

Colney Heath Parish Council



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15 JANUARY 2009

MINUTES OF THE COLNEY HEATH- FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD at the Village Hall Colney Heath AL4 0NS

-on THURSDAY-15TH JANUARY 2009-7.30.pm

Present; - Vice Chair-Cllr Day -Cllr Horner-Cllr Rump -Cllr Crump-
Cllr Henchley-Cllr Reeves-Cllr J Lewis

Clerk; Mr J E Dean

Public Attendance- Mrs J Moody & Mr D Becker

1. APOLOGIES -ANNOUNCEMENTS & DECLARATIONS

The Chair Cllr Day asked for apologies; - these were received from Cllr Brazier who had been called away to a Lib Dem emergency meeting- Cllr Cloke sent apologies by having family issues with his Mother being admitted to hospital that day.

There were no declarations by members present on the matters contained in agenda. The Clerk was asked by the Chair if the meeting was quorate, with seven members now present we are in order to proceed.

2. MINUTES

Minutes of the Full Council-4th December 2008-Including Part II

Proposed by Cllr P Reeves

Seconded by Cllr J Lewis

Both minutes were agreed and signed by Chair Cllr Day as being correct.

2.1 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

3 MATTERS THE CHAIRMAN MAY BRING BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Cllr Day said he had no additional matters to bring before the council this time.

3.1 New Co-Opted Member

The Chair of the meeting Cllr Day (Vice Chair) welcomed Cllr Lewis to her first full council meeting and expressed good wishes from all the members to what he hoped will be a successful and enjoyable time with CHPC and contribution to the council.

He also wished to thank Cllr Lewis for her help at the recent over 60's Lunch.

The Clerk advised the Chair that all the necessary declarations have been signed as well as the Record Book, signed by all past members going back to 1947. Cllr Lewis responded positively and pleased to join the council.

CM Brazier
5/03/09

3.2 Legal Issues-Action Secretary of State over Planning Enquiry reversal

In the absence of Cllr Brazier the Chair said the HC hearing is postponed possibly to February or March, this was due to papers being filed into court without our legal advisors being notified. Debenhams-Ottaway has applied to the clerk of the court to seek this information and adjourn for papers to be reviewed. The Clerk responded to solicitors request to supply a payment for £5000.00 in advance for the QC's day. Members will be kept informed of any future progress or correspondence.

3.3 Parish Conference for St Albans District.

The Clerk informed the Cllr Day that he and Cllr Brazier have met with District Cllr Robert Donald about the grant for a "Cleaner St Albans" plan. We have submitted a letter 17/12/08 requesting between £1,000 & £1500 grant towards Colney Heath. Cllr Day mentioned the financial difficulties the DC is facing over the current bank crisis abound with local authority investments. The Clerk said that he thought the DC would be running a conference again in the early spring but he had not received any news or confirmation of likely dates. We have requested in letter 17th December;-

1. The village entrance signs require a clean and re-painting-repair-new sign
2. Parish gardens are looked after by our own employees but additional hours to do extra work also extra plants & shrubs to add visual enhancement to the six garden sites around the parish. Additionally within this project the coppicing works and weed removal to hedge layering at village exit to A414 end.
3. Litter bins and new Dog waste bin & places on three sites are on our list to improve street awareness of the public. Cost is including waste disposal fees.
4. The Highways task is on the A414-Longabout traffic island where mature saplings and rubbish is a pervasive eyesore. We have requested HHWP to do this going back over two years but it has not yet found any priority.

3.4 Lease of Pavilion Building

Cllr Day invited Cllr Rump to give an overview of the negotiations going on with the Football Club over the lease. Cllr Rump said we had met with the Executive on 17th November and 12th January 2009 confirming agreement in principle has been reached. The details of rent and period- have been annexed on the lease document now to make future reviews easier without re-writing the whole document. Also we have agreed to include the insurance payment in the deal. Cllr Rump handed out details to members. He had also met with the Clerk to review the document in order that it can go off to Debenham Ottaway hopefully only requiring a small amount of change. Costs for the legal advice so far £1700.00- he said there comes a time when it seems the costs of reaching this point is disproportionate. The Clerk said he had not had the dilapidations carried out as it could be done in next year costs. The premises appear in good order. All members agreed this was acceptable it might not be not required if new buildings are constructed under new plans for the future. The Chair thanked Cllr Rump for his hard work in reaching this conclusion. Cllr Henchley as past President of the club said it was good to see that relationships had vastly improved & mutual trust prevailed. The Clerk will submit the lease revisions after checking the final draft next week.

3.5 Chronicle Magazine and Web Site upgrade

The Clerk confirmed that the web site upgrades were continuing, he has similar and regular contact, just as several members do with Dave Rodway who is progressively dealing with our ideas for new entries. The Chair agreed that sooner or later it will be handed over to CHPC to manage. There was an instance of lost information posted by

a member of the HA&HE Residents Association that remains a mystery that is being looked into. Links to other services remain an important upgrade also to be done.

3.6 Communities in Control Govt Consultation Paper

A consultative document, the Chair briefly outlined the paper, deadline of 12th March to which all members have received a copy of the booklet. The Clerk is to consider a response on behalf of CHPC -if members wish to contribute please advise the office.

3.7 Venue of 5th February Meeting

The Chair said this was confirmed at the Charles Morris Hall, at will start at 7.30pm where it is expected members of HA&HE residents groups will be able to attend.

3.8 Colney Heath Parish Council Year Events

Cllr Horner said the Over 60's lunch on 12th December had gone well although about 20 people had gone down with flu and bugs that were doing the rounds. Consequently numbers were down however the invited guests swelled the numbers and in all about 75 people attended. Cllr Day said we should thank Mr Rose for performance of the Children's choir it made a delightful interlude much appreciated by all attending. Other events included the successful pantomime on 2nd January run by Kim Parker-Mead held at the JMI, 104 children attended but again numbers down due to the illnesses. Chaplins did an excellent show, this year some snack food was sponsored by "Chewits" the PTA also made £30 for serving light refreshments. Everyone wants to do it again next year. Assistant Clerk will make a provisional booking. Members wanted some letters of thanks to go to Mrs Jean Horner & kitchen staff (presented with poinsettia plants) and Mr Rose for the children's choir. The Clerk mentioned Larks in The Parks -the date of Sunday 28th June-Kim Parker-Mead is organising again with Cllr Brazier. Details will follow in the Chronicle and any updates appear each month on this agenda. Volunteers were needed and members to help with some jobs on the day. We are advised of the continuing arrangements at the LIP organisers meetings held monthly in L/Colney. Jo Askem is still heading the festival team. We have not had any dates for other local arrangements village day, Sue Green/CHFC and the JMI Fete run by PTA & school. Cllr Day mentioned a forthcoming event at Oakland's but did not know more details, Cllr Crump added more information.

3.9 Matters of Serious Anti Social Behaviour

Details were available at the meeting. The Clerk confirmed the list was up to date. Cllr Reeves wished to remind members that the police meeting on 11th February needs more attendance otherwise we might lose it. Cllr Day said we will raise this at the 5th February meeting. The Clerk added that it was police invitation only but Kim had supplied e-mail addresses of local resident's representatives for them to contact. In the general debate that followed it was agreed very much that continuation of the police meetings was very important to Colney Heath. The Clerk mentioned we had not seen any representatives of Neighbourhood Watch for some considerable time or the Church representatives who had been attending the original meeting when it started in 2005. Cllr Reeves said we might be gaining a new police sergeant who was applying for the job.

4. FINANCE-(Clerk RFO J.E.Dean to report)

4.1 Financial Report

The Clerk gave details about our current financial situation, quarterly report and also reported the cash position, investments and other transactions not covered in the other reports to follow. He requested members noted the items 4.1 and 4.3 were interlinked.

4.1 Precept 2009-10

The Part II section of the 4th December 2008 meeting had suggested the Precept for 2009-10 be set at £147,100.00. The Chair agreed with the explanation from the Clerk to re-consider item 4.3 within the overall debate in view of un-budgeted additional P.W. loan cost of £2700 pa. After debate the Chair recommended the decision be deferred to next full council meeting 5th February 2009. Cllr Rump wanted to settle at £150,000 right now! -Deadline for precept notification to SCADC is by 24/02/2009.

4.2 Parish Accounts

The Clerk gave out copies of the council financial statement & excel reports to each member;-January 09 expenditure of £11,148.65 - *(un-reconciled awaiting statement)*
The Clerk gave explanations of the figures and answered member's questions.

Proposed by Cllr Henschley

Seconded by Cllr Lewis

4.3 Purchase of Gloucester Park.

The Chair Cllr Day requested the Clerk to update members on the current situation. In 2007 we had made a bid to purchase this land from agents ATISREAL acting for the Health Authority. CHPC had a lease up until 1998 when due to changes within the Trusts NHS ECT -contact was lost due to the internal changes. Our letters were never concluded. CHPC continued to maintain the land cut grass and provide other services within the overall budget. We continue to do so to this date. Equally CHPC still had protection under the Landlord & Tenant Act 1954 according to past legal advice after contact was lost. We also could reverse claim maintenance.

On the last days just before the office closure for the Christmas Holidays we received a letter from the agent ATISREAL-the land was for sale again. Did we still want it? CHPC was completely out-bid in 2007-8 from developers our £30,000.00 offer was probably out in the bid by a huge factor. It was however fairly based on the D.Val professional valuation as a POS. Plus the lease and past maintenance cost issue
The Clerk answered the letter after discussing with the Chair Cllr Brazier and other members who could be contacted over the holiday. A CHPC letter was sent dated 19th December after the office had closed asking they hold until the next full council on 15th January 2009. It was made clear two other bids were being looked at. This letter confirmed our original offer still stood but final decision would be made by the full council. We would contact again on 16th January 2009. The Chair Cllr Day opened the debate and all members agreed the land be purchased and also proposed a vote to seek a loan from Communities and Local Government for £30,000 and CHPC to fund the expected or previously paid legal and valuation costs £3k from reserves.

The Clerk was duly authorised to do all that is necessary to reach the completion.

Proposal that the Council proceed with the final purchase of Gloucester Fields and authorise the Clerk to continue the process for funding (£30k) as set out in the debate.

Proposed Cllr Rump

Seconded Cllr Reeves

4.4 Progress of Vat

Clerk gave members details of the recent submission to HMCR

4.5 Budgeted Grant Aid to be Paid- (Section 19 LGA Act-1976-Misc Provisions)

This was previously agreed and set out at the part II meeting 4th December 2008 now for a formal proposal from council. This will be paid out for 2009-10 after May 2009.

Proposed Cllr Day

Seconded Cllr Lewis

4.6 Parish Insurance

Renewed after acceptance by members at the November meeting.

4.7 Conclusion of Audit-2007-8

The Chair Cllr Day said the Parish Audit papers have been approved by BDO Stoy Hayward the Clerk has complied with all notices for parish inspection in accordance with *Section 14 of the Audit Commission Act 1998*. - By making all the requisite books information and papers available for inspection as defined in *Section 12 (4)-of The Accounts & Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2006*. All papers had been available between the dates of 1st to 19th December 2008 daily at the office between 9-1pm.

Proposal Acceptance of the Audit for 2007-8

Proposed Cllr Day

Seconded Cllr Rump

4.8 Estimates of Various External Ground Works for approval

Members were advised that Grants for two of these projects had not been successful the Clerk explained Natural England had offered just £56 for two owl boxes.

It was agreed the Charles Morris Hall Fencing to keep out horses was important and should go ahead Cost £1710.00. Members instructed the Clerk to start and engage the contractor. Other jobs include Fencing Posts and renewal to bridge area of common, quote is £1910 reconsider parish fund-or reserves. Roestock Park renewal of posts around grassed area to prevent access by vehicles £1540. Members agreed with the Chair -both to be to be deferred to next parish year or try for other grants that may come available. Clerk to keep on agenda.

4.8 Other Financial Matters

The Clerk advised members of the Treasury Reserve present investment of £65,000 council earmarked reserves comes off at 2nd February 2009. Future safe investment to gain additional revenue looks bleak in the current situation of low interest. The value of the revenue earned cumulative to date was noted. It was accepted that the council earmarked Reserve account be returned to Capital Account and the rest to "working cash flow" in the current account until the new parish year 2009-10 starts. Members agreed to look again at the investment situation in April.

4.8.1 Other Financial Matters

The Clerk advised members that SCADC had written to waive the lease rents on two of the POS Recreation areas Sleafshyde and Roestock Park. Resulting in a useful annual saving of £110 for the parish council. We are however still responsible for the maintenance and grass cutting. The council suggested a letter of thanks be sent.

5 PLANNING

Planning Applications

The following applications received during late December 2008 and to date January 09 -Cllr Day explained the issues surrounding the plans that were debated as:-

General Comments

Cllr Day said the Oaklands/Wimpey application was still current. A Planning Inspector will hear this on 3rd March the Clerk wanted to know if we are to be represented at the hearing. Cllr Reeves thought there was to be a public meeting but it was concluded this was the planning inspector's hearing. However he said he had responded by letter to SCADC. Cllr Crump was concerned on Glinwell application, 5/08/2483-Cllr Henschley had similar views over the plans. Members wanted a letter sent to SCADC about the ignoring planning regulations. The Clerk will speak first to Cllr Brazier in case this has already done in his submissions. Cllr Reeves spoke on the porch at Three Horseshoes PH.

5-1 Planning Applications: As listed below and received up to the date of this agenda publication-***bold= topical***;-

Planning Lists Received

Printed list circulated to all members;-

As sent	From SCADC	
	Weekly lists	Circulated to members

Beaumont School Glinwells & Two Oaklands plans;-

Planning consultation and consent issues.

5-1 Planning Applications:

As listed below and received up to the date of this agenda publication-***bold= topical***;-

Number	Address	Application	Decision/Recommendation
5/08/0620	Oakland's College Smallford Campus	Erection of new college building for Oakland's and assoc educational buildings to provide total of 31930 sqm of educational floor space and erection of 62 flats and houses. Demolition of existing use of former mansion house as 26 units of non self contained accom. Use of former stable block as children's nursery and retention of cottage within walled garden and assc lodges. Provision of sports pitches, 820 car parking spaces, highway works including a new access from Hatfield Rd with new roundabout, landscaping and other ancillary development	Cllr Brazier- CHPC response submitted. Debated at SCADC July Dev control meeting- New issues of calling in by Sec State over GB & LDF Plans for District

5/08/2515CE	58 Wynches Farm Drive	Cert of Lawfulness- loft con /rear dormer window	No objections
5/08/2447	10 Firwood avenue	Two storey side and single storey rear extension with loft conversion and two rear dormer window	No objections, but object to overlooking of neighbouring properties if this is the case
5/08/2433	16 Church Croft	Erection of outbuilding	No objections
5/08/2470	76 Tollgate Road	Single storey rear ext	No objections
5/08/2571	2 St Yon Court	First floor side extension	No objections
5/08/2539	58 Tollgate Rd	Con of gge into habitable room, single storey front ext and alt to openings	No objections
5/08/2497	55 Russet Drive	Roof alterations to include loft conversion with three dormer windows and two storey rear extension	Opposed - Overdevelopment over in the Green Belt
5/08/2546	1 Park Corner	Two storey side and rear extension and alterations to openings	Opposed – This application does not address our previous objections to the first application. This is a unique area and the extension would have a detrimental effect on the Green belt. These houses were bought by the Water Board for their site is also adjacent to the common and have a harmful visual impact.
5/08/2528	48 Russet Drive	Single storey rear extension	No objections
5/08/2579	18 Church croft	Loft conversion with two rear dormer windows and alterations to openings	With Cllr Brazier 26/11/2008
5/08/2429	Former Oaklands College site- Highfield Lane	Large Development - Demolition of all existing buildings and erection of thirty four houses including twelve affordable units sixty five parking spaces, open space and landscaping	With Cllr Brazier 26/11/2008

SCADC General Applications List (District) Circulated to all members.

5-2 Planning Approvals

As listed since last meeting

Number	Address	Application	SCADC Decision
5/08/1661	101 Tollgate Rd	Two storey rear and side extension	Planning Permission
5/08/2195	23 Starlight Way	First floor and single storey front extension and alterations to openings	Planning Permission
5/08/1985	21 Stanmore Chase	Single storey rear extension	Planning Permission
5/08/2064	8 Manston Way	Single stext and alterations to openings	Planning Permission

5/08/2003 -5/08/1712CON -23 Station Road Smallford-Approved Development

Demolition and reconstruction of Garage attached to and reading conjunction with Decision Notice dated 19/08/2003 & 09/09/08 Approved subject to materials agreed.

See Attached Sheet for Planning Approvals- Appendix

5-3 Planning Refusals-Appeals-Inquiries-Enforcements-Other issues

5.3 Refusals

	No reports		
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5.3 Appeals

As reported in Agenda Also 23 Station Road date of Public Inspector Inquiry is 11 February. Is CHPC intending to be represented? Member's decision required by Clerk

5-3-1 Planning-Appeals-Inquiries-Enforcements-Other issues

	No reports		
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5.4 Appeals & Public Inquiries

No reports.

OTHER TOPICAL ITEMS FOR INFORMATION-following>

5.5-1 Go East-SEERA Consultation Regional Assembly-Gypsy Site Allocations

Reports as received have been circulated to all members indications are that a final decision will be delivered in summer 2009. Cllr Day said more sites are inevitable.

Cllr Crump pointed out nomenclature was out of sync! Next reads 5-52 not 5-22

5.5-2 This is duplicated as above and same remit.

Other brief items;-

Stanstead Airport

Second runway Application.

Planning Portal

Kept on agenda-any member's comments?

Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment for SCADC

Cllr Brazier said the DC has to do a strategic land survey as part of LDF. Details soon

London Green Belt Council

Cllr Crump is parish representative-Minutes of 29th October 2008 meeting noted.

BT Payphones

Remain at risk-Possible reduction or removal of pay phones as part of BT plans to reduce service-see HATPC lists of removals. Tyttenhanger might be at future risk.

NATS-Air Traffic Control Consultation

No reports- now removed until further information is received

Helioslough.

Cllr Brazier said this is back on the planning agenda with an appeal to Sec of State. Public concern and news reports indicate public opinion is very much against with predictions of extremely heavy increases in traffic volumes. A development that links with other freight terminals built in the Thames Estuary and future rail upgrade plans.

5-6 Planning Monitoring

Matters the Clerk to inform or keep on agenda or members have reports where applicable

Air Quality-(Contained in HHC report) Cllr Crump said he has written to land agents
Landfill & Quarry-Clerk pointed out new grants are available of parish's within 10km
Minerals & Waste-Noted that Hertfordshire may be under EEC pressure to improve
Licences-No reports-

Local Delivery Framework Policy-under review by DC-probably not ready until 2010

Other Monitoring issues-Clerk or members had none to report.

5.7 Smallford Station Preservation order

Kept on agenda-Cllr Reeves mentioned its importance, could we find a use for it?

5.8 Section 106 Money to be used in Colney Heath

Keeping on agenda-noted on past minutes Cllr Brazier is keen to claim that any developer funds from S106 are for the benefit of Colney Heath as the village faces continued demands for building. A meeting is still to be arranged with Cllr Brazier + Clerk with SCADC regarding the Sect 106 on hold over Oakland's Development

6 COMMONS OPEN SPACES & PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

The written reports were considered of;-

Draft Green Spaces Strategy

Noted-no further reports

6-1 Parish Warden Report

Clerk circulated this to members at the meeting.

6-2 Parish Commons Ranger Report

Monthly report previously circulated-still some motorcycle nuisance riding on land.

6-3 Parish Gardner and Tennis Courts Attendant Reports

Report circulated to members at the meeting usual seasonal clearance of gardens and cutting back. All looks clean and tidy-No play on courts this time.

6-4 Church & Graveyard Keepers work/time sheet

No specific reports this time-but again with usual duties undertaken results are good. Volunteer day on 24th January at Churchyard -clearing scrub-tidy up boundary hedge.

6-5 CHPC Grass Cutting Contract

No reports last cut has been made this season-winter work by Mr Paxton on Furze Field cutting overhang and scrub-recover 5m x 100m for £350.00 now paid

6-6 Commons-Grazing & Stewardship

Clerk is still trying to arrange for probation service offenders day to clear the Furze Field area of sapling risings left from the volunteer day. Should have arrangements in place by now for this work, need a team to do manual work. Clerk to send a reminder. Members were given details of the works to trees (year 5) cutting overhang for tractor to get round more safely. Also quote for flail work quote on Furze Field to go ahead as agreed with members. Costs as detailed and accepted authorising Clerk to engage the contractor. (Costs £1800 and £270 so works will start 6th February 2000)

6.7 Dudley Wood

Clerk has been attempting to find past details or deeds of the above over holiday period of land we are transferring to London Colney PC. We had to do some serious file searching to find some old documents. The Clerk said it was very time consuming work, past mis-filing of important or documents. Cllr Reeves mentioned a plaque that was missing asking if this was anywhere in store at the parish office. The Clerk said he has no evidence of its existence in the various storage places. He might want to speak with Cllr Brazier about it; he has some local historic items.

6-8 Footpaths P3 and Rights of Way-Bridleways-BOAT-RUPP F/path 44 and 23
Issue remains on the agenda and past comments noted that still apply here. Clerk has quote from Centrewire for new DDA gates planned for the above paths. Clerk has member's approval for purchase nearer time. Grant application already made to CMS for £1000.00. Year 2009-10. In response to Cllr Horner; - the commons bridleway project is a future agenda subject for defining a clear marked route across the centre.

Members in particular Cllr Crump & Reeves want more detail in this item showing individual POS-new format as 6.9 here

6.9 OPEN SPACES Play & Recreation Areas. CHPC land or playing fields

At the request of members this heading will appear in the "6" category of the agenda each time and listed as herewith-comments if applicable will be noted & subsequently in the minutes of each meeting if a debate or comment is received or tabled.

1. **High Street Play Area**;- No Reports
2. **Community Park**;-No reports Requires a bench seat when purchase opportunity arises-was part of original CMS funding.
3. **Roestock Park**;-Requires new waste bin and gate returning to hinges
4. **Gloucester Park**;-Land deal-ongoing as previously reported
5. **Sleapshyde Recreation Area**;-Waiting for final panels to play kit Cllr Reeves wants railings painted. RP asked to do when weather improves in spring
6. **Charles Morris Play Area**;-Hedge work out to RP to do-Also fencing start with contractor-as agreed in Finance 4.0
7. **Harvesters & Smallford Dog Walk**;-No reports
8. **Smallford Pond & Triangle**;-Cllr Crump getting new sign done-Pond hedge yearly cut done £120. no other reports

ROSPA

Clerk will be booking annual report on play areas

PUBLIC QUESTIONS -Item 8 Brought Forward at 8.45pm

The question of garage & development problems at Fairholme-Roestock Lane, the Clerk called upon Julian Thornton to visit with him to address a complaint that the nearby footpath was being dug up. This turned out not to be so, but other footpath and boundary issues were discovered that need to be dealt with separately. (By HCC Row) SCADC Planning enforcement was requested by Cllr Brazier to look at other matters on the property concerning planning applications relative to a lawful development.

7 HIGHWAYS-TRANSPORT-FOOTPATHS AND VERGES

7.1 Highways & Maintenance & Signs local Roads or major route reports

A meeting was held on the 13th January with Damian Higgins, Cllr Henschley gave members and overview of the matters on the spreadsheet that were put to DH. He confirmed that road works has started on the A 414 at night, planning the surface that will progressively move on to complete further sections as set in the road order. He confirmed other items on the CHPC list will be looked at, he gave dates and the expectations. He also said that the long-about was at last getting serious attention in 2010 with modifications and possibly changes to feeder roads. He also spoke briefly about VAS and the process of obtaining a successful bid, this subject comes up later in the agenda. We were also told about HHWP ongoing reduction in management staff from 7 areas to 5 and to become more inclusive. Jobs were being restructured.

HCC Road Traffic Orders Past Received-(important to retain information)

Lane closures and speed restrictions -A414-Westbound 40 mph & Eastwards to junction Colney Heath Lane 20 mph-6 weeks 5th January 2009-13th February 2009.

Temporary Closure of Barley Mow Lane

After a period of consultation the final decision is expected to be delivered at the HHWP meeting to due take place on 22nd January 2009. CHPC position remains.

Cycle Way round about Colney Heath

Not left off agenda, but a topic to remain under review, connected to S106 money

7-2 Paths and Access-and verge ditch works attached or adjacent to Highways

Matters noted in a general debate on matters but no reports.

7.3 VAS Speed Cameras-at Tollgate Road & Highfield-Hill End area

Clerk informed about two letters from HHWP after requesting details of funding initially for the Tollgate Road and more recently the Highfield/Hill End area. Our letter was to find to out if any grants are available from SCADC/HHWP possible installation next parish year. Past reports suggest the cost to be in the region of £8,000. Past meetings confirm CHPC will pledge some funds towards installations but members agree costs really should be met from other budgets. The Highfield issue VAS issue can be debated at the CHPC 5th February meeting at Charles Morris Hall.

7.4 M25 Widening starting summer 2008

No further reports, it is expected the traffic will increase locally as a result.

7-5 Transport and Community Friday Shopping Bus

Cllr Horner gave his report with continued success of the service. He congratulated the STAAD for reducing the fuel charges quickly when the price came down. He said in reply to a question from Cllr Crump some times up to eight passengers are carried each week. It is a very popular and important service to the community.

Some further questions on the upper age limit of drivers able to be insured. The Clerk confirmed the normal upper age limit to qualify for an "activity liability" cover for a councillor is 75 years. Other normal council business risk has no upper age limit.

7-6 Long –About A414

The matter had been dealt with in an earlier item. The Clerk reminded he had raised this at the Parish Conference with Daniel Goodwin so it was very much in focus and pressure came from everyone at any opportunity.

7.7 Highway Warning Signs & Mandatory Signs

Noted and suggest keeping as a reminder

7.8 Progress on Verge Parking

Cllr Day said initially the triangle area of Roestock Lane –Hall Gardens-Fellows Lane was to be an experimental plan to introduce the ban. Grass verges in this area enhance the visual amenity to the residents and often damage by parking annoys residents. Cllr Brazier had past reached agreement with SCADC to introduce the restrictions. Since that time changes mean the plan is now on hold until the new budget year for review.

7.9 Tree Removal in Hall Gardens

The council are keen to support the resident's frustration to get this sapling but now mature tree removed. It is causing damage and erosion. Cllr Day said the office is putting pressure on various departments but we still are unable to get a final decision.

8 PUBLIC QUESTIONS-8.30

No further public questions, matters but noted elsewhere in minutes.

9 COUNCIL BUILDINGS-ORGANISATIONS & TRUSTEE MATTERS

9-1 High Street Recreation Area & CHFC new Lease of Pavilion Building

This was previously debated at this meeting in 3.4.

On other matters Cllr Crump spoke to members about the Harvesters football and obtaining grants. A name of a possible useful contact was passed over. Other matters-

Fire Alarm at Pavilion

Installed and running

Electrical Safety Inspection

Now completed, CHFC will get copy of certificate-next inspection August 2009

9-2 Treasure Tots Pre-School.

Cllr Crump a report indicating pupil numbers are down in January 2009 to an average of 17 children and about 65-85 sessions. We past term had 26 attending each day representing an average weekly session of 125 sold. The T/T walking bus was successful and popular with parents extending to the JMI nursery school pupils coming back here for pack lunch. Whist not able to go into the facts at this meeting the Clerk spoke about the need to look at the staff costs relative to new pay scales. This is a Part II subject and Cllr Crump said it might require a separate meeting. The Clerk is to prepare some data prior to the next meeting regarding the issues. It was agreed a separate finance committee meeting could be called if required. It was unclear if the numbers were downturn or birth rate.

9-3 Village Hall Committee

No specific reports, Cllr Horner gave brief details about the last meeting. The Clerk said he had copied members with the e-mail received from Mr Walsh on the matters of Trusteeship relative to the constitution. The Clerk is obtaining some reference data on procedures from ACRE to allow other information assessed and to be passed on

9-4 Charles Morris Hall

Grant check for £2000 will be sent shortly. The Clerk said CMH are ok about this

9-5 Highfield Community Park & Trustees

No reports this time Cllr Rump apologised at missing the last meeting

9-6 Other local Buildings/Organisations-Guides Scouts-Harvesters/other

No reports, Clerk said they had not come back regarding getting cheaper quotes for proposed works and possible Scout HO additional funding.

9-7 Youth Organisations Locally & Youth Council

No reports

9.8 Sheltered Housing-Review Newsletter

Publication in the early spring, office will have free copies available when published.

9.9 Residents Associations.

Highfield & Hill End Residents Assoc

Recent letters received on damage to Street nameplates and rubbish at Hill End Lane reported to client services at SCADC-B Peers now being dealt with. Cllr Brazier has replied to e-mail from Ms Graham requesting numbers of residents in the last precept relative to this area (which had slipped after the October meeting) Our apologies were passed to the resident over problems found with e-mail posting on our web site hence we had not picked up the message. Worth noting site is being managed away from the office and not we are not getting hold of daily input. Regrettably this missing e-mail has passed into the "ether" -Our apologies! Suggest the office for any future e-mails.

Tyttenhanger (Barley Mow) Residents Safety Group

No reports-Cllr Reeves or Cllr Rump other than lane closure dealt with elsewhere.

Smallford Residents Association

No reports-Cllr Crump

Other residents associations

Opportunity to have your comments raised at council meeting-contact the office

10 COMMUNITY REPORTS-Members reports Outside Bodies and reports from Committees and other Organisations

10-1 Fly Tipping Reports & Raised Humps-adjacent to Mr Sturbridge's Land

Copies of reports presented to members. Trend is showing signs of a slight increase.

10-2 Police and Community Matters-Police Ward Meeting & ASB List

The date of the next meeting is 7.30 on 13th February 2009, Cllr Reeves said we must have more attendees this time or we will lose it.

10-3 Twinning

Notification received of AGM 14TH January 2008.at Football Club. French here 2009

10-4 Reports from Members attending other meetings

No reports other than already noted and covered in other subjects

Lafarge Liaison Meeting

Date fixed 3rd February at 4pm at the quarry office A414-Cllr Brazier and Clerk

10.5 Fairs Festivals and local/or Community events

Cllr Reeves is to respond to the invitation Civic Service North Mimms PC 8TH Feb

10-6 Reports as Listed-HM Govt: Local and National Issues ect: & HCC

The Gypsy issues -SEERA consultation -circulated to all members.

10.7 St Albans Association of Town & Parish Councils

Members agreed to host April 2009 meeting-minutes of 13th January meeting noted

10-8 Minutes received from other Associations

Members noted the list of committee and other papers.

11- Members Questions

No further questions.

11-1 News Releases

SCADC are still continuing to seek a village tree warden, advert placed in Chronicle.

11-2 Dudley Wood Memorial Woodlands

Dealt with elsewhere in the minutes.

11.3 Dog Waste Bins

New waste installed at Roestock Park and Church Lane towards the park corner end

11.4 St Albans Wheelie Bin Introduction

Details of the scheme have been put in Chronicle more publicised in local press.

12 OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Bus shelter Clerk has drawing –D Higgins looking into permission from Highways

12-1 Staff and Office Matters

General matters reported to members.

12-2 Clerk Report on future matters needing attention

No reports this time-deferred

12-3 Notice Boards and Signs & Bus Shelters

Shelter- damage reported Oakland's and to High Street n/board now out for repair.

12-4 Commons Licences & Wayleaves

No reports

12.6 Publicity & Chronicle

Deadline is 1st February Spring edition, Cllr Day has agreed to do council statement.

12-6 Flooding and Encams

No reports

12-7 Capital Purchases

Office filing cabinet for archive storage in back store to be paid in next parish year.

12.8 Tyttenhanger Sign

Clerk to do a mock up and pass to Cllr Reeves

This meeting closed at 9.58 pm



John Dean

Clerk to the Council

*Copies available on the parish web-site;-Note no responsibilities accepted for errors typos or mistakes until approved by council
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