

CHAPPEL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Chappel Parish Council held commencing
at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 9 August 2006 at The Village Hall, Colchester Road, Chappel

In the Chair: Cllr. Mrs. S. Chamley.
Present: Cllrs: Dr. K. Baker, Mr. R. Belcham, Mr. T. Crozier, & Mr. P. Neubauer.
Clerk: Mr. K. Butcher.
Also Present CBC Cllr. Peter Chillingworth, and six members of the public.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting a question was asked regarding the status of the Clerk. Cllr. Chamley gave a short resume of the circumstances surrounding the appointment of the Clerk and his current working arrangements.

06/97 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Chairman welcomed all present to the meeting.

Apologies received from:
Councillor Nick Ingram. (Holiday)
Councillor. Chris Cordingley. (Unwell)

06/98 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. Belcham declared an interest in Agenda Item 06/103. – Planning application.

06/99 TO APPROVE, AND AUTHORISE THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN, THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12 JULY 2006

The minutes were discussed.

RESOLUTION 48/06: THAT THE CHAIRMAN SHOULD SIGN THE MINUTES AS BEING A CORRECT RECORD OF THE JULY MEETING.

Proposed: Cllr. Belcham. Seconded: Cllr. Neubauer. For 3. Against 2.

Cllr. Baker submitted a minority report on the minutes which were accepted by the Clerk, and signed for, at the close of the meeting.

06/100 CHAIRMAN'S BRIEFING

The travellers had now vacated the children's play area and it had been left in a cleaner condition than the site occupied in 2005. The site had been visited by the Mr. Colin Daines both during and after the occupation.

A pedestrian had been struck by the mirror of a motor-home whilst walking along the A1124. The police had been informed and an incident number issued. Jonathan Cordingley had subsequently cut back the foliage and the path could now be walked in a safer fashion. Street Services had previously been contacted and improvements to the walking surface were hoped for.

Chappel Parish Council had been successful with a grant application at the recent Clerks Forum and had been awarded the full sum requested of £20,430 to go towards the costs of replacing the play equipment. The name of the Chair of the Clerks Forum was requested – Margaret Kimberley.

06/101 CORRESPONDENCE

Clerk confirmed that details of all correspondence received up until the 5th August had been circulated. A late planning application for Bacons Farm – Agricultural Building, had been received. It was agreed that any concerns would be notified to the Clerk, and a meeting called if needed.

Questions were asked following a letter that had been received from the Internal Auditor regarding a communication sent by a Councillor which it was felt brought both the Council and some Councillors into disrepute, and questioned the integrity of several Councillors and the Clerk. It was suggested that the matter be considered at a private meeting but this proved impossible to organise and so it was agreed that the matter should be referred to the Standards Board for consideration.

The public were excluded for much of this discussion – from 8.15 p.m. until 8.50 p.m.

In view of the time it was agreed by all present to take Agenda items out of order.

06/103 PLANNING MATTERS

The Clerk reminded Councillors that the planning application for Ashwood Lodge had gone to appeal.

Cllr. Belcham left the room whilst application F/COL/06/1225 -demolish chimney and rebuild at The Old Post Office and Haskins was considered. – no concerns were expressed.

It was noted that application F/COL/06/0148 – Mr/Mrs Martin, Toad Hall, Colchester Road. Demolish existing building and erection of detached building had been approved with twelve conditions.

An outline planning application – O/COL/06/0148 – erection of one dwelling and garage on land adjacent to Duntisbourne was considered. It was decided that there were no formal objections but it should be ensured that all neighbours to the proposed building should be contacted and informed that if they had objections it was important that they write to Colchester Borough Council.

Meeting suspended

06/105 PUBLIC FORUM

Various issues were discussed:

The Football Field.

A road traffic accident near Bridgewick Hall and the possibility of getting the speed limit reduced to twenty miles per hour.

The introduction and placing of “Speed Roundels”

The state of repair of the rails to the bridge near the Swan P H.

06/104 CBC/ECC COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Borough Cllr Peter Chillingworth praised the Council for the way in which the "invasion" by travellers was handled. Council was informed of a forthcoming meeting of the newly formed "Neighbourhood Action Panel" and encouraged Chappel PC to send a representative. Cllr. Baker distributed a report regarding a meeting of the Neighbourhood Watch Group.

Meeting restarted.

06/102 FINANCE REPORT

The Clerk presented accounts for payment:

John Turner, Internal Auditor, account for Audit work - £217 – 00

Mrs. E. C. Wilson, Village Ranger - £112 – 00.

RESOLUTION 49/06: THAT THE PRESENTED ACCOUNTS BE APPROVED FOR PAYMENT.

Proposed Cllr. Belcham Seconded Cllr. Crozier. For : All.

The Clerk presented a "Budget Burn Out" report for the first four months of the financial year.

06/106 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

No questions had been received.

In view of the lateness of the hour it was agreed that not all items remaining on the Agenda would be dealt with, some items being deferred to the September meeting.

06/108 TO REQUEST THAT EDF ENERGY CONSIDER PLACING THEIR HIGH TENSION CABLES UNDERGROUND BETWEEN PATTOCKS FARM AND THE CENETERY, SWAN LANE.

It was agreed that a letter be constructed by Cllr. Crozier and sent to the Clerk for processing.

RESOLUTION 50/06 THAT A LETTER BE SENT TO EDF ENERGY REGARDING THE REROUTING OF POWER CABLES IN SWAN LANE.

Proposed: Cllr. Crozier Seconded: Cllr. R. Belcham For: All.

06/110 FOOTPATH REPORT AND TO CONFIRM DECISIONS TAKEN AT MEETING WITH ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL P3 REPRESENTATIVES ON 1ST AUGUST 2006.

Cllr. Baker introduced the agenda item and gave a brief history of the P3 scheme. Cllr. Baker distributed a document purporting to be the minutes of the recent P3 meeting. The clerk also provided copies of minutes for the same meeting and challenged the validity of the minutes supplied by Cllr. Baker. Cllr. Baker claimed to have overheard a conversation between the Clerk and an official of P3 in which the Clerk suggested he would be unable to produce adequate minutes and Cllr. Baker had therefore produce minutes. Cllr. Baker claimed that these had been subsequently produced, submitted to the P3 scheme and accepted. The Clerk explained that his minutes had been officially approved by the P3 officials.

RESOLUTION 51/06 THAT THE CLERKS MINUTES OF THE P3 MEETING HELD ON 1ST AUGUST 2006 BE ACCEPTED AS CORRECT ANDD THE DECISIONS THEREIN BE TAKEN AS BINDING UPON CHAPPEL PARISH COUNCIL

Proposed: Cllr. Belcham. Seconded: Cllr. Crozier. For: All.

06/109 TO SEEK QUOTATIONS FOR PROPOSED REFURBISHMENT WORKS TO ALLOTMENTS.

Cllr. Neubauer gave a brief history of the allotment and a current position statement. Discussion over gates to the site and the possible existence and location of usable water boreholes took place.

RESOLUTION 51/06 THAT QUOTATIONS BE SOUGHT FOR ALL EIGHT ITEMS, AS LISTED IN THE AGENDA ITEM REPORT, BE OBTAINED.

Proposed: Cllr. Belcham. Seconded: Cllr. Crozier. For: All

06/111 TO CONSIDER THE INTRODUCTION OF A CHAPPEL PARISH COUNCIL “BULLETIN”.

Discussion of the proposed editorial content, the editorial team and the frequency of publication took place. Alternatives were discussed. It was stated that the bulletin was to be wholly factual.

RESOLUTION 52/06 THAT A BULLETIN, EDITED BY THE CLERK AND CPC WEB MANAGER, BE PROPOSED ON AN OCCASIONAL BASIS.

Propose: Cllr. Neubauer. Seconded: Cllr. Belcham. For: 4 Abstentions: 1.

The meeting closed at 10.22 p.m.

The next meeting of Chappel Parish Council will be on September 13th at 7.30 p.m.

Signed

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