

CHAPPEL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Chappel Parish Council held commencing
at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 13th September 2006 at The Village Hall, Colchester Road, Chappel

In the Chair: Cllr. Mrs. S. Chamley.
Present: Cllrs: Mr. R. Belcham, C. Cordingley, Mr. T. Crozier, N. Ingram, & Mr. P. Neubauer.
Clerk: Mr. K. Butcher.
Also Present Five members of the public.

06/112 WELCOME & APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr. Dr. Baker – Away
Cllr. P. Chillingworth – unwell.

Councillors were saddened to learn that Mr. Don. Clarke, a former Clerk to the Council, had passed away on the morning of the meeting.

06/113 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr. Cordingley declared an interest in Agenda item 6/119 (Planning application for his home).

06/114 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – EXTRAORDINARY MEETING – 4TH SEPTEMBER.

The incorrect date given for the meeting was noted and amended to read 4th September. The minutes were then approved.

RESOLUTION 56/06 THAT THE CHAIRMAN SHOULD SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 4TH SEPTEMBER AS BEING A TRUE RECORD.

Proposed. Cllr. Neubauer. Seconded. Cllr. Cordingley. For. All.

06/115 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – AUGUST MEETING.

The minutes were considered and approved.

RESOLUTION 57/06 THAT THE CHAIRMAN SHOULD SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9TH AUGUST AS BEING A TRUE RECORD.

Proposed. Cllr. Belcham. Seconded. Cllr. Neubauer. For. All.

06/116 CHAIRMAN'S BRIEFING

Road resurfacing and path improvement works were being undertaken on the main road. The meeting had not been informed of the intended extent of the works. It was noted that the rails to the bridge near the Swan P.H. had still not been repaired. Cllr. Chamley agreed to “chase” this item. The placement of Roundels on various roads within the Parish are to confirmed with ECC Highways and Wakes Colne P.C.

06/117 CORRESPONDENCE

A letter had been received from Cllr. Crozier regarding concerns over the appearance of skips at a property in Popes Lane.. It was agreed that Cllr. Crozier would monitor the situation.

An e-mail had been received from Cllr. Cordingley regarding a blocked ditch in Vernons Road that sometimes caused flooding of the highway. Cllr. Cordingley informed the meeting that he had written to Essex County Council Highways Dept..

Cllr. Chamley informed the meeting that a letter had been received from D Green regarding the Village Hall floor. It was in need of replacement and fund-raising efforts were underway.

The Clerk distributed various questionnaires to Councillors that required consideration and possible completion and return to senders.

06/118 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

Invoices received to be approved for payment::

Environment Agency. Outfall approval fee. £50. (retrospective approval).

Village Ranger. 18 hours work at approved rate.

Clerk. Three months salary (July – September) at approved rate.

Playsafety Ltd. RoSPA Report Invoice £81 . 08

Mortimer. Invoice re Tree Butts. £50.

Guildhall Services – three roadside cuts £123.37

EALC Training Fee – Chairman’s Course £50.

RESOLUTION 58/06 THAT THE INVOICES PRESENTED TO THE MEETING BE APPROVED FOR PAYMENT.

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

A report was presented by the Clerk regarding recent banking activities and current balances at the Bank. It was noted that a previously approved cheque (Number 008) in favour of JMC Fencing had not been issued as the specification for the work had been changed . It was agreed that a new cheque in the sum of £1085 be issued and the previous cheque (£1505) be cancelled.

RESOLUTION 59/06 THAT THE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED CHEQUE IN FAVOUR OF JMC FENCING BE CANCELLED AND A NEW CHEQUE TO THE LESSER VALUE OF £1085 BE ISSUED.

Proposed: Cllr. Ingram. Seconded: Cllr. Cordingley. For: All

06/119 PLANNING MATTERS:

Planning application F/COL/06/1381 Mr/Mrs Cordingley, 1 Fairview, Vernons Road . Two storey rear extension. Cllr. Cordingley left the room while this application was considered. No concerns were expressed.

Outline Planning Application O/COL/06/1274 - Mr. Chamley, Bacons Farm, Bacons Lane for General Agricultural Building. The Clerk had received no further correspondence regarding this application.

06/120 CBC/ECC COUNCILLOR’S AND POLICE REPORTS

No reports were presented.

06/121 PUBLIC FORUM

(meeting suspended to enable members of the public to address the Council)

The meeting was informed that the War Memorial was in need of cleaning. Cllr. Chamley offered to organise the cleaning.

The meeting was further informed that power lines across the Village Field had now been re-laid sub-surface by EDF.

06/122 MEMBER'S QUESTIONS (MEETING RESTARTS).

(7 clear days notice in writing to Chairman)

Cllr. Crozier. What is the progress on the Audit Trail strongly recommended by NALC in view of the residual financial responsibility held by the Parish Councillors for the Millennium Green? The meeting was informed that several requests had been made to Lubbock Fine regarding costs but no response had yet been received. The question of residual financial responsibility was discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk should investigate the matter, and also inspect the Council's financial records regarding the purchase of the Millennium Green.

Cllr. Crozier. What is the progress on determining ownership of the Village Green? It was stated that Mr. Harvey claims ownership of VG 113 and that he is willing to have the deeds inspected with costs accruing to the Council. Whether Village Greens could be in private ownership was questioned and evidence to support the claim that they could was produced. It was suggested that VG113 might be a more suitable site for placing the play equipment than the Leving land but it was pointed out that there could be many impediments to implementing such a move. Discussion over the status of the footpath/track/highway that runs over VG113 ensued. The Clerk quoted from a ruling in an appeal case – Goodey v. Everett, 1880, in which the VG was described as being “an enclosed field and part of a farm, with a highway running through it”. It was agreed that the Clerk would furnish Cllr. Crozier with a transcript of the judgement.

06/123 TO ADOPT THE MODEL GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE (PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED), DULY AMENDED, AS THE CHAPPEL PARISH COUNCIL GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE.

The document was considered in some detail and further amendments proposed. It was agreed that the amended document would be circulated to all Councillors, to be reconsidered for adoption at the next meeting. It was further agreed that Cllr. Chamley would contact EALC for advice on the need for a Parish council to have such a document.

06/124 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE CHAPPEL PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE – HOME PAGE LAYOUT.

Three possible styles for the Website were considered and option three was agreed for adoption.

RESOLUTION 60/06 THAT OPTION THREE OF THOSE PRESENTED BE ACCEPTED AS THE PREFERRED DESIGN FOR THE CHAPPEL WEBSITE HOME PAGE.

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

MATTER ARISING FROM AGENDA ITEM 06/118 AND RESOLUTION 59/06.

It was noted that the topography of the Football Field site meant that the fencing works originally quoted for could not be completed to a satisfactory standard. It was therefore suggested that the instructions to the contractor be suitably amended.

RESOLUTION 61/06 THAT VARIATIONS TO THE SPECIFICATION OF THE FENCING TO THE FOOTBALL FIELD, AS SUGGESTED BY THE CONTRACTOR, BE APPROVED.

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

MATTER ARISING FROM RESOLUTION 52/06.

It was suggested that a bulletin be issued regarding progress with the Football Field project, and this was agreed.

The meeting closed at 9.26 p.m.

The next meeting of Chappel Parish Council will be on Wednesday 11th October at 7.30 p.m.

Signed Date