



WEST BERGHOLT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council

Meeting held in the John Lampon Hall - 25th March 2009 at 7.30p.m.

In the Chair: John Gili-Ross
Members Present: Sally Butcher, Jenny Church, Bernard Colbron, Sue Day, Andrew Savage, David Short, Peter Sleigh, Chris Stevenson, Bob Tyrrell
Clerk: Val Walsom
Present: Councillor Dennis Willets, Councillor Jill Tod, Councillor Ann Brown (ECC)

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Harry Stone.

2. Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest for this meeting.

3. Minutes

Minutes of the meeting of 25th February 2009 were approved with no amendments.

4. Borough Councillors' Report

Councillor Tod asked if the PC knew if there was going to be a footpath on the West Bergholt side of the railway crossing on Chitts Hill. John Gili-Ross believed that this was not currently on Highways' list of work.

5. Annual Parish Meeting

Notices to advertise the meeting will be put up on the notice boards as soon as possible. Posters will be displayed on the day at key points around the village. The format will be the same as last year with refreshments provided.

The Parish Council meeting will start at 6.30p.m.

6. Progress Reports for Information

Parish Clerk

ECC - Notice of Chitts Hill closures on 12/04/09 and 03/05/09

RCCE have provided the PC with a password and username for its website.

Courses and Events

ETP - Risk Management Course - 30/04/09

Minutes and Agenda Course - 29/04/09

EALC Conference Day - 22/04/09 - John Gili-Ross will attend.

Village Bulletin

The March edition had a colour centrefold and was larger than usual which contributed to the additional cost, although this was higher than was expected.

Village Website

Sue Day is in contact with Dave Kingaby about encouraging more village organisations to use the website.

It was agreed that a new item, Communication, should be added to the agenda.

7. Planning

Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 18th March 2009 were received.

The MUGA approval had a condition that noise should be reduced. A report will be sent to CBC to show how hedges will be allowed to grow along the boundary with Lexden Road. However, the hedge will continue to be cut back adjacent to the play area for safety reasons.

A licence will be drawn up between the PC and BYG and a record of use by BYG will be maintained. John Gili-Ross expressed his concerns at the way CBC handled the application process.

8. Parish Plan

Members of the steering group are to meet with a CBC Planning officer to discuss forward planning. Chris Stevenson is meeting with Ian Hatton to discuss traffic issues.

A status update report will be given at the Annual Parish Meeting.

The Best Kept Village Competition application has been submitted. It was suggested that a photo should be taken of members of the PC around the Best Kept Village sign.

9. Environment Matters

Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 12th March 2009 were received.

- Proof of the art work for the three new village entrance signs needs to be viewed.
- Work will be carried out on the Village Green with advice from RCCP.
- Repairs will be carried out a.s.a.p. on the play equipment at a cost of approximately £905.
- The duck house has now been put back on the pond.
- The Clerk will pursue registering the Hall Road Pond to the Parish Council.
- Seats in the Chapel Road bus shelter will be fitted in April.
- David Short had a meeting with the Football club. They will be seeking a letter of support from the PC for their application for Grant Aid from the FA. The FC requested permission to erect 3 poles with 4 flood lights. The PC will consider this proposal when it is provided with specification details. This will also require planning permission.
- It was agreed to spend £650 on a new mower. The current mower needs a new engine.
- The Police will be contacted about a lorry truck parked for long periods in Erle Havard Road.

10. Village Hall Matters

Minutes of the Hall Committee meeting held on 9th March 2009 were received.

- The cleaning contract is to be investigated.
- Bluebells is to be asked not to use sellotape on any walls in the hall.

11. BYG

The meetings are going very well and more volunteers have come forward.

12. Finance

The General Account showed 103% income, 70% general expenditure, 92% environment expenditure and 77% expenditure overall.

The Hall Account showed 111% income, 100% expenditure.

- Sally Butcher agreed to review the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.
- Donations this year were proposed by Andrew Savage, seconded by Chris Stevenson and agreed by all members present as follows:
 - 1 day of the handyman's time for both the Methodist Church and St Mary's Church.
 - £100 to BHYFC to cover the cost of hiring the Hall for 2 fundraising events.
 - £300 to the Cricket Club
 - £150 to Bluebells Pre School to pay for the additional cost of the Turtle Bus. Bluebells is arranging a photo shoot of the Turtle Bus for ECC.
- Expenditure for PAT testing in the hall was approved.
- The cost of the new village signs of £2700 was agreed. The possibility of applying for a Grass Routes grant will be explored.
- A West Bergholt resident had sent an email to the Clerk about the increase in the village precept. Andrew Savage had drawn up a response, explaining the PC's reasons for the increase.
- Braintree Council is looking into ways of keeping the RCCP project going. The PC will write a letter of support.

It was proposed by Bernard Colbron and seconded by David Short to make the following payments:

General Account

Salary Payments to Mrs Walsom and Gary Walls

Healey Tool Hire & Sales	Clearing Allotments	92.00
Zurich	Subscription	166.75
G & C Softwoods	Wood for Allotment fence	214.59
NALC	LCR Subscription	13.50
Harry Stone	Expenses	4.95
Anglian Water	Water rates - Allotments/Poors Land	104.10
CBC	Bins	97.52
Galt	Turtle Bus for Bluebells	1322.50
Mail Boxes Etc.	Village Bulletin	1654.00
West Bergholt Cricket Club	Donation	300.00
Bergholt Heath YFC	Donation	100.00
Inland Revenue	NI	22.61
G Walls	Expenses	70.95
Andrew Savage	Expenses	31.35
John Gili-Ross	Expenses	76.46

Orpen Hall Account

Salary Payment to Mrs Mayhew

Abacus	Repair sash lock	59.46
AtoZ	Cleaning materials	135.79
Caroline Nix	Cleaning	468.00
G Walls	Items for Hall work	59.46
June Mayhew	Green bags and key cutting	76.20
CBC	Building Regulations for new doors	50.03

13. Correspondence

There was no further correspondence.

14. Consideration of Items for the Next Agenda

Advertising on the website.

Add new item to Agenda - Communication

15. Date of Next Meeting

22nd April 2009 starting at 6.30p.m.

The Annual Parish Meeting to start at 7.30p.m.

Signed

Date

Position on Parish Council.....