



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 - 27th February 2008 at 7.30p.m.

In the Chair: **John Gili-Ross**
Members Present: **Jenny Church, Bernard Colbron, Peter Johnson, Andrew Savage, Peter Sleigh, Chris Stevenson, Harry Stone, Bob Tyrrell**
Clerk: **Val Walsom**
Present: **4 members of the public, Councillor Willetts and Councillor Tod**

Public Session

4 members of the public addressed the PC on concerns with the proposed erection of a new extractor unit on the side of the Queens Head Public House. The planning application was addressed under Planning.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from David Short.

2. Declaration of Interest

Chris Stevenson declared an interest for Item 4 as an employee of Essex County Council.

3. Minutes

Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held on 23rd January 2008 were approved with no amendments.

4. Localism and West Bergholt

Ian Hatton, Senior Regeneration and Policy Manager for Essex County Council gave a presentation on Localism and made the following points:

- ECC's commitment is to give local communities an opportunity to influence things
- ECC aims to devolve funding to local government i.e. Parish Councils, but there will need to be accountability
- ECC wants to offer a single point of contact to help Parish Councils engage with experts to get things done

5. Progress Reports for Information

Parish Clerk

Co-option to the Parish Council:

No candidates came forward for the vacancy. Therefore, the Parish Council can now co-opt a member.

To consider forthcoming courses and events:

- ECC - Service for Local Government to be held at Chelmsford Cathedral on 17th April 2008.
- RCCE - Playing Fields and Play Areas Seminar on 6th March 2008.
- NALC Conference - 20th - 22nd May 2008
- Essex Training Partnership - Roles and Responsibilities Course

Parish Clerk - **Val Walsom** - 17 Armoury Road, West Bergholt, CO6 3JN T - 01206 240149

E - wbergholtpc@tiscali.co.uk - Parish Council web site - <http://www.westbergholt.net>

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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LCR/Co-operative Bank Website of the Year and Newsletter of the Year Application:
The Parish Council will be entering the Village Bulletin and the website

Village Bulletin

The Bulletin will be distributed on Saturday and will include the Parish Plan consultation document.

Village Website

Suggestions for a new homepage were discussed.

6. Planning

Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Wednesday 20th February 2008 were received.

Additional Planning Application received:

Application No. 080322 from Mr and Mrs Mallett and Mr and Mrs Hills, 6/8 Armoury Road for a first floor addition to each dwelling.

The Parish Council had no comment.

Additional Planning Decisions received:

Application No. 073030 - 102 Chapel Road - Approved

Application No. 073054 - St Andrews, Chapel Lane - Approved

Application No. 073140 - 6 Garling Walk - Approved.

- Queens Head extractor. The PC appreciates the benefits the extractor unit might provide in terms of reduced cooking smells but modifications should be considered making the unit more aesthetically appealing. Incorporating the unit within the fabric of the building should be considered.
- A letter was received from a resident objecting to the planning application at the Willows, Queens Road.
- Chris Stevenson will make comments on the Local Development Framework Planning Documents.
- The Clerk will check with CBC Street Naming and Numbering to ensure the new development off Chapel Road will be called Lampon Way as discussed.
- CBC advised that the Landlord at the White Hart had been served a Planning Contravention Notice with regard to caravans on land behind the pub. If no response is received, advice will be taken as to whether to proceed to prosecution.

7. Environment Issues

Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 14th February 2008 were received.

- Gary Walls has been appointed Village Handyman. He has already started work and is working effectively.
- Potholes near the mini roundabout at the junction of Colchester Road and Chapel Road have been put on Highways schedule for repairs.
- CBC will be advised about a build up of litter either side of the new bridge.
- West Bergholt has been put on the list for a new "Welcome to the village sign" subject to available funding.
- It has been confirmed that Pocket Park is owned by CBC. The Erle Havard Park belongs to Colchester Borough Homes. The Environment committee will check on the state of the park before making recommendations to Colchester Borough Homes.
- The Environment Committee will check the position with regard to dogs coming onto the Lorkin Daniell Playing Field.
- Mrs Lampon sent a copy of a letter she had sent to CBC regarding the state of Albany Road.
- CBC will inspect play equipment for £47. This will be compared to ROSPA prices.
- A letter was received from Hill House Wood to thank the Parish Council for the new dog bin.
- Harry Stone has offered to undertake the work of entering West Bergholt into the RCCE Best Kept Village Competition.

8. Hall Matters

Minutes of the Hall Committee meeting held on 14th February 2008 were received.



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- Graffiti was found in the kitchen which has been removed.
- Bluebells is to be reminded about the use of paint. Paint was found on a radiator.

9. Parish Plan

Chris Stevenson suggested a workshop for the Parish Council to look at the consultation document from the Parish Council's perspective. This will take place on Monday 10th March at 7.30p.m. - venue to be decided. The consultation document is being delivered to each household in the Village Bulletin this weekend.

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

Eleven young people attended the meeting on 8th February together with a number of adults. This was disappointing. However, the meeting was positive and 3 areas were highlighted:

- A Youth Club
- A place to meet
- Better advertising and access to sporting activities

The group will meet again in March with a view to setting up a regular meeting group. The PCSO who attended the meeting focused on a Youth Club.

11. Finance

The General Account showed 94% income, 60% general expenditure, 81% environment expenditure and 67% expenditure overall.

The Hall Account showed 117% income, 72% expenditure.

- Expenses need to be approved before the next meeting.
- There has been no communication about the 2006/2007 audit. However, Alun Williams from the Assurance Specialist Unit of Audit Commission Limited has been appointed Auditor for the 2007/2008 audit.
- Grants - Applications for the Community Initiatives Fund Grant need to be ready by June. Other available grants include: Veolia Environmental Trust, Minor Works for Village Halls and Community Grant, Town and Parish Council's Grant Scheme, Essex Rural Community Grant Scheme, East Essex Area Forum. Andrew Savage is prepared to complete the grant application forms but will need projects including quotes and costs.
- Donations - It was suggested to donate £150 to the Care Network, St Mary's Church and the Methodist Church. Consideration will be made for the remaining budgeted funds.
- It was proposed and agreed to hold the May meeting a week early on Wednesday 21st May 2008.

It was proposed by Andrew Savage and Seconded by Jenny Church to make the following payments:

General Account		
	Salary Payments to Mrs Walsom and Gary Walls	
Bellet Ltd	Repairs to lawn mower	99.79
Sue Swan	Postage for Bulletin	8.52
Colne Contracts	Tarmac Surfacing Hall Car park	1430.00
Harry Stone	Gravel/Shingle	44.65
PDS	Rodent Clearance	52.88
EALC	Chairman's Day	50.00
CBC	Notice in EG re Code of Conduct	48.00
RCCE	Annual affiliation fee	35.00
Inland Revenue	National Insurance	23.80
Colne Valley Building	Completion of Insulation and Decorating	2647.75
Greenbarns Ltd	Notice board for Co-op	1277.76
Inland Revenue	Tax	46.20



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Orpen Hall Account		
	Salary Payment to Mrs Mayhew	
Roberts Cleaning Services	Window Cleaning	25.00
Caroline Nix	Cleaning	480.00
M A Smith	Piano Tuner	47.00
Vincent Pizzuto	Plumbing work	207.56
A to Z Supplies	Cleaning Materials	86.90
Furniture @ Work	Office Furniture (Original cheque lost)	233.83
Abacus	Repair fire door latch	52.88
A to Z Supplies	Notice board for Hall	186.41
Performing Right Society	Performing Rights	TBA

12. Correspondence

EALC - The importance of the Essex Area Forum
 HALLMARK Level 1 - to be completed by the Clerk

13. Parish Councillors' Reports

It was suggested that there should be an article in the Village Bulletin about the Parish Council and its activities.

14. Borough Councillors' Report

CBC's annual Litter Pick takes place in March.

15. Consideration of Items for the Next Agenda

The format of the Annual Parish Meeting and how to best use the new notice board outside the Co-op.

16. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 26th March 2008.

Signed

Date

Position on Parish Council.....