especially so near to the Primary School was a concern. The Parish Council would require further information based on the actual plans submitted to BBC in order it could properly formulate its comments with the possibility of a further ‘special’ meeting being called.

CORRESPONDENCE

1718 The Clerk had received a list of BBC’s new management structure. A copy was given to all Councillors.

1719 The Clerk had received information regarding the 2012 training days from the EALC. The Clerk would get further information and enquire if grant funding was available for Cllrs to attend the New Cllr training days.

1720 The Clerk had received bus passenger news updates.

- 1721** The Clerk advised that she had been advised that the Doddinghurst footpath no. 10 – on Church Road, opposite Outings Lane, would be closed for the next 6 months commencing 12th November 2011.
- 1722** The Clerk had received further information the Essex Legacy 2012 grant application of up to £400 to help celebrate the 2012 London Olympics within the Parish.
- 1723** The Clerk advised that the winter salt bags were now delivered and being stored in the Community Bus garage. It was agreed that 10 – 15 bags would be provided to Tipps Cross Remembrance Hall and Cllr Keeble would discuss the option of storing it in the boiler room at the Hall with Ted Hall, Chairman of the Tipps Cross Trustees and Management Committee. Cllr Steve Wheeler offered the use of his trailer for transporting it. A committee consisting of: Steve Wheeler, Andrew Watley, Roger Keeble and Kathy Frost was discussed and possibly a working party of volunteers would be called nearer the time.
- 1724** The Clerk is holding on file the information supplied relating to the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee celebratory Beacons, 4th June 2012.
- 1725** The Clerk had received some interesting play equipment information from a supplier especially with teenagers in mind. This was competitively priced and could be of future interest. This would be held on file until such time.

BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

1726 County Councillor’s report

Nil

Borough Councillors’ reports

Nothing new to report.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

1727 FINANCE

The following cheques were approved for payment and signed:

£	Addressee	Description
-	S Barnes	Oct salary
-	HM Revenue & Customs	July Tax/NI contributions
-	Essex Pension Fund	July pension contribution
-	R Nelson	book keeping
75.00	Petty cash	
50.00	Royal British Legion	poppy wreath and donation
196.50	Tipps X R Hall	Office Rent
450.00	Parochial Charities	field rent
12,000.00	S&J Padfield & Partners	car park at Blackmore village hall (gross amount)
159.50	Heatherland Ltd	Inv.15867 – skip hire
852.41	M D Landscapes ltd	Inv 1690 – grass cutting
1260.00	Kelhatch Press	magazine – inv. 3264
106.78	J Oddy & Sons	inv.112087, 112101, 112147 – goods to Kevin

187.79

S Barnes

Reimbursement : £97.79 glow sticks &
£90 (6 x garden vouchers for plant waterers)

Receipts:

Nothing new to report

Payments:

Public Works Loan Board payment debited on 17th November 2011 for £1,462.91

1728 FINANCIAL POWERS

The Clerk had received the invoice from the Audit Commission for the 2010/2011 audit fee of £480.00 which was approved for payment and a cheque was raised to that effect.

The Clerk had passed to all Cllrs a copy of the new revised proposed 'grant partnership' between Brentwood Borough Council and the Parish Council Parish. Its acceptance was proposed by Cllr Bennett, seconded by Cllr Keeble and unanimously agreed that the Clerk and Cllr Bennett would do a covering letter to BBC raising the issue of non-compliance and adjudication of the said partnership to accompany the approved signed agreement.

Mrs Nelson presented the September figures as distributed prior to the Council meeting. Mrs Nelson reported that the External Auditors had sent back the external audit. There was one comment relating to a risk assessment not being completed but she was unsure what this was for. Mrs Nelson will look into this. Mrs Nelson asked if the Parish Council would be paying the invoice for the village hall car park re-surfacing to S Clark Surfacing. This was agreed and that the Village Hall would reimburse the nett amount to the PC. In addition Mrs Nelson reported that maintenance was still over budget in both environment and recreation. Also the firework night brought in an expected profit in the region of £1500 which was excellent, however it was questioned as to the numbers attending the display and safety as there was a large number of people attending this year. All other items were in accordance with the financial minutes.

1729 COMMUNITY POLICE MEETING

Nothing new to report.

1730 COMMUNITY BUS

Cllr Steve Wheeler reported that, as requested by the Clerk, he had looked into the issue of the new LEZ proposed charge into London commencing 3rd January 2012. He reported that the bus was exempt from this fee.

1731 BLACKMORE CENTRE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Cllr Keeble reported that all was going well. Nothing new to report.

1732 BLACKMORE SPORTS ARENA – (formerly MUGA)

Cllr Keeble reported that all is going well and it is busy with regular bookings.

1733 MOBILE LIBRARY

Nothing new to report, all going OK.

1734 BRENTWOOD BOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL ASSOCIATION

Nothing to report at present.

1735 ROADWAY RENTS

All paid and up to date until April 2012.

BLACKMORE MILLENNIUM PARK

1736 PROGRESS REPORT

Cllr Keeble raised the matter of the poplar trees which require trimming along the boundary of the Millennium Park and the MUGA. Cllr Bennett proposed that the PC would go half with the Village Hall to pay the fees, both would therefore pay approximately £250 each. This was seconded by Cllr Watley and unanimously agreed.

Items to be reviewed in spring 2012 –

- Trees and Bund on new car park
- Cockleshell footpath requires topping up
- PA system hired for fireworks night – not loud enough – speakers possibly require more height and maybe an additional speaker. Cllr Keeble will look into this before purchasing.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Planning Committee had met at Anvil House, Blacksmiths Alley, Blackmore, on the 31st October and the following plans discussed. Copies of the minutes were distributed prior to the meeting and all was in accordance with the information supplied.

1737 PLANS

11/00980/TPO – No objections

11/00946/FUL – No objections

11/00990/LBC – No objections subject to listed buildings approval.

1738 OUTSTANDING ENFORCEMENT ISSUES

Bluebell Farm - Spriggs Lane, Blackmore (mobile home) - The Clerk had chased Christopher Stathers, BBC planning department. He advised in his letter dated 22nd August 2011 that this item had been chased internally and a new case reference number issued against this case file which had been temporarily lost at BBC. The outstanding Enforcement Notice dated back to 19th August 2002 and required the removal of the mobile home and he could not at this present time trace any subsequent planning permission for the retention of the mobile home. He would therefore be investigating this matter further and would update us as soon as possible, and after he had made a further visit to the property. – **No update since this**

Plot 3, Oak Tree farm, Chelmsford Road, Blackmore, CM4 0PZ – The Clerk read out the update email from Christopher Stathers, BBC planning department dated 6th September 2011 advising the latest update. The site was subject to an application for Judicial Review taken by the occupiers of the land against the Secretary of State including the Planning Inspectorate. The Judicial Review hearing over the handling of the appeal took place in the High Court the

week previous and this was won by the Secretary of State and the Judicial Review application was turned down. The result means that the occupiers now have 21 days from 14th July 2011 in which to appeal that decision to the Court of Appeal. If the decision is appealed then once again the matter will be held in abeyance to await the Court of Appeal hearing. If however there is no appeal after 21 days the Ministry will, as understood by BBC, start the process of issuing the appeal decision. This will need to be signed off by a Minister. The latest information held is that a decision was hopeful for the end of September 2011. This was being monitored by BBC and further updates would be supplied in due course. – **Cllr Keeble would investigate further for an update.**

Land adjacent to Oak Fold, Hook End Rd, Hook End - Being looked into by BBC in relation to any enforcement action being taken by them as on green belt land – **pending update/decision.**

Kiln Farm, Mountnessing Rd, Blackmore – **No updates for some time.**

Action required: Committee to monitor Oak Fold and further updates from BBC. Cllr Keeble will investigate for updates on Chelmsford Road site.

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

A Meeting of the Environment Committee had been held on Monday 7th November 2011 at Crosshouse, Blackmore. The items below were in accordance with the minutes with the following updates.

1739 Drain Clearance and Road Sweeping

Being monitored – Cllr Town suggested a letter be sent to BBC thanking them for the regular road sweeping service.

1740 Village speed

VAS sign at Hook End Rd appears to not come on until speeds in excess of 39MPH reached. This is a concern.

1741 Allotments

In hand with Cllr Watley and Cllr Keeble – no further updates at present

1742 Ponds & posts by pond

Ponds recently had all weeds and debris cleared by Mr Brown's workmen and he has offered to do further clearing in early spring before ducks start breeding. Cllr Town suggested sending a letter of thanks to Mr Brown. Also 3 posts missing and 1 loose. Holes on edge of pond near dipping platform – Clerk has asked maintenance man to repair etc.

1743 Road signs

Monitoring.

1744 Gunnells Corner – pavement (wheelchair access)

Clerk continues to chase although she had received notification from ECC that this work was not actually going to be undertaken for the foreseeable future due to budget constraints. Stand-off situation but Clerk continues to chase them as potentially dangerous junction for wheelchair users and the like.

1745 Planters

All planted and looking nice. Clerk to purchase 6 x £15 garden centre vouchers as a thank you to the volunteers who water the planters etc.

1746 AOB

In accordance with Committee meeting minutes, Cllr Town had received a complaint about overgrown conifers on the Blackmore Green but as this is private property it relates to, it is the responsibility of the Resident.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday 5th December 2011 – 7.30pm – Crosse House, Blackmore

HERALD MAGAZINE

1747 NEXT EDITION

In the absence of Terry Smith there were no updates but all is believed to be going well.

RECREATION COMMITTEE

1748 A Meeting of the Recreation Committee had been held on 8th November 2011. All was in accordance with the committee meeting minutes distributed prior to the Parish Council meeting.

Ted Marriage Recreation Field

- a) Play area – work completed – ~~delete item~~
 - b) Play bark under swings – Committee decided no bark to be used – for a temporary repair compacted soil to be used to fill in ruts
 - c) Play area fence and slide – Completed – ~~delete item~~
- Other items – Dog bin emptying being monitored for frequency (non compliance of SLA).

Mill Lane Play area

- a) Moles – Work completed to date - being monitored
- b) Swing seat / holes – Being monitored
- c) Outside fence – Some of the holes have been repaired, gaps in chain link fencing above middle cross section, needs monitoring
- d) Slide – work completed but two timbers are completely loose, they could easily be pulled off – ask Kevin to look at urgently
- e) Kevin to ask Vic to cut back weeds at side entrance which are very overgrown

Walter Hobbs Recreation Field

- a) Football pitches P.L.T./Goal mouths – In hand with RK
 - b) Weed growth – In hand with RK – no update
 - c) Wood chip – Monitor for now
 - d) Goal posts – Maintenance man is painting them and straightening them in situ
 - e) Hexagonal swings – In addition to above notes, there are some wooden boards around the area which need replacing. Kevin to complete urgently.
 - f) Aerial runway – As above notes – this is being monitored at present
- Other items:
- g) The fencing to the play area is now seriously dangerous and the equipment is now in a dire state of repair. We must give this problem immediate attention. This was brought up by the

pre-school at the last Village Hall meeting. R Keeble has contacted the school to find out which company erected theirs and the cost was £9,000. Ask Kevin to supply quote. Cllr Keeble mentioned that grants might have to be sought for the fencing to be replaced and would enquire if Ted Hall could assist with these applications or recommend to the Parish Council where to apply.

h) The Parish notice boards are in need of repair and are rotting and letting in water and insect infestations – to be monitored and reviewed in next 6 months.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 29th November 2011 – 7.00pm – Tipps Cross Remembrance Hall.

CLERK’S REPORT

1749	<u>COMMITTEE MEETINGS</u>					
	Planning	TBC	8.15 pm	Anvil House,	Blacksmiths	Alley,
	Blackmore					
	Recreation	29.11.11	7.30 pm	Crosse house		
	<u>Parish Council</u>	<u>15.12.11</u>	<u>7.30 pm</u>	<u>Blackmore V Hall</u>		
	Tipps X Management	29.11.11	8.00pm	Tipps X R Hall		

1750 **Essex Playing Fields awards** – The Clerk advised the Parish had received annual awards for the playing fields and recreation grounds, all areas, and these certificates would be held on file.

OTHER ITEMS

1751 It was discussed and agreed that both the Environment and Recreation committees would inspect outstanding works required and approve works completed for payment and only consider urgent items of work due to current budget constraints.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS – (for discussion only)

Nil

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 10.05 p.m.