

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Village Hall at 7.34pm on Wednesday, 27th. October, 2004.

PRESENT

Cllr. Draper in the Chair, Cllrs. Applegate, Amos, Mrs. Tilby and Williamson. The Clerk, District Cllrs. Poulter and Saunders, and six members of the public were in attendance.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence but Cllrs. Harris and Palmer had indicated that their arrivals would be delayed.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

“Mrs. Tilby” was removed from the list of members present and added to the list of apologies received. “Amos” was removed from the list of apologies received and added to the list of members present. The Minutes were then signed as a true record of the Meeting held on 23rd. September, 2004.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Broadband (MA p.363)

Broadband was activated on 13th. October.

Hedge beside Horseshoes Garden (MA p.363)

The meeting with the officer was delayed as Cllr. Amos had been away.

Tree Related Nuisance – Old School House (Ca p.363)

The matter has been forwarded to CBC Highways. A loss adjuster has visited the site on behalf of PC’s insurers and notes the situation with regard to the question of ownership of the land. Cllr. Harris met the loss adjuster in his capacity as member internal auditor.

PPP Skills Developing Courses (Fc p.364)

Due to the limit on numbers the Clerk will be unable to attend the first aid course but will be able to attend the Risk Assessment Course. Another First Aid Course is to be arranged.

Completion of External Audit (Fd p.364)

The Clerk has yet to contact the insurer about the formula for establishing fidelity cover.

CORRESPONDENCE

a) Hanningfield Wives’ Calendar

It was noted that Council members had been invited to attend the Champagne Launch Night of the Hanningfield Wives’ Calendar at the Windmill on Saturday 30th. October. Copies would be available for purchase.

b) Mid Essex Area Forum

It was noted that the Mid Essex Area Forum will take place at 2.30pm on 2nd. November at Hylands House. The Agenda and Minutes of the previous meeting were in circulation.

c) Diamond Service

It was noted that following the closure of Chelmsford Bus Station the pick up point for the Diamond Service will be in Duke Street.

d) ACDPC

Cllr. Draper undertook to attend the ACDPC Autumn Meeting on 18th. November at 7.45pm in the Springfield Parish Centre. The speaker will be Steve Packham, CBC Chief Executive who will speak on his ideas for the Borough in the future, with special reference to how he sees the parishes and CBC working together to achieve these and other aims.

e) A130 Closures

To note that copies of the Temporary Prohibition of Traffic Orders have been received from ECC concerning the closure of stretches of the A130 for periods of 5 consecutive nights between 25th. October and 31st. January. Also that a copy of the order prohibiting vehicles exceeding a width of 3.9m from using the old A130 between Rettendon Turnpike and its junction with the A130 at the Howe Green interchange between 8pm and 6am when the appropriate signage is showing.

FINANCEa) Village Hall Chase & Car Park Resurfacing

A request from Hanna's Field Charity for a reappraisal of the decision concerning the Village Hall car park and Chase resurfacing was considered. The favoured contractor had failed to provide written confirmation of the cost of an item missed from his quote despite repeated reminders. It was agreed therefore to endorse the Charity's recommendation that the contract should be awarded to Ketley. The Council's contribution at 50% of cost would amount to £4187.

The Charity had also asked for some lead on the question of white lining the car park. It was agreed to ask the Charity to seek quotes and bring them back to the November Meeting for consideration.

b) Preschool

It was noted that Preschool has given notice that they will not be applying for grant funding this year due to their funds being in good order. Difficulties in making financial forecasts due to the constantly changing numbers of children attending means that they would like the opportunity to re-apply next year should their circumstances change.

c) Payments

The following receipt was noted:

From	To Account	Amount £	Explanation
Barclays	Deposit	28.40	Quarterly interest 7/6-5/9/04

The following cheques were signed:

To	Cheque	NET £	VAT £	TOTAL £	Explanation	Power
ACDPC	101400			21.00	Annual subscription 2004/5	LGA 1972S143
Hanna's Field Charity	101401			7.50	Rent for September Meeting	LGA 1972 Sch 12 S10
M D Landscapes	101402	450.00	78.74	528.74	Mowing 29/7, 12/8, 26/8, 9/9, 25/9, 8/10/04	LG(MP)A 1976 S19(3a) OSA 1906 S9(b)
K. Plumridge	101403			676.99	Salary Oct. Office allowance, Telephone, B/band 13/10-12/11, Reimbursements Expenses	LGA 972 S112

PLANNING

a) Planning Applications

04/02058/FUL Ditchleys, The Common (rear conservatory).

There was no objection to the proposed conservatory.

04/02056/FUL Hyde Hall, Rettendon (new visitor centre and associated facilities, parking and access road via Creephedge Lane).

It was agreed that a letter of objection should be written including references to previous officer reports which had advised against an access via Creephedge Lane and advised granting of the previous application. The main reason for PC objection was the increased commuter traffic that would be caused by the upgrading of Creephedge Lane between the Shaws Farm roundabout and the proposed access, but secondary would be the likelihood of Hyde Hall visitors from the North taking the short route via Howe Green and East Hanningfield rather than the longer signed route. The effect of the proposed access on East Hanningfield and Howe Green would be far worse than the effect of the previous proposed access would have had on Rettendon.

It was agreed that a letter should be prepared for parishioners to sign and send to CBC outlining the main objections. This would be distributed to as many houses as would be feasible in the time allowed for consultation.

It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the case officer and request that parishioners' responses may be accepted up until Monday morning rather than the already agreed Friday morning.

04/01934/FUL Plot 5, Valley View Caravan Site, Old Barn Lane, Rettendon (retention of use of land as a caravan site for stationing of one static caravan and two touring caravans, associated hard-standing, dayroom and retention of existing access).

PC objected to the proposed retention of the caravan site as an inappropriate development in the green belt.

04/02082/CLOPUD Rough Hill Farm, (Mixed B1, B2 and B8 uses)

PC was unable to comment on the application.

b) Planning Appeal:

APP/W1525/A/04/1163691 Plots 2,3,4& 6 Valley Park View, Old Barn Lane, Rettendon (appeal against refusal of planning permission for retention of use of land as a caravan site for stationing of four static caravans, two touring caravans per plot and one day room per plot; all with associated hard standings).

The appeal was noted.

c) Tree Works

The Notice of Intent to carry out works to trees was noted as follows:

Species	Location	Specification
Ash	Back garden of Endymion	Crown reduction by 30% (approx. 2-2.5m) Cut to a suitable growing point. (Suitable growing points are side branches which are at least one third the diameter of the originating branch.) Crown lifting by cutting back the minor branches ('droppers') to the main branches. Remove dead wood.

It was noted that the following works to a protected tree have been refused:

TPO No:	TPO Ref:	Species	Location	Specification
2001/15	T1	Oak	Rear garden of 16 Highfields Mead	Fell to ground level and treat stump

CONSULTATION: ODPM – DRAFT CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

a) Response to the Consultation.

The draft response compiled by the Clerk in consultation with councillors was considered. Clarification was agreed on questions left open in the draft, and the final answers agreed.

REASSESSMENT OF GROUNDWORK SCHEDULE

a) Working Party Report

A report was distributed to councillors for consideration at the November Meeting

TRAFFIC CALMING POST MORTEM

a) Completion of Works

It was noted that works are officially complete and that this will be an Agenda item for the November Meeting. Following up queries arising from issues identified during the Groundwork Working Party site meeting, the Clerk had contacted CBC with some questions.

HANNA'S FIELD CHARITY/PARISH COUNCIL LIAISON

a) Liaison Meeting

It was noted that the meeting scheduled for 20th. October did not take place because the Youth Worker was not available, and that another date is to be arranged.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**a) PC Representation**

Cllr. Amos undertook to represent PC at the Service on 14th. November.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR LOCAL PEOPLE**a) Colne Housing Attendance**

It was noted that in view of the substantial Agenda for this meeting the Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman, had postponed inviting representatives from Colne Housing to attend. Due to CBC requiring responses to the S106 agreement consultation by 21st. October, the Clerk had forwarded them by Email.

b) Action to be Taken

It was agreed that the Clerk should invite representatives from Colne Housing and Elizabeth Best from CBC to attend the November Meeting. Should they be unavailable a fallback arrangement would be to invite them to an informal meeting with councillors.

The Clerk is to emphasise the point to CBC that PC wishes to see the payment for leisure provision, which Colne Housing has to pay as the developer, being spent in the parish.

VILLAGE FAIR**a) Progress to Date.**

The Clerk had asked for a meeting with the Village Fete Committee. It was noted that the Committee had not met since the Fete in September.

MATTERS FOR REPORT**a) Rettendon Road**

It was noted that although works had been done, water was still collecting either side of the road, but worse on the West side, between the lay by and the Creephedge Lane junction.

b) Tye Footway

The Clerk undertook to add clearance of the footway in front of Scarles Croft to Mr. Harvey's list of works to be done.

c) Three Horseshoes

Cllr. Williamson undertook to find out the address of the manager so that the Clerk could write about the appearance of additional A boards on the Tye. It was noted, also, that bright red wheelie bins were stationed on the Tye.

d) Traffic Calming

It was noted that a mini-roundabout sign in the Rothans' hedge was not visible on approaching from the Common until the roundabout had been reached. This would be an item for inclusion in the Traffic Calming Post Mortem.

e) Contractors in Old Church Road

It was noted that the contractors had spread mud, churned up the verges with their lorries and concreted stretches of the verge. The Clerk undertook to report this to CBC.

f) Fly Tipping

The Clerk had already reported incidents of fly tipping in Back Lane, Rettendon Road and Pan Lane.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 10.20.