

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at 8.05pm on Thursday, 23rd. March, 2006 in the Village Hall.

PRESENT

Cllr. Draper in the Chair, Cllrs. Applegate, Amos and Williamson.
The Clerk was in attendance.

APOLGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs. Harris and Palmer.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes were signed as a true record of the Meeting held on 23rd. February 2006.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23RD. FEBRUARY, 2006

Cllr. Mrs. Tilby (MA p.462)

Mrs. Tilby last attended a Meeting of the Council on 22nd. September, so six months had elapsed which meant her seat had become vacant. The notice of vacancy had been displayed and a copy sent to the Returning Officer at CBC.

A by-election to fill the vacancy would be held if within 14 days ten electors of the parish gave notice in writing claiming an election to the Returning Officer. If no such notice was given the Council would fill the vacancy by co-option.

Cllrs. undertook to speak to people who had shown interest.

Three Horseshoes (MfRa p. 466)

The Chairman had asked the landlord to remove all but one of the A-boards as per the agreement. This had not been done. The Clerk had yet to find the paperwork on the bins.

CORRESPONDENCE

a) Land Registry

It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the Land Registry for details of the procedure for registration, including the likely cost and whether legal representation would be necessary.

b) Village of the Year Competition

It was agreed not to enter the Competition.

It was agreed that the Village Tidy-up should be on 6th. May and that there should be a leaflet drop to publicise it. The Chairman undertook to transport the collected waste to the civic amenity site.

FINANCE**a) National Salary Award 2006/7**

It was agreed to adopt the hourly rate for Spinal Column Point 34. An office allowance of £193.30 for the year was agreed.

b) Preschool

It was noted that Preschool would be represented at the next Meeting. A report will be provided to be sent out with the Agenda.

c) Payments

The following cheques were signed:

To	Cheque	NET £	VAT £	TOTAL £	Explanation	Power
Hanna's Field Charity	101510	10.15 296.65		307.15	Rent meeting 23/2/06, Preschool rent 2 nd . Half term	LGA 1972 Sch 12 S142, LG(MP)A 1976 S19
NALC	101511			37.80	Subscription to Local Council Review 2006/7, 7/8, 8/9	LGA 1972 S111
K. Plumridge	101512			739.04	March salary, Office allowance Expenses, B/band 13/2-12/3, Telephone, Post	LGA 1972 S112
Post Office Ltd	101513			460.00	PAYE, NI Jan-March	LGA 1972 S112

The following receipt was noted:

From	To Account	Amount £	Explanation
Barclays	Deposit	34.64	Interest 6/12/05-5/3/06

PLANNING

06/00042/cleud Fairview Bennetts Avenue (application for certificate of lawfulness re: demolition of garage and erection of games room and flat roof extension to rear of existing out-building

PC was unable to comment.

HFC/PC LIAISON

a) Shop Lease

A report on the situation with regard to the lease was noted, but due to its confidential nature would not be minuted. There was no action for PC.

b) Youth Facilities Project

A confidential report from HFC with regard to funding applications made, rejected, and successful was noted.

The Clerk was asked to seek confirmation that the order of priority was for the surface for the sports wall to be first and the youth shelter second, with the skate ramp a lower priority.

c) Club Room Project

The Clerk's report on the restrictive covenant was noted. The question of restraint of trade and whether the restrictive covenant was enforceable needed to be investigated.

A report from HFC on the sale of alcohol on charity premises was also noted.

It was agreed that as the next step on these two matters was to seek legal advice, which would have a cost implication, no further action would be taken on these matters until it had been established that the building alteration was feasible. A report on this and the licensing requirements was awaited from HFC.

COLNE HOUSING SCHEME OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

a) Street Naming and Numbering

Confirmation had been received from CBC that the cul-de-sac was to be named Geoffrey Close, CM3 8GE and the houses and flats fronting Old Church Road were to be 1-4 Chennells, CM3 8GF.

b) Site Visit

The Clerk had attended the site visit on 21st. March. The Chairman had been unable to attend due to work commitments. The Clerk reported favourably on the quality of construction. Cllrs. would have an opportunity to visit the site on 18th. April, and undertook to let the Clerk know if they were available.

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

a) Update

The Clerk reported that confirmation of the grant was awaited but the Transport Partnership was advising going ahead with the publicity for the consultation morning on 29th. April.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

A) Date and Format

It was agreed that the APM should be held on a Saturday afternoon in May from 2-4pm, prior to the Annual Parish Council Meeting. The dates 13th. and 20th. May were

proposed, and the Clerk was instructed to proceed with which ever one was not the cup final date, subject to the Village Hall being available.

The event is to take place in the small hall with the large hall booked for a bouncy castle to keep the children entertained. All groups in the parish were to be invited, plus the PCSO and police inspector.

A leaflet drop would be arranged to coincide with the one for the Village Tidy-up.

MATTERS FOR REPORT

a) Field Opposite Alands Farm

It was noted that the hedge had been cleared opposite the Colne Housing site.

b) Pan Lane

The Clerk undertook to report the litter left by the road contractors and the missing chevrons.

c) Road Closures

A schedule of road closures had been received from ECC. Traffic would be diverted through East Hanningfield village when East Hanningfield Road was closed in the area of Butts Green. The works were scheduled to take place from 10/6/06-10/7/06.

d) The Licensing Act

In response to complaints from South Woodham Ferrers Town Council about Chelmsford Borough Council not accepting comments from parish councils, EALC had investigated the management of licensing in the county. It was found that procedures vary with one DC directly consulting PCs, others accepting comments and some rejecting comments. EALC would be compiling a report on best practice which would be distributed to all the DCs in Essex.

e) Driving Towards a Sustainable Chelmsford

Late notice of a conference had been received from Chelmsford Environment Partnership. Councillors were to let the Clerk know whether they would be available to attend.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 10.05.