

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Village Hall at 7.34pm on Thursday, 25th. November, 2004.

PRESENT

Cllr. Draper in the Chair, Cllrs. Amos, Harris, and Mrs. Tilby. In attendance were the Clerk, Sandra Howard of Colne Housing, Elizabeth Best of Chelmsford Borough Housing and one member of the public.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr. Williamson. Cllrs. Applegate and Palmer had sent messages that their arrivals would be delayed.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes were signed as a true record of the Meeting held on 27th. October, 2004.

At this point the Meeting adjourned for an update on the Scheme of Affordable Housing for local People from Sandra Howard and Liz Best.

Cllrs. Applegate and Palmer arrived at this point.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Hedge Beside Horseshoes Garden (MA p.367)

Highways has been asked to contact Cllr. Amos direct to arrange a site meeting.

Tree Related Nuisance – Old School House (MA p.367)

Highways has confirmed in writing that they do not own the land. The letter has been copied to the loss adjuster, who has asked for confirmation from PC that PC does not own or have an interest in the land, and this has been given.

PPP Skills Developing Courses (MA p.367)

Clerk attended the compulsory Risk Assessment course on 17th. November and is now booked attend the First Aid Course on 10th. December.

Hanningfield Wives' Calendar (Ca p.367)

More than 700 calendars had been sold.

ACDPC (Cd p.368)

The meeting on 18th. November was attended by the Clerk and the Chairman. The new Chief Executive who lives in Danbury appeared knowledgeable about local and parish council matters.

Village Hall Chase & Car Park Resurfacing (Fa p.368)

This took place on 18th. & 19th. November. Warning notices about the car park closure were posted in the post office, in the Village Hall and PC noticeboards. HFC had written to PC to ask for a waiver of the bylaws to allow parking on the playing field, but this was not used.

Three Horseshoes (MfRc p.371)

Cllr. Williamson spoke to the Landlord who has moved the red bins and the extra A-board.

Contractors in Old Church Road (MfRe p.371)

Photographs were sent to CBC illustrating the poor standard of reinstatement of the verges.

CORRESPONDENCEa) Hanna's Field Charity

It was noted that councillors had been invited to attend the HFC Christmas meeting on 15th. December. Myrtle Fisher of the Youth Service was expected to attend.

FINANCEa) Victoria County History

It was agreed to continue to support the project by making a donation of £25 using powers provided by Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

b) INTERACT

It was decided not to support INTERACT with a donation.

c) Budget 2005/6

It was agreed to leave the Budget until later on in the Meeting as other Agenda items would have a bearing on the final figure.

d) Payments

The following cheque had been signed between meetings:

| To | Cheque | NET £ | VAT £ | TOTAL £ | Explanation | Power |
|----------------|--------|-------|-------|---------|-------------------|------------------|
| Printing Place | 101408 | | | 206.00 | Winter Newsletter | LGA 1972 S142 |

The following cheques were signed:

| To | Cheque | NET £ | VAT £ | TOTAL £ | Explanation | Power |
|-----------------------------------|--------|--------|-------|---------|-------------------------------|---|
| Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal | 101404 | | | 75.00 | Wreath for Remembrance Sunday | LGA 1972 S137 |
| Hanna's Field Charity | 101405 | | | 15.00 | Rent for October Meeting | LGA 1972 Sch12 S10 |
| Canon (UK) Ltd. | 101406 | 56.02 | 9.80 | 65.82 | Copy charge 1/4-30/9/04 | LGA 1972 S111 |
| MD Landscapes | 101407 | 150.00 | 26.25 | 176.25 | Mowing 22/10, 5/11/04 | LG(MP)A 1976 S19(3a) OSA 1906 S9(b) |

| | | | | | | |
|--|--------|---------|--------|--------|---|-----------------------------------|
| See above | 101408 | | | | | |
| D. Ketley (Asphalt) Ltd. | 101409 | 4187.00 | 732.73 | 491973 | Resurface VH car park & Chase (50%) | LG(MP)A 1976 S19 |
| D. Sherry | 101410 | | | 35.52 | Editor's reimbursements | LGA 1972 S142 |
| R. Harvey | 101411 | | | 49.00 | Groundswork Oct/Nov. | OSA 1906 S10, HA 1960 96(5) |
| K. Plumridge | 101412 | | | 586.21 | Nov. salary, Office allowance, B/band 13/11-12/12 Postage, Expenses | LGA 1972 S112 |
| K. Plumridge 28/12/04 | 101413 | | | 564.96 | Dec. Salary, Office allowance, B/band 13/12-12/1. | LGA 1972 S112 |
| Victoria County History of Essex Appeal | 101414 | | | 25.00 | Donation | LGA 1972 S137 |

PLANNING

a) Planning Applications

04/02261/FUL 7 Valley Park View, Old Barn Lane, Rettendon (retrospective application for use of land for stationing 3 caravans, associated hard standing and proposed day room).

PC objects to the plot for stationing caravans as it would be inappropriate development in the green belt.

04/02360/FUL 3 Valley Park View, Old Barn Lane (provision of plot stationing of caravans including static caravans, associated hard standing and outhouses).

PC objects to the plot for stationing caravans as it would be inappropriate development in the green belt.

04/02296/FUL Huntingdons Farm, Back Lane, (amendment to previously approved extension re: 04/00751/FUL).

There was no objection to the application.

04/02418/FUL Barn Adjacent Highfields Farm (change of use of redundant barn to private residential house).

There was no objection to the application.

04/02431/FUL Appledore, Bicknacre Road (removal of conditions 4 re obscured glazing in south elevation first floor windows & 5 re details of first floor casement windows in south elevation from previous application 03/01121/FUL, and approval of proposed south elevation).

PC objects to the application. PC is of the opinion that all side facing first floor windows should contain obscured glazing and have restricted opening. Failure to comply with these conditions has caused unacceptable overlooking on to the neighbouring property.

04/02450/FUL Silver Ash, Southend Road, Rettendon Common (single storey side extension)

There was no objection to the application.

b) Tree Works

Notices of Intent to carry out works to trees in the Conservation Area were noted as follows:

| Species | Location | Specification |
|----------|--------------------------|---|
| Sycamore | Rear garden of The Brook | Crown reduction by 20% (2-3m). Crown thin by a maximum of 25%, cutting back to suitable growing points (Suitable growing points are side branches which are at least one third the diameter of the originating branch). |
| Willow | Rear garden of The Brook | Crown reduction by 30% (3-4m) leaving a soft flowing outline, cutting back to suitable growing points. OR re-pollard. |

| | | |
|--|-----------------------------|---|
| Elder x 4 stems dea/dying covered in ivy | Ditch at front of Arvensis | Fell to ground level and remove stumps. |
| Elm suckers | Ditch atr front of Arvensis | Fell to ground and remove stumps. |
| Purple cherry x 2 | Front boundary of Arvensis | Crown reduction by 1-1.5m and generally tidy. |

The decision to grant consent to works to protected trees was noted as follows:

| TPO No: | TPO Ref: | Species | Location | Specification |
|---------|----------|----------------|--------------------------------|---|
| 2004/33 | A1 | Poplar | Rear garden of Highfields Barn | Fell to ground level. This tree has moth tunnels and is dying at the top. |
| 2004/33 | A1 | Poplar suckers | Rear garden of Highfields Barn | Remove suckers. This sucker removal is to be carried out as required for a 5 year period. |

c) Hyde Hall Planning Application

A pro forma letter had been distributed to each household for sending on to Chelmsford Borough Council. Cllr. Applegate had informed some acquaintances in Howe Green of the Sandon PC decision. Cllr. Amos had been in touch with David Pearson of the Howe Green Residents Association.

The following actions were agreed:

The Chairman is to speak to the CBC Planning Meeting, when it comes up;

There is to be a leaflet drop to inform residents about the Planning Meeting stressing the road safety issues of dangers to children and the rat run;

The Clerk is to write to Lord Hanningfield and the MP Mark Francois.

REASSESSMENT OF GROUNDWORK SCHEDULE

a) Working Party's Report

This had been distributed at the October Meeting and was noted.

b) Working Party's Churchyard Site Meeting.

The report was noted

c) Necessary Actions

It was agreed that there should be an action day at the Churchyard around the 1st. March, which would be publicised in the Newsletter.

It was agreed that the Clerk should act upon the proposals in her groundwork report.

Increased financial support for the maintenance of the Churchyard was to be included in the budget, and this would involve the Clerk investigating the cost of having the churchyard mown when at the same time as the rest of the village by PC's contractor.

TRAFFIC CALMING POST MORTEM

a) Action to be Taken.

It was agreed that councillors would report to the Clerk on sections of the calmed area of the village, so that she could prepare a report for CBC.

HANNA'S FIELD CHARITY/PARISH COUNCIL LIAISON

a) To note the outcome of the meeting on 17th. November*.

b) To agree necessary actions.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

a) Progress to Date

It was noted that the Section 106 agreement was to be signed off at the end of the following week and then Colne Housing expected to be on site on 13th. December, although work would not start until after the Christmas and New Year break. Short-listing applicants would begin in July, when CBC would be contacting applicants to confirm their local connections and affordability. Applicants were not being asked to state their preference for rent or shared equity yet.

b) Action to be Taken

The Clerk is to inform Sandra Howard of PC Meeting dates so that arrangements can be made for her to attend possible in March and later in the Summer.

VILLAGE FAIR

a) Fete Committee Liaison

It was agreed that Cllrs. Draper and Mrs. Tilby should represent PC at the meeting with the Fete Committee on Monday, 29th. November.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

a) Arrangements for December Meeting

It was noted that the fourth Thursday in December falls on 23rd. and so the alternative date of 6th. January was agreed.

MATTERS FOR REPORT

a) Coude Dennis Estate – Parking Problems

Car ownership is rising and yet residents on the estate are converting their garages to living accommodation, thus increasing the parking problem. Cllr. Amos undertook to talk to planning officers at CBC to find out if anything could be done about the problem.

b) Road Stone Depot – Rettendon Road

A pile of road shavings has been left at the layby and is encouraging fly tipping, and people have been seen removing the shavings. Clerk undertook to find out what is supposed to be happening to it.

c) The Tye – Footway in front of Scarles Croft

The Clerk undertook to ask Mr. Harvey to clear it of mud and weed growth.

d) Meeting Room – Small Business Use

The hire rates appeared to be too high for one-to-one consultation use.

e) Digital Displays at Bus Stops

A question had arisen as to whether digital display could be placed at the bus stop to let passengers know how long they are going to have to wait for the bus. ECC to be asked for the information.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 10.43.

