

CHAPPEL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13th DECEMBER 2006
IN THE VILLAGE HALL, CHAPPEL AT 7.30 P.M.

In the Chair: Cllr. Mrs. S. Chamley.
Present: Cllrs. Dr. K. Baker. Mr. R. Belcham, Mr. C. Cordingley, Mr. T. Crozier, Mr. N. Ingram, Mr. P. Neubauer.
Clerk: Mr. K. Butcher.
Also Present: Cllr. P. Chillingworth and two members of the public.
(8 others attended for part of the meeting.)

06/147 WELCOME & APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. Chamley welcomed all present to the meeting.

06/148 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr. Cordingley declared an interest in item 06/152 - Parish Church – Grass cutting grant.

06/149 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 8TH.

The draft minutes were considered and it was agreed that the last two words (in future) be removed from paragraph one of item 06/139, and that the word “it” be changed to “in” on line one of item 06/143. Councillors then declared individual approval of the minutes except Cllr. Baker who abstained and passed a minority report to the Clerk.

06/150 CHAIRMAN’S BRIEFING

Boundaries of the Parish Field - copies of a report by Whirlledge and Nott, June 2001, were available. It was agreed that the matter be included on the next Agenda.

Freedom of Information Act – Cllr. Chamley confirmed that she had made enquiries and it had been confirmed that the currently adopted procedures were valid for at least a further two years.

Football Field Boundary – Mr. Nicholas Percival had offered to assist in determining the exact boundaries and it is hoped that the work involved will be completed in January.

There had been various recent events:

Barn dance.

Village “Clean-up” morning.

Church tea party.

Village Appraisal Meeting (About 60 Villagers attended)

The railings to the bridge near “The Swan” P. H. had been repaired.

Various “Diary Dates” were announced.

06/151 CORRESPONDENCE

Details of Parish Council Mail received by the Clerk had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Clerk drew attention to various items including information received from “Just Lamps” regarding street lighting, from “Age Concern” detailing services available to the elderly, and the copy of the Register of Interests as received from the Monitoring Officer. The Clerk did not put this on public display as it contained personal details of former Councillors.

06/152 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

After discussion of each item it was decided that:

Invoices received be approved for payment:

Chappel and Wakes Colne Village Hall – grant request - £500. (£500 balance subject to future discussion.) Room hire invoice - £36. Total £536.

Bond Contracts – FF levelling/reseeding - £15000 + VAT £2625 = £17625.

Rural Community Council of Essex - Membership renewal - £35.

Parish Church – Grass cutting grant - £513.

EALC White Paper Conference fee - £20. Standards Presentation fee - £5. Total £25.

Village Ranger. 16 hours work at approved rate.

John Mitchell – Fencing - £265.

John Turner – Auditor fee (letter) - £20.

The following invoices were approved for conditional payment:

Just Lamps UK Ltd – Repair of street lamp - £69.40 + VAT £12.15 = £81.55 (Repair to be effective.)

Proludic – supply and installation of play equipment - £ 20 376 + VAT £ 3 565.80 = £ 23 941.80 (Delivery of equipment.)

RESOLUTION 67/06 THAT THE INVOICES AS DETAILED ABOVE BE APPROVED FOR PAYMENT SUBJECT TO ANY CONDITIONS SET BEING MET.

Proposed Cllr. Belcham. Seconded: Cllr.Chamley.

For: 6 Against: 0 Abstain: 1 - Cllr Cordingley (Declared interest.)

Letters requesting financial support had been received from the C&WC Cricket Club and the coordinator of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. After discussion it was agreed that reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred in promoting the NWS would be considered. A decision regarding the Cricket Club was deferred until the next Joint Parish Council Meeting.

A draft Budget was presented by the Clerk. It was decided that Councillors would consider the document and make a decision at the January meeting.

06/153 PLANNING MATTERS:

F/COL/06/1839 Mr and Mrs Chamley, Bacons Farm, Bacons Lane – Proposed car port, garage and workshop. Cllr. Chamley declared an interest in this item and left the room for the entirety of the discussion. Cllr. Neubauer took the chair. It was decided that there were no objections to the application as long as all affected neighbours were well informed. Cllr. Baker suggested that the matter would be “called in” for full committee consideration.

Cllr. Chamley returned and retook the chair.

F/COL/06/1925 – Mrs. R. Yardley, Pattaya, Colchester Road. – Double detached garage. It was decided that there were no objections to the application as long as all affected neighbours were well informed.

F/COL/06/1895 – Mr./Mrs. Roberts, Glen Riding, Swan Street. Single storey extension and dormers to front slope of roof over garage. It was decided that there were no objections to the application as long as all affected neighbours were well informed.

The Clerk informed the meeting of two recent planning decisions:

O/COL/06/1274 – Mr. Chamley, Bacons Farm, General Agricultural Building – Refused Permission.

C/COL/06/1637 – Mr./Mrs. Walker, Viaduct Lodge, Change of use of paddock to garden - approved with 4 conditions.

The meeting was suspended at this point to allow public participation.

06/154 CBC/ECC COUNCILLOR'S AND POLICE REPORTS

CBC Councillor Peter Chillingworth reported on recent activities of the Neighbourhood Action Panel and encouraged Councillors to attend the next meeting to be held on 1st February.

Details of the recently approved Western By-Pass for Colchester, and the associated housing development were given.

06/155 PUBLIC FORUM

Representatives of the Chappel and Wakes Colne Football Club were in attendance and enquired about the possible provision of changing facilities for players. It was agreed that the matter should be placed on the January Agenda.

The meeting restarted at this point.

The meeting was temporarily suspended by the Clerk while Cllr. Baker was absent from the room (9.32 – 9.33)

06/156 MEMBER'S QUESTIONS

Cllr. Baker asked “In view of the various petitions and letters emanating from public interest/concern including those on the Woodland project 2003, purchase of football field and refurbishment 2005/6, vehicular access over the Playinge Place 2004/6 and siting of the play equipment on land without deeds or title 2005/6, would this present council, 13.12.2006, confirm its position as to whether or not it supports the populist view/vote on these issues irrespective of any legal issues involved.”

Cllr. Chamley answered saying that the Council was bound by the Nolan Principles, copies of which were circulated, and always worked to the highest standards as a corporate body. She further explained that the “populist view/vote” could not readily be determined and therefore the question, as set, could not be answered.

Cllr. Baker then asked “Could the Chairman please arrange for the Register of Member's interests, as recorded with the monitoring officer, to be tabled for view on the 13.12.2006. A copy of the required had been provided by the Monitoring Officer and was available for inspection but had not placed on public display as some personal details of former Councillors were included.

Cllr. Crozier asked “May Members be brought up to date on progress with the allotments please?”

Cllr. Chamley responded saying that it was intended to a “clear-up” session for the allotment site in 2007. Cllr. Neubauer added that it was also intended that quotations for undertaking various works for the site would be sought soon in the New Year.

06/157 UPDATE ON PLAY EQUIPMENT, SUBMISSION OF FUNDING APPLICATION FORMS, AND BULLETIN.

Cllr. Ingram reported that the “Junior” replacement play equipment was now ordered. A decision on an application for a grant of £10000 to Cory had been postponed pending further information. It is intended that a further application for a grant of £5000 be submitted to the Essex Community Foundation.

The Clerk agreed to circulate financial details of the play equipment project to Councillors.

It was agreed that a bulletin be prepared and distributed regarding the replacement of the play equipment

RESOLUTION 68/06 THAT AN APPLICATION BE SUBMITTED TO THE ESSEX COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR SUPPORT TOWARDS THE PROVISION OF PLAY EQUIPMENT. THAT A LEAFLET BE DISTRIBUTED REGARDING THE REPLACEMENT OF THE PLAY EQUIPMENT.

Proposed: Cllr. Ingram Seconded: Cllr. Belcham

For: 5 Against: 0 Abstained; 2 (Cllr. Baker and Cllr. Crozier)

06/158 VIADUCT POND

Cllr. Ingram informed the meeting that progress with the return of responsibility for the Viaduct Pond to Network Rail was frustratingly slow and suggested that an alternative action might be to pass responsibility to the Essex Wildlife Trust. Cllr. Chamley informed the meeting that her many attempts to make contact with Network Rail had been fruitless. It was agreed that Cllr. Baker would pass any contact details she held to Cllr. Chamley in the hope that a useful dialogue might be established. It was agreed that Cllr. Ingram should send a letter to the Essex Wildlife Trust.

06/159 REVISED QUOTE FENCING BETWEEN FOOTBALL FIELD AND VIADUCT

Cllr. Ingram informed the meeting that following the work to the football field it was probably more susceptible to occupation than before and suggested the installation of a post and rail fence to the side of the field closest to the viaduct. An estimate in the sum of £660 had been obtained.

RESOLUTION 69/06 THAT AN ESTIMATE FOR INSTALLING A POST AND RAIL FENCE BETWEEN THE VIADUCT AND THE FOOTBALL FIELD, IN THE SUM OF £660, BE APPROVED .

Proposed: Cllr. Ingram Seconded: Cllr. Belcham.

For: All.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 10.07.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 10TH JANUARY 2007.

SIGNED CHAIRMANDATE