

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Village Hall at 8.05pm on Thursday, 24th. March, 2005.

PRESENT

Cllr. Draper in the Chair, Cllrs. Applegate, Amos, Harris, Palmer & Williamson.
Borough Cllr. Saunders, the Clerk and one member of the public were in attendance.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Mrs. Tilby.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes were signed as a true record of the Meeting held on 24th. February, 2005.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24TH. FEBRUARY, 2005.

Traffic Calming Post Mortem (MA p.393)

D. Cllr. Saunders had provided PC with a letter received from ECC Highways saying that a two day stoppage would have cost £1,600 in lost gang works plus officer time. The estimated cost of the stoppage was therefore in the region of £2,000+. He had also received information that the contractors had been paid even though some of the signage lighting was not connected.

The Clerk now has the information required to write separately to highways about the systems which allow a non-elected individual to bring about the stoppage of works and how payment can be made without proper inspection of the works.

It was noted that the lighting at the mini-roundabout is now scheduled for connection on 31st. March.

Civil Emergency Planning (Cd p.394)

Cllr. Williamson has agreed to be the local emergency contact, and his details have been forwarded to Kelvin Ward at CBC.

Diversion of Overhead Line, The Tye (p.397)

EDF is still waiting to hear from Strutt and Parker acting on behalf of Lord Petre. EDF say that it is not possible to transfer the bracket lamp to the pole on the other side of the road because that is a telecomm pole, so a new column light will have to be installed, but not by them. EDF is agreeable to a site meeting once S & P have also given the go-ahead.

The Clerk is to seek to find out the proposal for the replacement of the lamp.

CORRESPONDENCE**a) County & Parish Working Together**

It was noted that ECC has produced a report on the feedback to the consultation, which will be circulated shortly.

FINANCE**a) Village Hall Car Park Whitelining**

It was agreed to contribute £200 which is 50% of the cost of the white lining by M & D Road Markings Ltd, the contractor who does the road marking in Chelmsford Borough. The marking will be done with the same material as is used on the roads, and will provide dedicated spaces for the disabled and the shop. PC's contribution is reliant on agreement to the layout.

b) ECC Grant for IT Improvements

It was noted that £1000 will be received shortly. It was agreed in principle that this should be spent on replacing the PC computer with a more up-to-date model, and earmarking the remainder for a replacement photocopier.

c) Countryside Agency Grant

It was noted that the final grant payment of £278.04 has been received for the Post Office/shop element of the Village Hall extension.

d) EALC - New Local Government Conditions of Service/Salary Briefing

It was agreed to book places at the Briefing at Springfield on 27th. April at a cost of £10. The Clerk is to attend. Two councillors may also attend.

e) Allotments

Due to there being two residents on the waiting list for allotments since the New Year, the Clerk had been investigating the viability of the site in front of 5 Scarles Croft being an allotment again. The CBC allotments officer had agreed that it was workable but that PC would have to take it on, as CBC does not manage sites outside of the town area.

It was agreed that PC should not take on the extra allotment site, but the Clerk should contact the present allotment tenant to see whether she would be prepared to rent a reduced area of the site.

f) Payments

The following receipts were noted

From	To Account	Amount £	Explanation
Countryside Agency	Current	278.04	Final grant payment for PO shop construction
J. Chandler	Current	10.00	Newsletter income

The following cheques were signed:

To	Cheque	NET £	VAT £	TOTAL £	Explanation	Power
Hanna's Field Charity	101429			6.75	Rent for Meeting 24/02/05	LGA 1972 Sch 12 S10
Post Office Ltd	101430			186.89	NI & PAYE Jan-March05	LGA 1972 S112
K. Plumridge	101431			592.33	March salary, Office allowance, B/band 13/3-12/4, Telephone Postage.	LGA 1972 S112
EALC	101432			10.00	Salaries Briefing	LGA S111

PLANNING

a) Planning Applications

05/00315/FUL Little Claydons Farm, Old Southend Road (replacement of existing hip and lean to roof over kitchen with gable to match existing).

There was no objection to the application.

b) Tree Works

It was noted that CBC has no objection to the proposed works to protected trees as follows:

TPO No:	TPO Ref:	Species	Location	Specification
1994/09	T2	Black poplar	Side front boundary Roseberry House, OCR.	Reduce back to just above previous cutting points and shape over, cutting back to suitable growing points.
1975/32	T2	Oak	Front garden of Thoraby	Reduce oak back to previous pruning points and thin by 20%, cutting back to suitable growing points.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

a) Draft Statement of Community Involvement

There was no response to this document.

b) Core Strategy Pre-Submission Stakeholder and Consultee Consultation

It was agreed that the Clerk should respond that there should be no development to the north of South Woodham Ferrers until there is an adequate road network to support it.

CONSULTATION: ESSEX MINERALS DOCUMENT

a) Council Harris's Report

Cllr. Harris gave a brief outline description of the document.

b) Response to the Consultation

It was agreed that a response should be sent stating that when current arrangements are to be changed or new ones adopted, the changes should be clearly and separately identified and notice given to communities for consultation.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

a) Arrangements

It was noted that the Hall had been booked, but the invitations to local groups had yet to be sent.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

a) Clerk's Report

It was noted that the name proposals from Mr. Chennells were forwarded to Colne Housing and their architect then applied to CBC to name the new road as per the proposals. The officer at CBC then contacted the Clerk to find out the background to the proposal. She said that she would submit the proposal but warned that it might be rejected because CBC has a policy that streets should not be named after living people. In the event of such a rejection she thought she could still use the name, because the houses facing Old Church Road would need to be named and therefore could be 1-4 Chennells. She also said that in view of the long timescale of this development, there is still plenty of time to get this matter sorted out. In view of the present confusion the Clerk had not written back to Mr. Chennells.

VILLAGE FETE

a) Request from the Fete Committee

A letter from Richard Huke was considered. It was agreed that PC should not take up the suggestion that it should run 3 or 4 stalls or attractions at the forthcoming fete. It was considered that such an exercise would not prove or disprove the viability of PC's suggestions for a different event.

CHURCHYARD TIDY-UP

a) Post Mortem

It was agreed that it had been a successful exercise on 19th. March, and a letter of thanks from Stan Gordon Vice Chair of the Parochial Church Council was noted.

HFC/PC LIAISON

a) Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 30th. March, in the Village Hall and will be attended by Myrtle Fisher and other youth workers. In the expected absence of the Chairman & Cllr. Applegate, Cllr. Harris undertook to attend. A consultation meeting with young people of the village is planned for 6th. April.

b) Inappropriate use of Village Hall Car Park

Groups of 'ramblers' have left their cars in the car park while walking St. Peters Way. This has caused considerable nuisance to legitimate users of the car park. The possibility of signage is to be an agenda item for the next Liaison meeting.

c) Project Funding

It was noted that further to the report presented to the last PC Meeting, the Essex Community Foundation had turned down a funding application and CBC had promised £2,500 (although £7000 had been requested).

d) Cllr. Amos's Report on CCTV

It was agreed that Cllr. Amos should contact the managers of the CCTV system at Bicknacre to find out how it is run and how successful it has been. He undertook to report back to the next PC Meeting.

MATTERS FOR REPORT

a) Cycle Race from Village Hall Sunday 3rd. April

This will be taking place for most of the morning, using the Village Hall car park for parking and Hall as HQ. Cyclists will be assembling in the drive at 8.55am.

b) Vandalised Bus Shelter

Two quotes have been received and forwarded to the Insurance Company with the claim.

c) Lamp Coude Dennis Access to Hanna's Field

A less obtrusive lamp was scheduled to be installed this week.

d) Permanently Lit Lamp, The Common No 6.

This has been reported.

e) Road Surface Reinstatement of Traffic Calmed Area

There have been two excavations which have not been reinstated like-for-like. PC had previously been advised that reinstatement would be in a matching material. The Clerk undertook to make enquiries with ECC and report back to the next Meeting.

f) Post and Rail Fence

It was noted that the Clerk is awaiting a quotation for painting the fence. Cllr. Palmer offered to paint the fence if someone else could remove the rust.

g) Grass Island, Three Horseshoes

It was noted that the post at the top end of the island has been lost and replaced with a concrete bollard, but this gets moved and has been seen in the road.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 9.50.