

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Thursday, 23rd. November, 2006 at 7.34pm in the Village Hall.

PRESENT

Cllr. Applegate in the Chair, Cllrs. Harris, Lees and Palmer.
The Clerk and one member of the public were in attendance.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs. Draper, Williamson and Mrs. Williamson.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes were signed as a true record of the Meeting held on 26th. October, 2006.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26TH. OCTOBER, 2006

Enforcement: Highwater Farm (MA p. 501)

Cllr. Draper has provided the Clerk with recent photographs which illustrate continuing development at the site. These have been forwarded to CBC Planning. Also the Clerk has asked for an update in view of the fact that the 28 days for the owner to apply for planning permission has expired.

Flies (p.504)

As representative from EHPC was unable to attend the Meeting on 22nd. November, CBC was not requested to put the item on the Agenda.

CBC Parish Council's Meeting 22nd. November

Following this meeting training sessions for parish councils have been arranged for Wednesday 17th. January 2-4pm and Tuesday 23rd. January 7-9pm. The sessions will be identical, so Cllrs should choose the most convenient time and date. Cllr. Lees undertook to attend on 23rd. January, and asked for confirmation of venue.

CORRESPONDENCE

a) HFC Christmas Drinks & Mincepies 13th. December, 8.30pm

The Chairman of HFC had invited Cllrs. and their partners to the evening event. Clerk to inform the Secretary that Cllr. Applegate would attend and Cllrs. Harris and Lees would not. Other Cllrs were to respond direct.

b) SWF Police Station Opening

It was noted that a letter had been received from Insp. Kilgallen, in response to the Clerk's letter, saying that there are no immediate plans to achieve 24 hour opening at SWF.

c) Cash Machine Request

It was noted that written acknowledgement had been received from the Royal Bank of Scotland with regard to the request for a non surcharging cash machine.

FINANCEa) External Auditor's Report

It was noted that for the accounts for the year ended 31/3/06 the Auditor had reported as follows:

On the basis of our review, in our opinion the information contained in the annual return is in accordance with the Audit Commission's requirements and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

Other matters not affecting our opinion which we wish to draw to the attention of the Council:

1. In relation to the Council's bank accounts, we noted that whilst the current account was never physically overdrawn, the cash book position of the current account was overdrawn in the sum of £511 at 31 March 2006. The overdrawn position technically constitutes unauthorised borrowing and should be avoided in the future.

It was noted that signed cheques had been held back until a transfer from the deposit account covered them. This happened to take place over the end of one financial year and the beginning of the next.

b) Budget & Precept 2007/8

The budget was agreed and the Precept set at £28,220. This was an increase of only £6 on the Precept for the current financial year. The agreed budget is appended to these Minutes.

c) Precept Form

The Clerk and Chairman signed the Precept.

d) Payments

The following cheques were signed:

To	Cheque	NET £	VAT £	TOTAL £	Explanation	Power
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	101557			82.50	Wreath for Remembrance Sunday	LGA 1972 S137
Hanna's Field Charity	101558			19.25	Rent for Sept & Oct Meetings	LGA 1972 SCH 12 S142
Lubbock Fine	101559	250.00	43.75	293.75	External Audit fee 2005-6	ACA 1998
MD Landscapes	101560	92.40 132.60 60.00 51.00	58.81	394.81	Mow Tye x 3 Mow Field x 3 Strim Tye x 2 Churchyard x 3	LG(MP)A 1976 s19, OSA 1906 S9(b)

Society of Local Council Clerks	101561			92.40	Annual Subs 120x77%	LGA 1972 S143
K. Plumridge	101562			749.15	Nov salary Office allowance b/band -12/11/06 Reimbursements Expenses	LGA 1972 S112
K. Plumridge 28/12/06	101563			733.64	Dec salary Office allowance B/band -12/12/06	LGA 1972 S112

It was agreed that the following cheque would be signed between Meetings on receipt of the invoice.

To	Cheque	NET £	VAT £	TOTAL £	Explanation	Power
Graphic Impressions	101564			In the region of £390	Winter news	LGA 1972 S142

PLANNING

a) Planning Applications

06/02168/FUL Little Claydons Farm, Old Southend Road CM2 7TB (Change of use to a mixed use comprising agriculture and turkey slaughter house, processing and store limited to a maximum of 45 days per annum with ancillary works.

Although it was noted that some attempt had been made to alleviate the problem of access, PC continues to object to the proposed use at this site. This is an industrial usage which is inappropriate in this location in the open countryside. It necessitates heavy haulage vehicles travelling on rural roads, through rural communities and at antisocial hours.

b) Submission of Development Plan Documents to the Secretary of State

It was noted that CBC has submitted two development plan documents (DPDs) to the Secretary of State –

- Submission Core Strategy and Development Control Policies DPD and
- Submission Chelmsford Town Centre Area Action Plan DPD – copies of which have been provided.

c) Consultation on Supplementary Planning Documents

It was noted that the consultation period for the following Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) ends on 19th. December.

- Draft Affordable Housing SPD
- Draft Sustainable Design and Construction SPD
- Draft Urban Site Guidance SPD

These have been provided on cd-rom and are also on the CBC website.

HFC/PC LIAISON

a) Shop Lease

A verbal report on the current situation was noted.

b) Liaison Meeting

The official opening of the facilities installed this year will be on 2nd. December. A new proposal for skate equipment is being planned, which involves a multiuse path around the playing field. Information about when the S106 funds will be available for the play area fence is awaited. Fence should include stiles to accommodate right of way. Bin by Hall used for vandalism and destroyed when refuse collectors had not relocked it after emptying. Halloween Dance raised £244.55 plus expected bar contribution of £50.

c) Community Suite Project

It was agreed that community suite was a more appropriate title than club room. Cllr. Harris is waiting for Hall booking records before compiling a business plan. The Clerk is looking into the VAT situation but has been unable as yet to find out that VAT would be recoverable. The previous project had been part zero rated, but that would not apply in the case of internal alterations. It was agreed not to make the decision yet about whether HFC or PC leads the project, but to organise another liaison meeting with HFC early in January.

BUS SERVICE WITHDRAWAL

Cllr. Palmer had received a letter from the County Council on Friday, 17th. saying that First bus had notified ECC that they would be withdrawing Service 35 on 2nd. January. Clerk had posted notices around the village advising residents of the withdrawal of the service and suggesting that they write to the County Council. This information was also posted on the website. Cllr. Palmer had daily contact with ECC.

On the afternoon of this meeting an email was received from ECC with a timetable from Stansted Transit who will be providing the service from January. The new timetable has been posted on the website and copies were available at the Meeting.

REVIEW OF LIBRARY MOBILE SERVICE

ECC is proposing to reduce visits of the mobile library from weekly to fortnightly. PC has no objection to this change.

COLNE HOUSING SCHEME OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The rented properties have now been allocated. The Clerk has on request been providing plans of the houses for the prospective tenants as they will not be able to view the houses until 7th. December, and will be moving in on 15th.

COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH

Cllr. Lees undertook to circulate the information he had collected about Community Speed Watch. It was agreed that it should be an Agenda item for the Meeting at the end of January.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next Meeting should take place on Thursday, 4th. January, 2007.

MATTERS FOR REPORT

a) Apologies

Cllr. Lees gave his apologies for absence from the Meeting on 4th. January.

b) Planning Training

Cllr. Harris would wait until all councillors were present before reporting on the planning training that he had attended.

c) Transport Consultative Meeting

There had been a meeting recently at SWF which Cllr. Palmer had been unable to attend. He undertook to put the papers in to circulation.

d) Hanningfield Water Treatment Works

Cllr. Harris had received written confirmation of the responses by the Parish Councils consulted on the S106 agreement. The proposals were

- Further safety measures and improvements for cycle use on the old A130 Southend Road.
- A vehicle activated warning sign to be erected on South Hanningfield Road.
- Traffic Calming measures in West Hanningfield Village.
- An extension to South Hanningfield Village Hall car park.
- Improvements to play equipment at South Hanningfield Tye.
- The restriction on use of the building solely to Essex & Suffolk Water employees.
- Requirements for landscaping.
- Measures to minimise light pollution.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 10.26.