

**MINUTES OF THE FULL COLNEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY -9th MARCH 2006**

Present; - Cllr's Rump Chair-Cllr Hall Vice-Chair- Cllr C Brazier-Cllr Day –
Cllr P Reeves.-Cllr Henchley - Cllr Clarke.-Cllr Corley-Cllr Crump.

Clerk; Mr J E Dean

Members of the Public-Mrs G Moody-Mr D Becker.

1. APOLOGIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair was advised-Cllr Day might be late and also Cllr Brazier might only attend briefly as he needed to leave for an SCADC meeting. The Clerk said that he had received a few late items that could be raised progressively as additions to existing subjects. The remainder could be noted in correspondence. There was a part 2 and this contained several important matters that needed attention and members approval.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST- ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

The Clerk noted Cllr Henchley role as President of CHFC. He has a non pecuniary interest in matters-member accepted to abstain from voting on all matters connected with CHFC. Being allowed- to remain to offer a viewpoint without suggesting of or bearing due influence to, on the matters debated following on in the agenda items.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the Full Council held on 9TH February 2006 were approved and accepted as correct-

Proposed by Cllr Hall

Seconded by Cllr Henchley

The minutes were signed by the Chairman as correct.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE AGENDA

There were no matters arising

4 MATTERS THE CHAIRMAN MAY BRING BEFORE THE COUNCIL

The Chairman said that we had a number of important issues but if the business was light for this meeting and he was determined to move on and not delay if there was little debate necessary. The Clerk had the following report to bring before the council.

River Colne-Common Area

The Clerk had arranged a meeting the area inspector of the Environment Agency on Wednesday 22nd February for a river walk, CMS were there briefly, Mr Paxton and Cllr Brazier were not able to attend. The purpose was to look at the condition of the river bank and bed, very weeded and sapling growth. Beyond Park Corner the amount of new ground work being done by adjacent landowner on bank and bed is significant. Under Riparian ownership the area we are responsible for is the river bank on either bank side (common) more long term it will need some serious work and maintenance. Unfortunately the EA are forecasting little money is available and grants are very few and far between. This will need a future Budget for some serious clearance work in 2007-7 or even towards 08. Other grants may come as interest grows on the subject.

MC

Green Belt and Planning-Newspaper Report

The Chairman invited Mr D Becker to comment on the rumour about the newspaper report claiming that Colney Heath was perhaps to give up GB status. Cllr Brazier had responded to this matter and informed that it was part of a long term strategy plan that had been examined in Cabinet at SCADC to take the area 2006/9 & up to 2021 in a brainstorming session headed by Dist Cllr Whiteside. The papers had got hold of it and there was some degree of inaccuracy but it did say it was "Looking into/at the Districts future". He assured that the DC was not going to allow erosion of the GB, but ODPM and SEERA had issued directives to local councils to get on with this and as a result they were doing exactly what they should do. This was all part of the LDS process of planning for the future. (Local Delivery Strategy will become important)

5. IMPORTANT AND IMMEDIATE BUSINESS AND MATTERS ARISING

5.1 Pre School-Treasure Tots a Parish Council & Community Partnership.

Cllr Corley gave details of the current situation at the Pre School, the prospects for the next half term were more children attending and up to 106 sessions per week sold. However the Clerk added because of the ratio the staff costs payroll, insurances and fixed costs we were expecting to have a shortfall of £400/pcm. This was in line with the members expectations and debated in the Budget preliminaries.

5.2 Coursers Road-Roestock Lane Illegal Parking of Caravans (Travellers)

Observations that the occupation was continuing with one caravan and according to the Clerk Mr Robb had told him it had gone in for a service. The Highways Authority was informed and it was up to them to take action. The matter of CHPC and the CCJ for a claim against Mr Robb, Daniels and others then Clerk said the members need to study the summary letter from Ottaways dated 11th January 2006. There was a letter sent to Ottaways on 23rd November 2005 that no one including them had seen before asking for the return of the caravans. In this context the Clerk was about to dispose of the two caravans at FMS but erred members on the side of caution first without legal authority forthcoming. Unfortunate but the costs will increase. He had set out on a tablet spread sheet of costs so far up to 24th February (£12,000) indicating there are further costs. It was his intention with the authority of the Council members to write to-morrow to Ottaways. The 90 days had almost expired for these mobile homes, (19/03/06) and we must have some finality about this. Mr Robb had called at the office on that day asking for the return, he was duly informed about the costs being the only reason for CHPC to agree before any release. The Clerk is also to request Cllr Brazier to find out what is the current position of the SCADC legal services are to do with the second mobile home they have in store somewhere. The Clerk advised he had in mind that may be necessary to call an Emergency Meeting with the Committee Chair's to meet with the Solicitor in St Albans Council offices to take their appraisal.

5.3 Police Initiative Meeting & Crime Report

Cllr Reeves said he had attended the Police Workshop on Crime & Disorder strategy SCADC, he had taken part in the sessions was similarly unconvinced that like our Police meetings it was a PR exercise in favour of the Herts police and team building. Several other members of the District Council were present, it was useful to fly the flag for CHPC, but on the downside we were about to lose our community officer and the Sergeant will soon be on maternity leave. It was agreed the Clerk to send a letter to the Chief Ms Roome-Gifford asking what were the plans for the replacement to the village. Since we had now lost both Alan Reynolds and Emily Martin who is soon to

become a full time Police Officer and begins training shortly. This effectively leaves CH without a designated Police Officer or PcSO. Members generally felt that we had been overwhelmed with a raft of Police initiatives that had not produced the desired result; it was a prelude to their probable inescapable merger with other forces soon.

5.4 Tyttenhanger Sign

The Clerk said a £1500 deposit has been paid and that along with Cllr Reeves we were waiting to see the sign made up prior to casting the resin mould. Signs of the Times were to call us and set a time and date. The planning application has gone in.

5.5 The Lyons Enquiry-The Role of Local Government.

The Clerk had sent a response to the letter of 20th February 2006 received from Strategic Corporate Services at SCADC. A copy of a letter on a similar vein was sent from Cllr Swendell for Parish Council's attention. The Clerk was concerned that none of the fellow Clerks had mentioned this at various meetings he had been to recently. It was such an important topic having been described as an independent inquiry that had been commissioned by ODPM & Chancellor of the Exchequer September 2005.

6 SPECIAL AND NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Smallford Landfill Site Methane Levels Monitoring

Cllr Crump had nothing additional to report this time.

6.2 Vital Villages Plan-& Community Projects.

Cllr Corley had nothing further to report this time.

6.3 Youth Club

Cllr Brazier said it is likely to be starting in June 06 when the YMCA will appoint a youth leader and the venue will be Highfield Hall.

Other Youth Issues-Skate Park suggestion

Kept on the Agenda

6.4 Smallford Residents Association

Cllr Corley had nothing further to report this time.

6.5 Parish Council AGM and APM important Dates for your Diary

1. Annual General Meeting (AGM) Charles Morris Hall-Tyttenhanger 7-30-8pm
Thursday 6th April plus cheese & wine.

This is the time when the Chairman presents his yearly report and an opportunity for other members of the Council to meet the parish. Others are invited to attend from local organisations. The Clerk gives a report on the parish finances and accounts of the previous year and is able to take any questions on the accounts or expenditure.

2. Annual Statutory Parish Meeting-11th May 2006 at 7.30pm Village Hall-
declarations and choosing the new Chairman and Vice Chair for parish year 2006-7.

6.6 Annual Beating of the Bounds-Rogation Sunday 14th May 2006

At members request this has to change to the above date at 2pm assembly at St Marks Church- Church Lane Colney Heath. Tea afterwards all public/children welcome. Easy walk for 2 miles, over and around the common boundary and Furze Field. Bring walking shoes, dress comfortably plus rain gear in case of inclement weather.

7 FINANCE

The Clerk reminded members he had re-invested £50,000 in Treasury Reserves to April 3rd at 3.85% fixed for 90 days.

7.1 Payments and Income

The Clerk presented the financial statements showing the expenditure in March is £7358.41 to date this month. Income revenue this month was £6733.98

The figures were accepted;-

Proposed Cllr Corley

Seconded Cllr Henschley

Bank Movements and Finances-

Bank Transfer from Reserves to General Account-as at 01/02/06

Bank Statement Capital Reserves-£30,032.68-(26/01/06) Reserve Account £635.04

Bank Main Reserve Account-£5123.31- Current Account £4,465.91 at 06/03/06

This is the position of the accounts according to latest statements and information received from the bank. Above are without reconciliation or this month's expenditure.

Income from Way-leaves-Commons Land Issues outstanding.

Temporary postponed with the considerations to be made on the future issues from the public debate the Clerk advised about a format for the licence and to get this run past LCAS (Paul Clayden) for legal words approval. This is a future meeting item.

7.2 Audit 2003-4

The Clerk has submitted this to Lubbock Fine; we are still awaiting their finalisation.

Audit 2004/5 Finalisation and Approval

The submission for 2004-5 is completed the accounts were approved by the Council and the Chairman agreed to these being signed off. Audit papers are now being sent to Lubbock Fine after final preparation by the Clerk along with other data required.

Audit 2005/6 Appointment of Auditors

RBS Auditing solutions were appointed as internal auditors for the parish accounts

7.3 VAT Claim-Audit year-2004/5

Now completed and ubmitted to HMCR.

7.4 Banking and Signatories

No matters to debate

7.5 Pension

Clerk is attending a meeting on 17th March 2006 for HCC Pensions

7.6 Insurance

The Clerk has now included the Village Hall in the overall parish insurance. A small percentage premium for the Parish Office included this relates to about 10% overall.

7.7 Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 2006-7

For members information the notification from ODPM has been confirmed in a letter 16/02/06 (re Local Govt Act 1972 sect 137-(4) – (12B) is £5.44 per elector for 2006-7

8. PLANNING

Details of the planning applications were as given on the agenda notes, examination on the plans noted were considered further study or debate, the results here as noted;-

8.1 Planning Applications

The following were debated, Cllr Henschley gave members further information viz;-

PLANNING-Special notes specific as noted herewith;-

5/06/0072	Kusti Tan- Church Lane Colney Heath	Single storey rear extensions and single storey front extension	Opposes- same reason as application 5/05//0687
5/06/0108	Alban Park Hatfield Rd	Stationing of mobile catering unit	Opposes- This is not a temp mobile catering unit it is now an established facility to grant it further permission would to allow meeting the normal standards. Out of keeping of the street scene.
5/06/0152	108 Hill End Lane	Single storey front, two st/side and rear ext and a rear conservatory.	No objections
5/06/0171	18 Roestock Lane	Detached Garage	Opposes -Over development of the site, dominant garage with additional pond eqpt.
5/06/0167	46 Princess Diana Drive	Rear conservatory and ext to detached garage	No objections
5/06/0232	The Hyde Bungalow, Sleapsyde	Single storey rear extension and single storey front and side ext to detached garage	Supports- This application
5/06/0297	St Davids Oaklands Lane Smallford	Alterations to roof to include increase in height with two front and one rear dormer window /rear balc	With Cllr Brazier 1/3/06
5/06/0318	601a Hatfield Road	First Floor rear extension	With Cllr Brazier 1/3/06
5/06/0367	Sandhurst 31 Highfield lane	Demolition of existing g'gs and erection of single storey bdg to form three indiv g'gs	With Cllr Brazier 2/3/06

Development Plans in the area for New Homes and possible Public Inquiries.

The Chairman said no news on plans suggested for Smallford-BT Site-Glinwell Site Hatfield BA Site-Garden Village-Belgrave Land-Oaklands Site-or former Ballito Site. Generation of up to 7000 new homes was the area risk according to Cllr Brazier at past meetings. He remains fully opposed to any new development in the Green Belt. Infrastructure cannot cope.

Copy e-mail received from Cllr Crump who had been in touch with Julian Pitt @ Go East about explaining the proposed housing on the British Aerospace site.

Cllr Brazier may have some news next time to inform members.

Mc

8.1 Planning Issues Continued.

a) Consultation Proposed Modifications to Herts Minerals Local Plan 2002-2016
Notice intention to adopt-period of Public Consultation and community engagement no further reports to add. See Letter 06/01/06 County Development Unit.

b) Consultation SCADC T&C Planning Act-Section 106 Agreements
Clerk has written to SCADC-Mr Alan Moorhouse on 22nd December requesting we keep to the agreed Section 106 Agreement.

c) Planning Advisory Panel
No reports this time

d) Phone Masts
No reports this time or applications noted.

e) Proposed Extension to Tyttenhanger Sand & Gravel Quarry-(Sand screening)
Cllr Brazier reported that recent Lafarge Liason Meeting highlighted site exhibition and plans/public inspection 21st March at London Colney-notice given to members.

f) East of England Plan-SEERA
Details expected in the Spring-ODPM initiative.

g) Proposed Mineral Extraction at Former Hatfield Aerodrome (BAE SITE)
Noted-there were no specific comments.

h) Proposed Extension to Extraction of Sand & Gravel-Restoration of land at Symonshyde Farm-North of Coopers Green Lane Hatfield
Clerk received letter-9th January 2006 noting a Public Meeting commencing at 6pm Wednesday 22nd March 2006 at Green Lanes JMI School Hatfield.

8.2 Appeals & Enforcements

Notices circulated and details delivered for the attention of members at the meeting:-

05/2625LJY-Buckland Bungalow Sleepshyde (Matter carried forward)
Appeal lodged against Council refusal to allow single storey extension and first floor extension ref 5/05/1714.

05/04/2765-Oaklands-Changes to college building- proposal
Cllr Brazier reported the changes will not include relocating the college away.

05/04/2838&39-Belgrave Land Ltd Smallford Garden Village
Cllr Brazier had attended the inquiry over two days-outcome awaited.

5/2005/0679-BT Trial Site-
Application reduced in housing numbers according to Cllr Brazier.

5/2005/2032 610 Hatfield Road AL4 0HP-Appeal to Planning Inspectorate
To build a 3 Bed Detached Dwelling-replacing a bungalow on the site

5/2005/2624-(Prev 5/05/1089-5/04/1788) 33 Highfield Lane AL4 ORG
Refusal rear conservatory on-Green Belt and planning issues.

8.3 Planning Decisions-Approvals and Refusals

Members noted applications that had been approved or refused as noted here-

5/05/2494	61 Colney Heath Lane	Part single part two storey rear extension and two storey side extension	Planning Permission
5/05/2565	43 Russet Drive	Single storey rear extension	Planning Permission
5/05/2497	5 Newfield Way	Shed in rear garden	Planning Permission
5/05/2528CP	7 Sleapsyde Lane	Solar panels	Certificate of Lawful use or development
5/04/0237	Land at Roe Hyde	Erection of one 150 room hotel, one budget hotel and restaurant garden centre and associated access parking and landscaping	Planning Refusal
5/05/2566	Roestock Cottage, Roestock Lane	Single storey side and rear extension and replacement of existing rear flat roof with pitched roof	Planning Permitted
5/05/2571	6 Park Lane Colney Heath	Part single part two storey side extension	Planning Permitted
5/06/0032	32 Princess Diana Drive	Rear Conservatory	Planning Permitted

5/06/0152 108 Hill End Lane

Cllr Reeves said he was concerned that this application may have encroached on parish land in the entrance to Gloscester Park. The Clerk is to check the plan and area.

8.4 Adoption of Roads-Highfield & Un-adopted Roads-(Section 38) Developers

Cllr Brazier has had successful discussions with SCADC

Fairview-Miller Homes-Taylor Woodrow-area Princess Diana Drive etc-Cllr Brazier is trying to get developers to adopt roads, action likely under section 38 LG Act.

8.5 Affordable Housing & Lettings

Three new homes are to be built at the old garages site in Sleapshyde. (Agreed S106)

8.6 Planning on the Web

No debate this time

8.7 Licences-Alcohol Sales-Bars- Clubs- Pubs- Hotels- Off Sales-Occasional.

The Chair noted- no applications this time. *Members agreed with the Clerk decision- it is prudent to only state the applications from within the Village in this section.*

8.8 Air Quality Action Plan

This remains on agenda-but no comments this time

8.10 Luton Airport

No further reports or feed back.

9. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME-

Questions about Coursers Road and movement of Travellers to Roestock Lane were answered by the Chairman and the Clerk. This is now a Highways matter and eviction orders had been processed according to Cllr Brazier's action with SCADC. The Clerk said Mr Robb had called in the office. He had also asked Mr Robb about the health of his relative who was pregnant and occupying one of the caravans. Social welfare was alerted to this situation in December and is understood to be involved.

10 COLNEY HEATH COMMON- (POS)

public open space

10.1 Commons Ranger Report

Members were circulated with the recent report.

10.2 Monitoring of Transco Pipeline

There is no report this time.

10.3 Common Stewardship

The Clerk has written to DEFRA asking about the earlier application. On the common there is an outbreak of Japanese Knot-weed; this will need to be weed treated in July/August and each successive time over the next three years. CMS are to assist with a suitable contractor. CHPC will cover the expense from Commons Fund.

10.6 Grass Cutting Contract.

One more cut to do in late March 06 within this budget year, the Clerk has advised that Mr Paxton had started cutting at Smallford Dog Walk area.

10.7 New Bridge

Members enquired about deferred action, is this likely in 2006 as promised, where is the money to come from and was a new design to be planned by others?.

10.8 Fly Tipping

Members were handed the latest list which gives a total of 52 reported instances the majority of which have occurred in Barley Mow Lane. The Clerk reported that his observation over past 10 days had shown no instances in that short period, was this of any significance since we had pressured action on the matter at every opportunity. Cllr Jamie Day is to attend a special CCTV Cabinet Scrutiny Committee call in report at SCADC offices on 21/03 to try and include CCTV as a need for this type of crime as well as issues of security protection on the streets. He is to be provided with details from the Parish File to loan for the meeting under the control of Peter Storey. Cllr Henschley was keen to see the removal costs added to the instances recorded.

11 RECREATIONAL AREAS

11.1 Parish Warden Report

Report received contents noted.

11.2 Parish Gardens Report

Report received including a litter pick in the village. Members thanked Hilary.

11.3 Park Visual Inspections

Reports contained in Mr Paxton work sheet but nothing specific.

11.4 Signs

The Clerk advised progress others as scope opportunity and budget allow

12 HIGH STREET RECREATION GROUNDS

12.1 Colney Heath Football Club

The Clerk advised members he had been sent a full copy of the club accounts and that they were representative of a normal format and perfectly satisfactory to show any auditor. If any member wished to see them he would make them available at the office. It was not our place to copy them as they were about the business of the club, which had its own rules.

12.2 Tennis Court Attendant Report.

Reports available and copied to members- here not much winter tennis use but the nuisance over the fence holes is a continuing problem for Hilary to keep repaired.

12.3 Lafarge Liaison Committee & Land Issues

Cllr Brazier and the Clerk attended this meeting on 7th March at London Colney PC offices, the meeting was well attended. Members to note the open public exhibition on the quarry extraction past reported in planning. There will be changes to the road and access to Willows Farm to improve the safety. This is in common use with shoppers and sand lorry access and is to be made safer. Any trucks tempted on taking short cuts via Colney Heath Village where the HGV weight ban is in force will be permanently banned from future contracts by Lafarge according to Mike Pendock Estates Mngr. The public may note and report any registration numbers to Lafarge on 01992-512758 We have offered to host the next liaison meeting at Colney Heath- 4pm on 21st June 2006, lasts usually one and a half hours. Usually by specific invitation from Lafarge.

12.4 Dudley Wood

We are waiting for the Clerk of L/Colney submitting a formal application of title transfer, on our books as ours, but at present is being maintained by L/Colney PC.

RECREATION AND PARK AREAS

The Clerk advised members that he has arranged for a ROSPA report in May for all the play areas in order to define the best and worst situation. This firm are experts in this subject and have nothing to sell. We will get a very accurate appraisal. Cost is about £60 per play area. We are legally bound to undertake periodic inspections by qualified persons. The insurers require this periodic inspection as well.

13 COMMUNITY PARK & POCKET PARK

No reports.

14 ROESTOCK PARK

14.1 Inspection Report & Play Equipment & Graffiti

Cllr Corley has put in for a BIFFA Award to refurbish the all of the play equipment. The Clerk had assisted Cllr Corley and Jo Simpson CVS with digital photos of the area and play equipment we wish to replace.

The Clerk had written to Mrs Melvin who complained about the safety of the play equipment. A copy of which had been sent to SCADC Health & Safety. The Clerk has regular inspections and is not convinced there is a safety issue although the equipment is looking rather tired. St Albans responded to the letter saying it was CHPC affairs. This issue will be captured in the ROSPA report after inspection.

14.2 Graffiti & Litter Pick

Cllr Brazier and Cllr Crump are keen to organise a litter pick at some stage.

14.3 Signs, Gates & Equipment

Signs, add to Clerk list.

15 no title-held number

16 SMALFORD PARK & DOG WALK

Anti social behaviour past mentioned-No further reports.

16.1 SMALLFORD TRAIL

Reports of indiscriminate motorcycle use and gypsies horses let loose here.

17 SLEAPSHYDE PARK

17.1 Inspection Report

Proposal remains on Agenda to use Safe & Sound for inspections of all play areas. Other quotes to be obtained.

18 SLEAPSHYDE POND & TRIANGLE

18.1 Inspection Report.

Sign requires a repaint according to Cllr Crump.

19 GLOUCESTER PARK

No reports this time, previously raised issues noted.

20 TYTTENHANGER FIELD & PLAY AREA

Clerk mentioned the play area will need some serious attention within next year to refurbish the whole.

20.1 TYTTENHANGER HEDGES

The hedge has now been cut to a reasonable standard and just short of the bird nesting restriction time-March 1st to July 1st. DEFRA order, and heavy fine if breached. Our thanks to Charles Franklin for organising this are done, we will respond accordingly.

21 HIGHFIELD PARK & TRUST

Cllr Reeves reported a car was set on fire after being driven across the playing fields. Cllr Brazier is trying to get youth club started here under YMCA. Clerk is also keen to take advantage of John Ely invitation to have a tour of the facilities.

22 HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

22.Parish Paths Partnership (P3 Agreement)

Clerk needs to discuss next year work plan with Cllr Brazier-P3 and get available grant money. CMS sending a form to office for our f/path jobs to do and completion. Park Corner fencing and a new stile on the path off the common were previously mentioned items. There is a timescale on this issue with our response in by April.

22.1 Public and Community Transport

Cllr Corley reported on the Community Bus, the service was continuing on Fridays to Hatfield ASDA and a new driver had come forward. Unfortunately the bus was not available on a recent occasion at the last minute, helpers ferried the passengers by car. Recent issues with the 304 service with busses not turning up or leaving passengers in the village without a bus service according to the timetable had prompted Cllr Corley to contact Mr D Neilan for a supply of complaint forms against the operator.

22.3 Disabled Access to Countryside

Cllr Brazier has ideas for this project and has requested it be kept on agenda.

23.4 General Highway matters-(Area 52 the Colneys)

Cllr Henchley said he is frustrated with the inaction of the officers from Highways Partnership none of the work had been done as promised nor seemingly will it be done. The Joint Member Panel Meeting Report 31st January 2006 SCADC copied to him by the Clerk showed that fact. Other than some works to Coursers Road was scheduled for 2006-7. However now he sought the member's approval to send a letter of complaint to the Head of Highways Partnership Vince Gilbert at WGC HQ. This was readily supported by members and the Clerk is now to arrange with Cllr Henchley to meet at his home and construct a letter.

Other matters included the invitation from Jim Beanie Parks/Green Spaces Manager at SCADC to view the council software version of mowing-weeding and gully maintenance, on the 11th April (Community Services) The recent Highways work schedules were circulated to Cllr Henchley and unfortunately it does not include any work to our village as expected on re-surfacing the High Street or Colney Heath Lane.

Verge Parking-Colney Heath

Members discussed the issues raised by the letter sent from Brian Peers Technical Services about restrictions. The Clerk is to return the maps with details added

Long About

Cllr Henchley had nothing to add on this.

24 VILLAGE HALL (COUNCIL OWNED BUILDING)

The Clerk reported that he had completed the transfer of the insurance included in the council policy and we will be sending an invoice for 90% of the value to VHMC

25 CHARLES MORRIS HALL (TRUSTEE BUILDING)

Application for Grant Aid Refurbishment of Play area-an earlier letter from the management committee. All play equipment is being reconsidered. We should wait until the safety inspection is carried out by ROSPA. *Decision remains deferred.*

26 OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

No reports from the list noted in the agenda.

St Albans & District Access Group

No reports the Chairman moved on

27 ST ALBANS & DISTRICT COUNCIL MINUTES AND DIARY

With no reports from the list the Chairman moved matters on.

28 OPERATIONAL MATTERS-STAFF & OFFICE

28.1 Risk Assessments

This matter is with Clerk needing a full review of policy and to purchase software and appropriate data-searching for suitable software.

28.2 Staff and New Pay Scales-NALC & SLCC

The Clerk said that we had openly debated all of the issues apart from the new pay scales and upgraded scale points (National Agreements) for the Clerk and Assistant Clerk, these could be deferred to Part II at a later meeting if they can be dealt with by start of next Parish Year.

28.3 Notice Boards and Bus Shelters

The notice board destined for Highfield area is awaiting a permission letter-Cllr Brazier arranging. Highfield Trust to state position. Cllr Corley has made a plea for a bus shelter to be considered for the Grange area, Hall Gardens stop. It is a very cold spot in the winter months for the elderly residents waiting for the bus. Clerk to get prices of suitable shelters. We do not have this in the budget, will HCC give a grant.

28.4 Warden Training

Date to be arranged-matter ongoing

28.5 Twining 50th Anniversary

A visit to France is planned for May 2006 the application is also noted for Grant Aid normally paid in May if finally approved by the members for 2006-7.

Friendship Meeting SCADC

Cllr Clarke advised attending the meeting on 6th February in his capacity as a District Councillor.

28.6 Closed and Open Graveyard Groundsman/Keeper

The Clerk is to interview an applicant with Dennis Horner on Tuesday 21st March at the office, none of the members wished to join the panel, it be left to the Clerk and Church representative to deal with.

29 St Albans Festival

We have replied to the invitation as to not taking part this time.

30 Peggys Path-Dedication Ceremony

It may not be possible to link the Mayoral event with the dedication of the path, Kim has been trying to arrange with CVS but there is some need to obtain an executive decision within the arrangements of the Mayors secretary. Cllr Brazier is keen to keep it on a slightly low key situation in view of the difficulties in tying the two events together at opposite ends of the town and limited Mr Mayor's time on the day.

Voluntary Litter Pick

Cllr's Crump and Day agreed to do a litter pick in/by the area of the path prior to the event, the Clerk suggested that they liaise with Cllr Brazier to the exact date not yet finalised. Meanwhile the office will deliver a supply of refuse sacks to Cllr Crump, and arrange with Mr Paxton to collect once filled up if notified to the office by e-mail.

COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS-AT THE INVITATION OF THE CHAIR

There were no other questions raised.

Previous meeting Feb 9th:-

Cllr Rump asked the Clerk to look into a request from Highfield Hall to fence an area prone to depositing rubbish-letter from Secretary;-Clerk to look into this request

CORRESPONDANCE

Large Tree Nuisance-Resident Hall Gardens

A letter from Mrs D Mead asking for some clarification and action to serve some kind of procedure on a resident in Meadway to remove or reduce what might be considered a dangerous or nuisance tree. (Damaging risk to foundations, leaf fall, sap or insects.) The Clerk had been and observed the tree and suggest finding out if this is in the garden of adjacent rented property or private house and if the landlord be approached. It is also blocking the light from homes in Hall Gardens. The Willow has obviously suffered from years of lack of maintenance or pollarding; it is high in relation to its setting with wide trunk and can be susceptible to splitting for no reason. Nearby residents should seek justification for the trees to be properly maintained by calling in the D/Council tree officer or independent advisor such as an arboriculture expert. In order to obtain some urgency for some tree pollarding or be crowned and reduced in height significantly to say 5 meters so as to restore light to nearby houses. This overgrown tree is not in an open space area but a residential cul-de-sac along side a boundary fence. Nor does it have amenity value. It is also quite necessary to seek more acceptable maintenance agreement for future years that has clearly been lacking to date from the landlord. The potential risk from falling branches or wood is always apparent in this type of situation and belays a hidden risk to any children playing nearby. The tree is unlikely to be under a TPO certificate and so works should not be subject to planning rules or constraints. Common Willow is not a specimen tree. In conclusion there is no reason why it should be left uncontrolled to gain more height or growth in this position in a residential area.

Colne Catchments Abstraction Management Strategy.

Letter 27/02/06 circulated to Cllr Rump and Cllr Brazier regarding the stakeholder group meeting that was held on 9th February. Next meeting is on 27th April 2006. The document is available to other members please request from office.

Upper Colne Valley Pressure Group

A letter from LCPC Clerk inviting our participation in forming a committee to get the attention focused on the Colne, Ver and Ellenbrook rivers running through our area. Clerk to send response.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.10 pm

John Dean

Clerk to the Council

20th March 2006

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Morley

Colney Heath Parish Council Meeting-9th MARCH 2006 PART II

1. Apologies, Declarations & Announcements.
2. Approval of minutes of Part II on 7th July 2005 and 1st December 2005 (Formality)
3. Matters arising from the Minutes
4. Business as follows:-

P2-01-06 Chairman for next Parish Year-2006-7

Members have agreed that the position of Chairman for 2006-7 is Cllr M Corley and Vice Chair Cllr S Hall, this to take place after the ASM in May. The original choice of Chairman- Cllr Hall who being longer serving was regrettably declined this year due to personal and family reasons. He is to consider skipping a year and offering his name next time for Chair.

Records dug up by the Clerk in March 1987 according to archives the choice of a Chairman is arrived at by choosing from each of the two-Wards-Hillend and Colney Heath alternates each year. The Chair serves one year as Vice Chair then progress to Chairman the year following

Clerk presented some ideas for member's consideration and notes to take away and consider, if acceptable in this format the new style will begin after May 2006.

P2-03-06 Staff Engagement –Graveyard Keeper

Clerk advised the applicant was Mr Tony Bralant who lives in St Albans

P2-04-06 Annual Parish Meeting-6th April 2006 CMH

The Chairman is to speak with the Clerk prior top the event

P2-07-05 Parish Office & Staff-new Salary Scales

This matter although overdue will need to be debated in part II after the APM and in May. NALC/SLCC regarding and incorporating/removal of weighting allowances into new scales.

P2-10-05 Code of Conduct Issues

Clerk advised members we may need to re do our code of conduct.

There being no other business this part of the meeting closed at 10.25 pm

John Dean-

Clerk to Colney Heath Parish Council-

20th March 2006