

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Thursday, 27th. April, 2006 at 8.07pm in the Village Hall.

PRESENT

Cllr. Draper in the Chair, Cllrs. Applegate, Amos, Harris and Palmer.
The Clerk, Tony Leas, co-option candidate, and Preschool representatives Dawn Falkingham and Sarah Middleton were in attendance.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr. Williamson.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

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

At this point it was agreed to bring forward Finance Item a) as the Preschool representatives needed to leave early.

FINANCE

a) Preschool

Preschool had provided PC with a financial forecast up to the end of their financial year, 31/8/06.

It was agreed that PC should continue to pay the full rent for the Preschool session for the rest of this academic year, and to consider the level of support for the next academic year when Preschool provides updated financial information in September. Preschool is to be asked to provide estimates for further ahead for PC budgeting purposes.

CO-OPTION TO FILL THE CASUAL VACANCY

It was agreed to co-opt Tony Leas on to the Council. Cllr. Leas signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, and was provided with the form on which to register his interests.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23RD. MARCH

Three Horseshoes (MA p. 467)

The Minutes of 2nd. January, 2003, p. 210 refer to a request from the Three Horseshoes to install screening around their wheelie bins, but no design had been received so PC could not consider it. There are two other points that are relevant to this issue. There are no permitted development rights for a public house, so planning

permission would be required, and as it is in the conservation area the screening would need to 'enhance' the area. S 29 of the Commons Act 1876 would appear to prohibit the installation of any structure on a village green which is not for the purpose of furthering the recreational enjoyment of the green. PC has no power to give the landlord of the pub immunity from prosecution under this law. Cllr. Amos undertook to find out the name of the management company so that the Clerk could write to the landlord and copy to the management co. reminding them of the agreement concerning the A boards and drawing to their attention complaints about the unsightliness of the bins.

Village Tidy-Up (Cb p467)

The Clerk presented a joint Tidy-up/Parish Meeting leaflet, which would be distributed the following week. The leaflet was to be printed on coloured paper. The start time of the Tidy-up was to be 9am.

Driving Towards a Sustainable Chelmsford (MfRe p.470)

Cllr. Applegate had attended the conference organised by the Chelmsford Environment Partnership. He would put the papers into circulation. He noted that the emphasis was on the town to the detriment of the rural areas.

CORRESPONDENCE

a) Footpath 11

It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the County Council that the delay in dealing with the encroachment is unacceptable, and to refer to the footpath beside Sumptners Farm.

b) Danbury Annual Village Meeting

There was no-one available to attend the Meeting on 10th. May.

c) Operational Hit Squad

The Clerk had responded to CBC, as a fast answer was required, that the Hit Squad should visit the village after the end of the school summer holiday. CBC had asked PC to note that parishes that received a visit last year would not receive priority this year.

It was agreed that if there were any littered areas remaining after the tidy-up, the Clerk should inform CBC.

FINANCE

b) Receipts and Payments Account 2005/6

The R&P Account for the Year ending 31/3/06 was approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman. It was noted that although on paper the current account appeared overdrawn, that had not happened because cheques were held until there was credit to cover them.

c) Payments

It was agreed that the following cheques should be signed:

To	Cheque	NET £	VAT £	TOTAL £	Explanation	Power
Chelmsford	101514			15.00	Attendance at	LGA

Environment Partnership					seminar	1972 S111
Canon (UK) Ltd	101515	20.33	3.56	23.89	Copy charge 1/1/06-3/3/06	LGA 1972 S111
EALC	101516	211.46 41.12		252.58	Annual subs to NALC & EALC	LGA 1972 S143
Hannas Field Charity	101517	7.00 7.12		14.12	Rent for meeting 23/3 & holiday sports	LGA 1972 Sch 12 S142, LG(MP)A 1976 S19
Chelmsford Borough Council	101518			120.00	Holiday sports coaching x 2	LG(MP)A 1976 S19
K. Plumridge	101519			740.57	April salary, Office allowance Expenses B/band 13/3-12/4 Reimbursements	LGA 1972 S112
Ordnance Survey	101520	47.50	8.31	55.81	Copy licence	LGA 1972 S111

The following receipts were noted:

From	To account	Amount £	Explanation
S. Hambling	Current	1.00	Allotment rent

PLANNING

a) Planning Applications

06/00760/FUL Lodge Farm, Old Church Road, CM3 8BH (use of redundant poultry houses for class B1 c) (light industry) and/or B8 (warehouse) use).

It was noted that on the notice of refusal for application 05/02380/FUL CBC had advised that an application for these uses would be more favourably considered. PC has no objection to the application.

06/00805/FUL Briarfield, Old Church Road, CM3 8BE (rear conservatory).

PC has no objection to the application.

CC/CHL/63/06 East Hanningfield C of E Primary School (Removal of the relocatable class room & construction of a single storey extension to provide two new classrooms and a learning resource centre).

PC supports the application.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

a) Highways Scheme 2006/7

ECC has asked PC to nominate a scheme for the financial year 2006/7. It was agreed that the Clerk should ask the Highways officer to a site meeting to discuss the highways matters that need addressing, with a view to putting together a scheme.

HFC/PC LIAISON

a) Shop Lease

PC received a verbal report.

b) Liaison Meeting 18th. April

It was agreed that PC and HFC with other local groups would organise a Halloween dance as a fund raising event.

c) Club Room Project

Paul Garner had produced a plan of how a club room could be accommodated in the Village Hall. The Charity needs to consult its beneficiaries, so there will be a display at the Annual Parish Meeting asking for comments.

COLNE HOUSING SCHEME OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

Cllrs. Draper, Applegate and Harris had visited the site and were pleased with progress and quality. There is going to be a public open house on a Saturday in August, and confirmation of the date is awaited. Application forms for registration of interest will be available at the APM.

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

a) Consultation

The grant had been confirmed but at too late a stage to be able to ahead with the consultation event on 29th. April. A new date of 3rd. June has been arranged. The questionnaires will be printed shortly.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 20th. MAY

The Chairman undertook to write his report for inclusion in the Annual Report. The Lidiard's bouncy castle had been booked which would incur a fee of £25. The Halls had been booked from 1pm for setting up: the meeting to run from 2-4pm. The Clerk would purchase soft drinks.

LAND REGISTRATION

It was agreed that the Clerk should proceed with registering the playing fields at an estimated value of £200,000. If necessary a cheque could be signed between meetings to cover the fee.

MATTERS FOR REPORT

a) Church Road, West Hanningfield

The traveller caravan had been given 28 days notice to leave.

b) Manned Refuse Vehicles

The next visit would be in June and would be publicised on the noticeboards. The dates for the year are in the Village Diary on the PC website.

c) Village Roads

Weeds were growing along the road edges at Highfields Mead and there was a build up of detritus/leaf-litter along roadsides.

d) HFC AGM

Cllr. Applegate reported that the Charity's workload was being done by very few people. Forthcoming events were the Art Exhibition on 15th. July and the Village Fete on 16th. September.

e) Village Hall Car Park

There is a broken cover on one of the lights at the car park.

The recycle bins need new signs.

f) Break-in at Village Hall

A considerable amount of damage had been done by people trying to reach the post office through the village hall. It appeared that they had only taken Preschool's jar of instant coffee.

g) Industrial Estate

There were problems that children were playing on the industrial estate and there were also problems with litter at the site and blowing off the site. CBC were now able to deal with untidy private property using the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act.

h) Catherine Close Play Area

The edge of the matting has lifted and is a trip hazard.

i) Groundswork

The ditch in front of the Forge garden is overgrown.

j) Next Meeting

Cllr. Lees gave his apologies for absence from the next Meeting.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 10.47.