

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Thursday, 22nd. June, 2006 at 8.06pm in the Village Hall.

PRESENT

Cllr. Applegate in the Chair, Cllrs. Harris, Lees, Palmer, Williamson.
The Clerk and Borough Cllr. Poulter were in attendance.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs. Amos and Draper.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes were signed as a true record of the Annual Meeting held on 25th. May, 2006.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 25TH. MAY, 2006.

RoSPA Inspection (Ca p.478)

The Clerk had yet to write to HFC.

Village Maintenance (MfRa p.481)

Derek Wybrow, who repaired it last time, has been asked to look at the seat.

Tye Path (MfRbi p.481)

Arrangements are in hand for this is to be done by Unpaid Workers in the Community.

CORRESPONDENCE

a) Letter from Brenda Brown

The Clerk is to respond that there is no wear on the grass, PC is not entitled to stop people walking on the Tye, PC had a site meeting with a CC officer in May about road safety and there is to be a traffic census in Church Road.

b) Extraordinary Meeting of the Police & Community Consultative Group

The meeting at 7.30pm on 13th. July is to present the Home Office proposals for merging Essex Police with the Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire forces. Essex Police, ECC and District Councils are opposed to the merger. Survey forms are being distributed and are also available on Essex Police website for residents to support the call for a referendum. Cllrs. are to let the Clerk know if they can attend.

c) CBC Mobile Sk8 Park

The date of Sunday, 20th. August has now been confirmed for the visit of the mobile equipment. HFC is to monitor its use to see how much support there is for skateboard facilities in the village.

d) Big Lottery Fund Briefing

It was agreed that the Clerk should attend with a representative from HFC.

FINANCE

a) Financial Regulations – Fidelity Guarantee

It was agreed that paragraph 15.4 of the Financial Regulations should be amended to read as follows:

15.4 All appropriate employees of the Council shall be included in a suitable fidelity guarantee insurance which shall cover the maximum risk exposure as determined by the Council. The minimum fidelity guarantee cover is to be the sum of the total reserves plus half the Precept.

b) Financial Risk Assessment – Computerised Account

It was agreed to amend the cash book item within the Financial Risk Assessment to read as follows:

Subject	Risk	Level of risk	Action
Cash Book	Loss of computerized account	High	Back-up kept on floppy disc and cd. Cash book to be sent to Member Internal Auditor by email for off-site storage. Fire-proof storage to be investigated.

c) Independent Internal Audit

The IIA was to take place on 26th. June, but has now been postponed until 10th. July.

d) Newsletter

It was agreed that the Clerk should obtain two quotes for colour and black only printing for consideration at the July Meeting. Consideration will also be giving at that meeting to the advertising rates and when advertisers should be informed of any change. In the meantime councillors are to conduct a straw poll of their neighbours to find out how the improved newsletter presentation has been received.

e) Halloween Dance

It was agreed that the provisional band booking made by Colin Warren should be confirmed, and that PC will pay the £350 fee.

f) Payments

The following cheques were signed:

To	Cheque	NET £	VAT £	TOTAL £	Explanation	Power
Hanna's Field Charity	101531	9.65 7.10		16.75	Rent meeting 25/5/06, Transport consultation,	LGA 1972 Sch 12 S142, LG&RA 1997 S29

Chelmsford Borough Council	101532			60.00	Sports coaching half term	LG(MP)A 1976 S19
K. Plumridge	101533			805.75	June salary, Office allowance, B/band 14/5-13/6, Reimbursements	LGA 1972 S112
Post Office Ltd 5/7/06	101534	195.80 279.75		475.55	April-June NI PAYE	LGA 1972 S112

PLANNING

a) Planning Application Response

Comment on the following planning application was required before the date of this meeting, therefore the Clerk responded to it in consultation with councillors.

06/01084/FUL Barn House, Old Church Road (first floor side extension above garage).

There was no objection to the application.

b) Planning Applications

06/01124/FUL Alands Farm, Back Lane (single storey detached garage and store).

There were no objections to the application.

06/01144/FUL East Hanningfield Hall, Old Church Road CM3 8BQ (retention of tourist accommodation and septic tank).

It was agreed that conditions should be requested that would allow lets to be no longer than one month and that the accommodation should be let for a maximum of nine months per year.

The Chairman declared a prejudicial interest in the following application and left the meeting. Cllr. Palmer took the Chair.

06/01130/FUL 24 Bicknacre Road (Lothlorien), CM3 8AN (rear conservatory).

There was no objection to the application.

The Chairman was recalled to the Meeting and resumed the Chair.

HFC/PC LIAISON

a) Shop Lease

A verbal report on the matter was received.

b) Youth Facilities

It was noted that all grant applications have received responses. There will be more funding opportunities later in the year. The surface for the sports wall has been ordered. Youth shelter and lighting to go ahead. Not enough money has been raised for a skate park: HFC still to decide how to proceed (minimal response to youth

survey) following visit of mobile skate park. Bike mounds have been cut, so now usable.

c) Club Room Project

HFC intends to seek views of residents attending the Art Exhibition and Village Fete. Clerk is to suggest HFC displays the plans at the School Fete.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

It was noted that there had been no further communication from Robin Murray at ECC Highways, so the Clerk undertook to contact him to find out how far the issues of concern had progressed. She also undertook to find out what was to happen to the bus service while East Hanningfield Road was closed at Howe Green from 26th. to 28th. June.

COLNE HOUSING SCHEME OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

The date of the open house was still awaited.

COMMUNITY PLANNING

The Clerk is to investigate when training sessions are available on this topic.

MATTERS FOR REPORT

a) Old Church Road

Mrs. Williamson had written a letter concerning the condition of the verges in front of the numbered houses. The residents used to maintain them, but they have not been reinstated since the road surfacing and were therefore no maintainable.

The hedge requires cutting back from the footway.

b) Missing Signs

The Chairman reported that there were several posts in the parish which had lost their signs. He undertook to compile a list and to pass it to the Clerk so that they could be reported.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 10.02.