

CHAPPEL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9TH MARCH 2011 IN THE VILLAGE HALL, AT 7.30 P.M.

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: CLLR. P. CHILLINGWORTH, CLLR. J. TAYLOR FROM WAKES COLNE PARISH COUNCIL AND TWO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

11/035: Welcome and Apologies for Absence.

Cllr. Chamley welcomed everybody to the meeting. Apologies had been received from Cllrs. H. Leftley and A. Brown

THE FORMAL COUNCIL MEETING WAS SUSPENDED AT 7.31 P.M. TO ALLOW:

11/036: Public Forum.

A member of the public informed the Council that the football club had been disbanded. Cllr. Chamley advised that the football club had been invited to last years' Annual Assembly but no-one from the team attended. In addition, Cllr. Chamley advised that the Community Payback team had been used to keep the sports field / recreation ground tidy.

11/037: Borough and Ward Councillors Update.

Cllr. Chillingworth reported on the following issues:

- ❖ Full Council Meeting 16th February: The Parish Support Grant (PSG) was debated for over an hour to try to have the grant re-instated to the full amount and not cut by the proposed 50%. In the end, the proposal was voted down by 23 votes to 36 in favour of keeping the 50% reduction. On the plus side, this meant that to the local residents of Chappel there would be no increase in the Council Tax as all the local agencies and Colchester Borough Council had voted not to increase their part of the Council Tax, as had the Parish Council.
- ❖ Jobs Club: The manager of the Swan Pub had agreed to the use of the pub premises once a week to help get the Jobs Club off the ground. It was thought that a Jobs Club would help many of the younger people in the Village and the surrounding area. The club would offer facilities such as advice on CV writing, interview technique, where to look for jobs etc. It was considered an additional service to the Job Centre Plus and it was being advertised in the Village Reporter for the March/April edition and was hoping to get off the ground once the bridge was completed.
- ❖ Recycling bags (clear): Currently the Council has run out of these bags but a new delivery which was intended for next year was due soon. Cllr. Chillingworth advised that the Ward Councillors would now hold a quantity of recycling bags for when local residents had run out, again this was going to be advertised in the Village Reporter.

Cllr. Chamley asked that the meeting remained closed and invited Cllr. J. Taylor to update the members on the following issues:

- ❖ CALC Meeting 3rd March. Cllr. Taylor spoke briefly on the items raised at the meeting and referred us to the minutes when published. He expressed his enthusiasm for the meeting however, he admitted prior to his attendance he was a little doubtful as to how useful the meetings would be.

THE FORMAL COUNCIL MEETING WAS RE-OPENED AT 7.55 P.M. TO ALLOW:

11/038: Declarations of Interests.

Cllr. Cordingley	Personal	Item 11/049	Grass Cutting Services
Cllr. Jones	Personal and Prejudicial	Item 11/943 No: 2	Planning Application No: 110362

11/039: Confirmation of Minutes – meeting held 9th February 2011.

Draft minutes of the meeting held on the 9th February 2011 had been circulated prior to the meeting. All agreed that these were a true record of the meeting

Resolution: 11/010. That the draft minutes that had been circulated prior to the meeting be approved as being a true record of the meeting held on 9th February 2011.

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

11/040: Chairman's Briefing.

Cllr. Chamley had not circulated a briefing this month so she spoke briefly on the following topics, all other matters were discussed under the agenda items.

- ❖ Allotments: All agreements and invoices had been delivered and two cheques had been received.
- ❖ Dog Fouling: This issue had been raised in Wakes Colne and it was agreed that some of the areas in Chappel were also a problem. The Clerk requested that the Councillors e-mail with problem areas and then she would contact the Dog Warden to investigate. In addition, the Clerk advised that no funding was available at the present time for dog fouling bins however, she was asked to contact Colchester Borough Council and register our interest in obtaining some bins once funding was available.
- ❖ Annual Assembly proposed date: 25th May was the proposed date and Councillors were asked to confirm availability. Cllr. Chamley also requested Wakes Colne discuss this date and advise accordingly and then the meeting could be organised as per last year.

11/041: Correspondence.

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

11/042: Financial Matters.

For further detail see the March Payment Schedule in the minute folder.

1) Cheques for approval:

Funds received: Way-leave cheque and Allotment rents.

Five invoices were for consideration:

- ❖ V Burrows: Clerk's February salary at the normal rate.
- ❖ Office Expenses for February.
- ❖ Village Ranger: 17 hours for February at the usual rate.
- ❖ AM Forrest: Footpath maintenance
- ❖ Proludic: Play Equipment inspection.

The Clerk's pay details, the four invoices, and the cheques to be approved for payment and signed (See payment schedule) were passed around for all Councillors to examine. Cllr. Langley advised that Proludic had visited the play equipment and unfortunately the engineer had found further work, which needed to be done. It was agreed that the invoice received would not be paid until all the work was completed. Cllr. Langley was asked to obtain an updated invoice from Proludic in time for the April meeting. All other details on the invoices were correct and it was agreed to pay them in full.

Resolution: 11/011. That all the invoices and the Clerks salary with the exception of Proludic as detailed in the payment schedule be approved for immediate payment.

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

- #### **2) Monthly budget review:**
- The Clerk explained that currently the Council was running below budget, and apart from the Clerk salary, office expenses and the Ranger's invoice no further expenditure was expected in the current financial year. All agreed that in the current climate this was an excellent achievement.

11/043: Planning Matters.

- 1) **Application No: 110039.** The Orchard, Colchester Road, Chappel, CO6 2DQ. Change of use from paddock to garden. Paddock already within curtilage. Cllr. Neubauer presented this item and advised the members that other properties in the immediate area had done the same. After further discussion, the members asked the Clerk to submit comments that expressed no concerns beyond wishing that any neighbour was also content with the proposal.
- 2) **Application No: 110362.** Elm Cottage, Spring Gardens Road, Chappel, CO6 2DW. Single storey ground floor side extensions single and two-storey front extension forming two rear ground floor bay windows internal alterations new cross over. After having declared a personal and prejudicial interest Cllr. Jones made representation as members of the public are allowed to do. He then answered questions before he left the room, the remaining members discussed the application. After further discussion, the members asked the Clerk to submit comments that expressed no concerns beyond wishing that any neighbour was also content with the proposal.
- 3) **Application No: 102655.** Westering, Swan Street, Chappel, Colchester, CO6 2EE. 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. Permission Granted subject to conditions. All members had read the notice and were happy with the conditions.

11/044: Member's Questions.

No questions were received.

TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS / CLERK:

11/045: Play Equipment – Maintenance update.

Cllr. Langley presented this item, as he had been present when Proludic had carried out the maintenance inspection. He advised that all the work was carried out as per the original quote however, a couple of other items of equipment needed further attention and it was agreed that Proludic would make a further visit. Cllr. Langley asked that Andy from Tatums of Chappel be publicly thanked as he supplied the grease to lubricate some of the equipment. As discussed Proludic would be invoicing us for further parts once the work had been carried out.

11/046: Environmental Weight Restrictions for Chappel Bridge.

Cllr. Chamley asked for the member's opinion on having an Environmental Weight Restrictions for Chappel Bridge. All thought it was a good idea and it was agreed that Cllr. Chamley should write formally to Danny Jennings in the first instance. In addition, an e-mail was read out from Cllr. K. Martin from Wakes Colne asking about the same sort of restriction for Spring Gardens Road. After further discussion, Cllr. Chamley agreed to write to Cllr. Martin for further information and report back. Finally, it was agreed that once the Council had confirmation from Mr. Jennings that the consultation procedure for an Environmental Weight Restriction was underway it would write to Mount Bures and Great Tey Parish Councils to inform and ask for support.

Resolution: 11/012. That the Cllr. Chamley writes a letter to Mr. Danny Jennings asking for an Environmental Weight Restrictions for Chappel Bridge.

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

11/047: Village Green Public Consultation.

Cllr. Chamley advised that both she and the Clerk had set out to gather information about how to organise a public consultation. After further discussion, it was agreed to defer this item until after the Election and bring it back on the Agenda in June or July.

11/048: Chappel Road Bridge – Update and opening.

Cllr. Chamley reported that the bridge was on target to be completed by the end of March. It was discussed that maybe the bridge would be open before an 'opening ceremony' takes place however, it was difficult to make a decision when the Council had not been advised of an actual completion date. It was agreed that Cllr. Chamley would e-mail Danny Jennings for further information.

11/049: Grass Cutting Service.

Following last months' meeting, Cllrs. Chamley and Neubauer were asked to look into the grass cutting requirements for the Village and report back. Cllr. Neubauer had produced a committee report recommending that the Council invite contractors to tender for the grass-cutting contract for year 2011 / 2012. The Clerk was asked to contact Guildhall Services following the meeting requesting that they do not cut any grass in the Village until further notice.

Resolution: 11/013. That the Cllrs. Neubauer and Chamley invite four contractors as per the committee report to tender for the business of Grass cutting in the Village of Chappel for 2011 / 2012. .

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

11/050: Mobile Library Consultation.

The Clerk advised that there had been a mix up with the consultation process and two letters had been sent advising of the outcome of the consultation. It was confirmed that the time had actually changed and from 4th July, the new time would be 14.50 – 15.10 in the usual place.

11/051: Future Agenda Items / Speaker.

Annual Assembly proposed meeting date 25th May 2011.

Grass Cutting.

Election.

Proludic Maintenance

The meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

Date of next meeting – 13th April 2011

Signed Chairman:

Date: 13th April 2011