

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held in the John Lampon Hall.

In the Chair: Mr Gili-Ross
Members Present: Mrs Bowden, Mrs Church, Mr Colbron, Mr Johnson, Mr Savage, Mr Stevenson, Mr Stone, Mr Tyrrell
Clerk: Mrs Walsom
Present: Councillor Tod and Councillor Willetts

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Mr Short and Mr Sleigh.

2. **To Approve and Sign the Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting were approved and signed with no amendments.

3. **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

4. **Village Engagement Strategy and to Raise the Profile of the Parish Council**

- The Co-op has approved siting a notice board outside the shop. A new notice board will be sourced.
- Mr Stone has arranged to meet with a group of pupils from Stanway School on 11th December 2007. A general workshop will be held on 8th February 2008 at 7p.m. in the Orpen Memorial Hall when it is hoped a Youth Panel will be set up. The Parish Council needs to be prepared with what can be offered to the young people. Suggestions included were website involvement, a Youth Club and more access to sports facilities.
- Mrs Bowden has agreed to take responsibility for Parish Council publicity.
- A new letterhead was discussed. It was agreed to use photographs and the final draft will be circulated by Mr Tyrrell.
- A new format for the Agenda will be introduced in February 2008.
- It was agreed that from the meeting in January 2008, the Trustees and Parish Council meetings will be amalgamated.

5. **Environment Report**

Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on Thursday 8th November 2007 were received.

- The cost of the BTCV working party working on the Lexden Road pond on the 6th December will be at least £90. More volunteers maybe available from the Probationary Service.
- Newbridge area – Graham Broom has done some work. A letter has been sent to Highways to ask them for advice on erecting a ‘Welcome to West Bergholt’ sign between the bridge and halfway up the hill. They have also been asked if the land is the responsibility of Highways and, if so, could they make arrangements to have the area tidied up.
- Tree pruning in Lexden Road will be undertaken by CBC by March 2008.
- A resident forwarded a copy of his letter to CBC with regard to caravans on land behind the White Hart. Nicola George of CBC will be invited to attend the next meeting to explain the situation.
- ECC confirmed the revised speed limit for the B1508 over the bridge. This stretch of road has reverted to 60mph.
- GMS Estates has advised that the resident who leases the land adjacent to Colchester Road will cut back the overhanging hedge. The residents in Hill House have also agreed to cut their section.
- The proposed figures for the 2008/2009 budget were agreed.

6. **Planning Report**

Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Wednesday 21st November 2007 were received.

A letter had been sent to all members of the Parish Council from Mr and Mrs Shelmerdine, objecting to the new Football clubhouse. CBC will be considering the application on 29th November and recommending approval.

7. **Parish Plan Report**

Notes from the West Bergholt Parish Plan Steering Group meeting on 21st November 2007 had been received.

Much of the draft has now been written and should be finished by the end of December for consultation in January. It is hoped the consultation process will be finished by mid February to be published after April 2008.

8. **Finance Report and Proposed Expenditure**

The General Account showed 93% income, 36% General expenditure and 54% Environment expenditure (41% overall expenditure).

It was proposed by Mr Stone and seconded by Mr Colbron to approve the following payments:

T Claydon	Remove overgrowth on Allotments	250.00
B Colbron	Village Bulletin	180.00
Colchester Skip Hire	Skip on Allotments	135.13
David J Kingaby	Website services	750.00
Pinnacle	Grass cutting	806.05
WB Cricket Club	Donation	750.00
Graham Broom	Expenses	85.18
V Walsom	Expenses	104.00
Inland Revenue	NI	45.70
Colne Valley Building Services	Insulation work	6468.67
P & R Chambers Ltd	Lighting and Air Conditioning unit	12874.48

Salary payments were made to Mr Broom and Mrs Walsom

9. **Correspondence**

- Standards Board for England – Predisposition, Predetermination or Bias, and the Code – this was distributed to all Parish Councillors
- Next NAP meeting will be held on 17th January 2008 at 9.30a.m. in Fordham Village Hall
- Essex Training Partnership – Law and Procedures Course – 5th December 2007
Health and Safety Course – 1st February 2008
- RCCE – Managing your Future workshop – 6th December 2007
- CBC – Councils Standards Committee meeting – Members Code of Conduct – 10th January 2008 – Mr Gili-Ross and Mrs Walsom will attend
- NALC – Local Leadership in Action course – 30th January 2008
- A Voice on Health and Social Care in Essex
- EALC – Chairman’s Day 1 – 28th February 2008 – Mr Gili-Ross will attend
Councillor Training Day 2 – 24th January 2008
How to Raise the Profile of the Parish Council – Mr Stone will attend

10. **Borough Councillor’s Report**

Councillor Tod had received a letter from a resident in Spring Lane asking for signs to determine the north and south ends of the lane. This would help deliverers, carers etc. The Parish Council would support this.

11. **Village Bulletin and Website**

The Bulletin will be distributed this week. The post Christmas thank you party for the deliverers has been arranged for 6th January 2008 at 11.30a.m. in the Orpen Hall. It was agreed that the Parish Council would fund the refreshments.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 23rd January 2008.

SignedChair of Parish Council Date.....