



W E S T B E R G H O L T P A R I S H C O U N C I L

Minutes of the Parish Council

Meeting held in the John Lampon Hall - 23rd January 2008 at 7.30p.m.

In the Chair: **John Gili-Ross**
Members Present: **Jenny Church, Bernard Colbron, Andrew Savage, Peter Sleigh, Chris Stevenson, Harry Stone, Bob Tyrrell**
Clerk: **Val Walsom**
Present: **3 members of the public - 2 left after Item 9**

Agenda

1. **Apologies for Absence**
Apologies were received from Peter Johnson
2. **Declaration of Interest**
Andrew Savage declared a personal interest to a Planning Application in item 5.
3. **Minutes**
Minutes of the last Council meetings held on 28th November 2007 were approved with no amendments.
4. **Progress Reports for Information**
 - a) **Parish Clerk**
Report on Code of Conduct meeting:
Val Walsom had attended a useful meeting at the Town Hall to discuss the Code of Conduct. She confirmed that if a Councillor declared a prejudicial interest to an item under discussion, he/she had the right to speak if members of the public had the same right. After which he/she must leave the meeting. If members of the public are not allowed to speak, he/she must leave the meeting and take no part in the discussion.

Trustees to be made nominees of charitable trusts by the Parish Council:
This already occurs.

Resignation of Suzanne Bowden:
Suzanne Bowden had sent a letter of resignation due to work commitments. She had proved a valuable member of the Parish Council and a letter of thanks will be sent to her. She may continue to help Harry Stone in his work with the young people.

Format of future meetings:
The new format will be monitored over the next few months.
 - b) **Village Bulletin**
3 new advertisers were taken on to replace 3 who had finished. The Parish Plan consultation will be distributed in the next Village Bulletin. New prices received from the printer were

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Chairman - **John Gili-Ross** Vice-Chairman - **Bob Tyrrell** Councillors - **Suzanne Bowden, Jenny Church, Bernard Colbron, Peter Johnson, Andrew Savage, David Short, Peter Sleigh, Chris Stevenson, Harry Stone**



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within budget. The annual "thank you drinks party" took place earlier in January. There are enough distributors.

c) Village Website

The monthly report from Dave Kingaby had been circulated. All updates to the website should go through the Clerk. Chris Stevenson would like the Parish Plan to have its own tab on the website. The Clerk will relay this to Dave Kingaby. John Gili-Ross suggested that all Parish Councillors used Goglemail for their emails. This will be readdressed at the next meeting.

5. Planning

Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Wednesday 16th January 2008 were received. An application for a replacement dwelling at Rosaville, White Hart Lane has since been withdrawn. Application No. 072905 - Ms Wilson, 48 Chapel Road has since been approved. CBC is drawing up a Planning Contravention order which will be served on the occupiers of the White Hart, about caravans on their land. Three documents have been issued by CBC looking at planning issues for the future: Core Strategy - Chris Stevenson has responded to areas relevant to the village Site Allocations, Issues and Options - encourages the public and Parish Councils to come forward with ideas for housing etc. e.g. affordable housing. Development Policy Issues and options. The Planning Committee will discuss these documents at the next meeting.

6. Environment Issues

- a) Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 10th January 2008 were received. Quotes are being sought to remove large amounts of clearance rubbish. The fence along New Church Road needs replacing. A resident has offered to supply the materials and it may be possible to set up a working party to erect the fence.
- b) Following Graham Broom's resignation, 2 people have been interviewed and the Environment Committee will decide who to employ. A letter of thanks had been sent to Graham Broom for all his work as Village Caretaker.

Atkins has sent proposals for the completion of work on the Village Green and Poors Land following the CPO. A response is needed by 31st January 2008, which is very short notice. The Environment Committee will look at the proposals.

7. Finance

- a) The figures for the Precept were presented. An increase of 4½ % was proposed by Andrew Savage, seconded by Harry Stone and approved by all present. The budget for 2008/2009 for the General Account was proposed by Harry Savage, seconded by Harry Stone and approved by all present.

The General account for November showed 93% income, 53% general expenditure, 68% environment expenditure, 58% overall.

The General account for December showed 94% income, 58% general expenditure, 71% environment expenditure, 62% overall.

The Hall account for November showed 95% income and 61% expenditure.

The Hall account for December showed 96% income and 65% expenditure.

Allotments expenditure - It was agreed that the fencing along New Church Road could proceed this financial year. The cost of clearing the allotments - £900 was approved. It is hoped that the work can take place during March for payment at the beginning of the new financial year, in April.



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b) It was proposed by Peter Sleigh and seconded by Harry Stone to make the following payments:

General Account:

Anglian Water	Water rates for Poors Land and Allotments	114.48
EALC	Training course for Mr Stone	30.00
CBC	Empty dog bins	314.36
Inland Revenue	NI	23.80
G Broom	Expenses including hedge cutter	140.81

Hall Account:

St Carpentry	Repair door frame	50.00
BT	Phone bill - June Mayhew	59.45
Caroline Nix	Cleaning	336.00
June Mayhew	Refuse sacks	30.00

Salary payments were made to Val Walsom and Graham Broom from the General account and June Mayhew from the Hall account.

8. Hall Matters

- a) Minutes of the Hall Committee meeting held on Thursday 10th January 2008 were received. Work on the floor will take place during the next 2 weeks. Two CCTV cameras need replacing. Confirmation is needed as to whether either of them are still within their warranty. The taps in the old ladies toilets need replacing. A quote has been received for £140. This was approved and the work will be done next week. Any hirers wanting to use the loop system need to be told how to use it. The cleaning contract has now been signed by Caroline Nix and John Gili-Ross.

9. Parish Plan

Minutes of the Parish Plan steering committee had been circulated. Chris Stevenson gave a presentation on the progress of the Parish Plan. A consultation on the objectives of the Action Plan is to be circulated to all residents with the next Village Bulletin. Members of the Parish Council will meet to discuss the objectives - date to be decided. The consultation period ends on 31st March 2008. The Draft Plan is nearly complete.

10. Village Engagement Strategy and Raising the Profile of the Parish Council

- a) Planning the meeting with the young residents on 8th February:
Letters have gone out to secondary schools. The target is 50 young people attending. The PCSO has agreed to join the PC at the meeting. She may have access to funding. From the meeting it is hoped to form a youth panel. Jenny Church, Bernard Colbron, John Gili-Ross, Andrew Savage and Harry Stone will attend the meeting.
- b) Planning the Annual Parish Meeting:
A small working party will be formed to discuss a format for the meeting. A date of 25th June 2008 has been agreed. The notice board for the Co-op has been ordered.
- c) Report back from course on Raising the Profile of the Parish:
Harry Stone attended. However, he did not find it very useful as our PC is already doing many of the initiatives discussed.

11. Correspondence

RCCE - Managing your Future workshop.
Letter from Adrian Coombs, Chief Inspector of Essex Police - suggesting that local officers should attend local council meetings at least twice per year.



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12. Parish Councillors' Reports

Bernard Colbron advised that West Bergholt may have a page in the Essex Life magazine to promote the village.

Harry Stone advised that the Village Bulletin was on display at the recent course he attended at EALC.

13. Borough Councillors' Report

There was no report.

14. Consideration of Items for the Next Agenda

Localism - Ian Hatton to attend the February meeting.

Evaluation of the Youth Group meeting.

15. Date of Next Meeting

To confirm that the date of the next meeting is 27th February 2008