



## WEST BERGHOLT PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Meeting held in the John Lampon Hall on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2010

Chair John Gili-Ross  
 Parish Councillors Present Jenny Church, Bernard Colbron, Andrew Savage, David Short, Peter Sleigh, Chris Stevenson, Harry Stone  
 Parish Clerk Val Walsom  
 Borough Councillors Present:

- 1 **Apologies for Absence** Apologies were received from Sally Butcher and Sue Day.
- 2 **Declaration of Interest** John Gili-Ross declared an interest in Item 14.
- 3 **Minutes** Minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2010 were approved with no amendments.
- 4 **Borough Councillors Report** John Gili-Ross advised that CALC is setting up a new Task and Finish Impact Assessment Group to look at the impact of new building proposals in the Colchester area. CBC has no representative on the Planning Committee from the north of Colchester.
- 5 **Organisation of Committees** John Gili-Ross presented proposals for re-organising the PC committees. Following discussion it was proposed by Andrew Savage, seconded by Bob Tyrrell and approved by all present to re-organise the PC into 4 committees with clear responsibilities laid down. The committees will be named: Finance and Policy Advisory, Planning and Development, Environment and Highways, Premises and Recreation.  
 Parish Councillors are to advise John Gili-Ross which committee(s) they would prefer to sit on within a week of the meeting.
- 6 **Progress Report for information** Future courses:  
 ECC - Ecumenical Civic Service - 28<sup>th</sup> April 2010  
 EALC - Law and Procedures Course - 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2010  
 'In house' Two hour Councillor training courses costing from £240  
 Reports for the Annual Parish Meeting to be passed to the Clerk as soon as possible. Posters to be distributed to PC members to advertise the event
- 7 **Planning and Village Design Matters** Minutes of the Planning and Village Design Matters Committee meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2010 were received.  
 There was no further discussion.  
 The Village Design Statement will be reported on at the Annual Parish Meeting.
- 8 **Parish Plan** There was no meeting this month.  
 The 3 main projects - Policing, Broadband and traffic are coming to an end. However, there are a number of smaller items being discussed by sub committees.  
 Following the Local Highways Panel's refusal of our CIF grant application it was suggested that a member of ECC Highways be invited to a committee meeting of the Parish Council.

- 9 **Quality Broadband in the Village** Approximately 20 to 30 people attended the last 2 meetings. The second meeting was attended by County Broadband. 500 homes have been surveyed and 70 - 100 leaflets posted. The majority of the village was covered apart from the Brewery development. Of those surveyed about 250 are interested in quality Broadband. As well as members of the PC two other people have come forward to be on the committee. Any funding available for the project from ECC should be made to the Parish Plan Steering Group. County Broadband will work with ECC to support priority councils in Essex.  
John Gili-Ross will attend a Broadband conference at Essex University on 31<sup>st</sup> March.
- 10 **Land & Recreation Matters** Minutes of the Land and Recreation Committee meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2010 were received.
- 23 Mumford Close - land encroachment on Lorkin Daniell Field - A meeting was held with the owner and a satisfactory resolution reached. A letter will be sent to confirm what was agreed at the meeting
  - Jenny Church to organise the village 'Spring Clean' in conjunction with CBC. To take place on 19<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup> April
  - The Probation Service is gradually clearing the Village Green
  - A large pothole in Armoury Road is on ECC's list for repair.
- 11 **Halls Matters** Minutes of the Halls Committee held on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2010 were received.
- The Halls boiler is leaking
  - A toilet flush needs repairing
  - Caroline Nix is finishing her cleaning contract on 1<sup>st</sup> April. The new cleaners will start on 5<sup>th</sup> April. A contract is to be prepared
  - A Relief Administrator will be employed for holiday cover.
- 12 **Village Street Scene & Communications Matters** There was no meeting in March.  
The Village Bulletin - quotes from printers are being sought. Bulletin revisions are still under discussion.
- 13 **BYG** BYG meetings are going very well.
- 14 **Discuss and agree the Council's Policy regarding political correspondence** The Policy - "The Parish Council should not support anything that is Party Political, or circulate it" was agreed and adopted.  
There is no conflict in being a Borough Councillor and a Parish Councillor.
- 15 **Finance and Personnel Advisory Team** The February accounts were presented as follows:  
The General Account showed 97% income, 66% general expenditure, 102% environment expenditure and 75% expenditure overall.  
The Hall Account showed 94% income and 74% expenditure.
- An error in the Precept figures has resulted in a reduction to the PC's Precept this year. The 2010/2011 budget was adjusted accordingly and approved by all members present
  - A Donations Policy listing the criteria for making donations was approved
  - The Community grants will be awarded on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010. John Gili-Ross will be on the panel. There have been requests for grants totalling £412,000. However, there is only £150,000 available
  - The insurers are still rejecting the claim for the work on the chimney following the report from a Structural Engineer. The PC will continue to

- pursue the claim
- The Planning Application to confirm revision of use of the MUGA is to be submitted to the Planning department

### Expenditure

It was proposed by Andrew Savage and seconded by Bob Tyrrell to make the following payments:

Payment Details	Expense Purpose	Amount
<b>GENERAL ACCOUNT</b>		
RCCE	Annual subscription	35.00
John Gili-Ross	Hostroute renewal	67.23
Andrew Savage	Ink cartridge	25.21
Susan Swan	Village Bulletin stationery/stamps	24.61
Ernest Doe	Chain link	22.37
Mail Boxes Etc	Village Bulletin printing	488.00
David Short	Environ	74.25
Inland Revenue	NI	18.89
CBC	Bins	667.21
T&LC Lawn Company	Tree work	127.66
EALC	Standing Orders	25.00
<b>HALL ACCOUNT</b>		
D & M Electrics	Replace lamp	29.49
Caroline Nix	Cleaning	636.00

Salary payments were made to Val Walsom, Gary Walls and Robert Hicks from the General Account and June Mayhew from the Hall Account.

- 16 **Correspondence**
  - CBC consultation to move to whole Council elections every 4 years. The next PC election will be May 2011. CBC advised that there will now be a small charge for non contested elections. This will be queried
  - John Gili-Ross had sent letters to CBC regarding North Colchester's housing growth and BT about the recurring telephony and Broadband failures.
  
- 17 **Considerations of Items for the Next Agenda**

Next month's meeting will follow the Annual Parish Meeting and will therefore be for urgent items only.
  
- 16 **Date of Next Meeting**

28<sup>th</sup> April 2010 - 7p.m. - Annual Parish Meeting  
Followed by the Parish Council Meeting

Signed:

Date:

Position on Parish Council: