

# CHAPPEL PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2011 IN THE VILLAGE HALL, AT 7.30 P.M.

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IN THE CHAIR:            **CLLR. S. CHAMLEY.**  
PRESENT:                **CLLRS. A. LANGLEY, P. NEUBAUER, C. CORDINGLEY, R. BELCHAM AND R. JONES.**  
CLERK:                 **MRS. V. BURROWS.**  
ALSO PRESENT:        **CLLRS. P. CHILLINGWORTH AND A. BROWN. ONE MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC.**  
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### **11/001: Welcome and Apologies for Absence.**

Cllr. Chamley welcomed everybody to the meeting. Apologies had been received from Cllr. H. Leftley

**THE FORMAL COUNCIL MEETING WAS SUSPENDED AT 7.32 P.M. TO ALLOW:**

### **11/002: Public Forum.**

A member of the public asked why had a planning application that had been 'called in' to the planning committee been decided on without the committee attending a site visit. Cllr. Chillingworth explained that this was his decision and it was due to the severe weather conditions that were experienced before Christmas time. A decision had been made to decide that outcome of the application with the information submitted. The planning officer's recommendation was for approval so the committee and Cllr. Chillingworth felt there was no need to postpone the application further.

**Cllr. Chamley asked Council if they would consider moving two items on the agenda forward. This would then enable Cllr. Anne Brown to speak and then move on to her next meeting. Item 11/012 and 11/014 were brought forward.**

**THE FORMAL COUNCIL MEETING WAS RE-OPENED AT 7.40 P.M. TO ALLOW:**

### **11/012: Road Bridge Update.**

It was reported that the Village Shop was suffering very badly due to the bridge repairs. Cllr. Anne Brown had spoken to Mr Eaton from the Village Shop and since September when the bridge repairs started, it was estimated that their takings were down by £6,000. On top of that, the Swan Pub was also concerned that his takings were also down by 60% for the period. Cllr. Brown suggested that she contacts County Hall and look to find out how much longer the project has to run and get clarification of the problems and delays. Also, she suggested they find out what forms of compensation if any, can be secured for the Pub and Village Shop. It was agreed the Clerk would chase up Danny Jennings as she had already sent him an e-mail and it was requested that this item be on the Agenda for February.

### **11/014: Village Green Update**

Cllr. Chamley updated the members on the unfortunate events of the last couple of weeks that had occurred on the Village Green. Several large vehicles had ignored the road closure signs and managed to get down as far as the Pub in the hope of getting to Sudbury. On finding out that the bridge was actually closed they then had to negotiate turning the vehicle round and heading out the Village back the way they came. Whilst turning the large vehicles round they churned up the Village Green to the point where it is very badly damaged. Over the years' it has been discussed that the Parish Council would get permission from Essex County Council to put bollards of some sort along the Village Green so to stop incidents like the large vehicles turning round and cars parking on the

green. Cllr. Anne Brown suggested the Parish Council gets a list of questions ready to ask regarding the Village Green, also it was recommended that Highways and the Community Police get involved so everybody was committed to sorting this issue out once and for all.

**THE FORMAL COUNCIL MEETING WAS SUSPENDED AT 8.00 P.M. TO ALLOW:**

**11/003: Colchester Borough Council Councillor.**

Cllr. Chillingworth reported on the following issues:

- ❖ Cllr. Chillingworth was pleased to report that Colchester Borough Council had achieved over 98% of refuse collections over the festive period and during the bad weather. It was also encouraging that the Government were considering advising Councils to return to weekly collections.
- ❖ Open spaces and Section 106 money was under scrutiny. It was reported that currently this money was not being used for the purpose it was intended and Ward Councillors had been asked to identify specific project within their wards which would be suitable. It was suggested that the Village Green and playing field would be a perfect project.
- ❖ Free Trees. This was again being run by Colchester Borough Council and it was open to many organisations, it was suggested that if anybody was going to attend they needed to get there early as last year they ran out of trees.

Cllr. Neubauer asked a question to Cllr. Chillingworth about Highways and the state of their repair. The Clerk advised that she had been in touch with the highways department and there had been a major re-organisation and most if not all of the personnel known to the Parish Council had been made redundant or move departments. The Clerk advised that you now needed to contact a main switchboard number and they would deal with your complaint / request. Cllr. Neubauer also mentioned the salt bins and the fact that they were empty and it was confirmed that some of the salt bins in Chappel had been filled up within the last three days.

**THE FORMAL COUNCIL MEETING WAS RE-OPENED AT 8.20 P.M. TO ALLOW:**

**11/004: Declarations of Interests.**

None

**11/005: Confirmation of Minutes – meeting held 8<sup>th</sup> December 2010.**

Draft minutes of the meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2010 had been circulated prior to the meeting. All agreed that these were a true record of the meeting.

***Resolution: 11/001. That the draft minutes that had been circulated prior to the meeting be approved as being a true record of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2010.***

***Proposed: Cllr. Langley. Seconded: Cllr. Neubauer. For: 4. Abstain: 2.***

**11/006: Chairman's Briefing.**

A briefing had been circulated this month by Cllr. Chamley and she spoke briefly on some of the topics all other matters were discussed under the agenda items.

**11/007: Correspondence.**

All mail received was on public display and the Clerk had e-mailed information throughout the month.

**11/008: Financial Matters.**

1) **Funds Received:** None.

2) **2 invoices were for consideration:**

- ❖ V Burrows. Clerk's salary & expenses at agreed rate, 13.5 hrs worked from 4<sup>th</sup> Dec to 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2011.
- ❖ Village Ranger: 12 hours at usual rate for December.

***Resolution: 11/002. That all of the invoices as detailed above be approved for immediate payment.***

***Proposed: Cllr. Neubauer. Seconded: Cllr. Chamley. For: All.***

**3) Monthly budget review:** The clerk explained that currently the Council were running below budget, all agreed in the current climate this was an excellent achievement.

**11/009: Planning Matters.**

**Application No: 102655.** Westering, Swan Street, Colchester, CO6 2EEA. Single Storey rear extension and internal remodelling, removal of 1no chimney stack, relocation of oil tank, decking area to rear, alteration of front entrance door and bedroom window to the front elevation and the insertion of a sun tube into the existing. The application was discussed in full and the members asked the Clerk to submit comments with no concerns beyond wishing that any neighbour was also content with the proposal.

**11/010: Member's Questions.**

No questions were received.

**TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS / CLERK:**

**11/011: Allotment Contracts, Rent and Installation of Water.**

The Parish Council spoke at length about the allotments and the contracts. It was agreed that 2 copies of the contract and a covering letter be drawn up for each plot, once this had been done then the Clerk would raise an invoice and they could all be sent together. Also, the Council agreed that January 1<sup>st</sup> was a good time to renew the contracts. Cllr. Neubauer updated the members on the installation of the water and it was agreed that the water should be connected before the start of the spring.

**Resolution: 11/003. That after further consideration Chappel Parish Council agreed that letters and contracts be sent out to the current allotments holders with the 1<sup>st</sup> January as the revised contract renewal date, an invoice would accompany the contract and terms would be 30 days.**

**Proposed: Cllr. Belcham. Seconded: Cllr. Cordingley. For: All.**

**11/013: Guildhall Services – Consideration of Grass Cutting Service.**

The Council members discussed the grass-cutting contract in depth and agreed that two councillors would look at the contact and the service that the Parish Council was expecting and report back next month.

**11/015: Minerals and Development Consultation – Comments.**

The Council discussed that if any member on an individual basis would like to make comments they may do so but the Parish Council had no comments to make at the time.

**11/016: Essex Local Transport Plan Consultation – Comments.**

Again, the Council suggested that if any member on an individual basis would like to make comments they may do so but the Parish Council had no comments to make at the time.

**11/017: Future Agenda Items / Speaker.**

Bollards – Update  
Street Lighting  
Bridge Update

The meeting closed at 9.13 p.m.  
Date of next meeting – 9<sup>th</sup> February 2011

**Signed Chairman:**

**Date: 9<sup>th</sup> February 2011**