



WEST BERGHOLT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Held in the John Lampon Hall on 24th November 2010 at 7.30p.m.

Chair John Gili-Ross
 Parish Councillors Jenny Church, Bernard Colbron, Sue Day, Andrew Savage, David Short, Peter Sleigh, Harry Stone and Bob Tyrrell.
 Present
 Parish Clerk Val Walsom
 Borough Councillors Councillor Willetts
 Present: 5 members of the public

- 1 **Apologies for Absence** Apologies were received from Sally Butcher and Chris Stevenson.
- 2 **Declaration of Interest** There were no declarations of interest.
- 3 **Minutes** The minutes of the meeting held on 27th October 2010 were approved with no amendments.
- 4 **Borough Councillor's Report** Councillor Willetts advised that:
 - The Borough Council has an overspend of £1m and needs to cut next year's budget by £1m to produce a balanced budget. Fundamental service reviews of Housing, Benefits and Street Services have been undertaken. These are having inroads into the deficit. There will be redundancies but not all happening this year.
 - Parish Council rate support grants to be cut by 50%.
- 5 **Progress Reports for Information** EALC Courses - Chairman's Day 3 - 07/12/10
 Calendar of Events distributed to all Parish Councillors
- 6 **Planning and Development** Minutes of the Planning and Development committee meeting held on 24/11/10 were received.
 There has been no update on the Village Design Statement.
- 7 **Parish Plan** **Broadband Update** - 16 homes have now been connected to County Broadband with 20 more awaiting connection. Some of these are awaiting suitable access points. A second access point has been installed in Chapel Road. It has been confirmed that it is possible to have access in the Orpen Hall. County Broadband is looking at installing one tower in the village. Suitable locations are being considered but no decision made at present.
 The next meeting of the Parish Plan Steering Group will take place in January.
- 8 **Environment and Highways** Minutes of the Environment and Highways committee meeting held on 11/11/10 were received.
 - The Police will be asked to monitor parking close to junctions, possibly during the period the mobile police van is in the village.
 - Footpath 14 - An investigation into the route has been decided. A Modification Order is to be drawn up.
 - A resident has asked the PC to look into the possibility of further pedestrian crossings within the village. ECC has also been contacted.

However, it is unlikely that there will be any funding available for such projects.

9 **Traffic Working Party** There was no report from the Traffic Working Party as ECC Highways has yet to provide contact details of their local representative.

10 **Premises and Recreation** Minutes of the Premises and Recreation committee meeting held on 18/11/10 were received.

- It is hoped that work to replace the windows will start on 13th December.
- A complaint from a hall user regarding the chairs will be investigated by the committee.
- Tey Electrical in submitting its invoice has stated there are defects in the electrical system found whilst carrying out a periodic inspection. These defects have not been detailed by the contractor. A letter to be drafted requesting for formal confirmation of what these defects may be.

MUGA - Following a meeting with members of the current MUGA committee, recommendations on the future of the MUGA had been distributed by Harry Stone. It was agreed that the PC will take no responsibility for the MUGA until the position of finances and insurance are known. AS will meet with the MUGA committee Treasurer to discuss this. The PC will arrange securing the goal posts. Future administration will need consideration. The PC agreed to move forward with taking over the management of the MUGA once the finances of the club has been disclosed.

11 **Finance and Policy Advisory** The accounts for October 2010 were presented as follows:
The General Account showed 94% income, 58% general expenditure, 37% environment expenditure and 50% expenditure overall.
The Hall Account showed 66% income and 60% expenditure.

- Grants - the PC is currently awaiting the outcome of 2 grant applications.
- There are currently 3 Lottery grants available for community projects. Outline applications would be considered.
- It was agreed to renew the contract with Kingserv for the website upkeep. The total fee will be £850 for 2011. The fee will be paid quarterly.
- Statements of Accounts and Investments were presented.

2011/2012 Budgets

General Account

- Annual rents - it was agreed that, as there is no major expenditure expected on the Allotments, the rents would not be increased next year.
- The General Account proposed budget was presented showing an increase from £47,000 to £48,000 - 2.1%
- Precept - because of the expected 50% cut in CBC funding and the need to maintain village services, it is proposed to increase the Precept by £3.72 per household based upon a Band D property.

Hall Account

- A proposed balanced budget was presented.
- It was agreed to increase hire charges by approximately 2.1%
- Bluebells Pre School storage rent will increase from £450 - £480.
- Orpen Players storage rent will increase from £370 - £400.

Expenditure

It was proposed by AS and seconded by BT to make the following payments:

Payment Details	Expense Purpose	Amount
GENERAL ACCOUNT		
David Short	Hire of chipper/keys	79.75
W C King	Hedge trimming	646.25
Anglian Water	Water Rates - Poors Land	17.85
S Cook	Environs expenditure	294.81
Inland Revenue	Tax/NI	91.49
ORPEN HALL ACCOUNT		
Mike's Cleaning Services	Cleaning	550.00
David Short	Keys	11.00
Ian Dickson	Repairs to Pool Table	25.00
Roberts Cleaning Services	Window cleaning	25.00
June Mayhew	Cleaning materials/stamps	16.46
Tey Electrical Services	Periodic electrical inspection	1086.87

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

- 12 [Village Bulletin and Website](#) The December issue is ready for distribution. For normal size editions expected price increases in producing the bulletin next year will be covered by income generated from advertising.
The monthly website report had been distributed.
- 13 [Correspondence](#) There were no items of correspondence.
- 14 [Consideration of Items for the Next Meeting](#) The future of the MUGA.
- 13 [Date of Next Meeting](#) 26th January 2011.

Signed:

Date:

Position on Parish Council: