

# ALRESFORD PARISH COUNCIL

You are hereby summoned to attend  
**The Meeting of Alresford Parish Council**  
to be held in the Pavilion on  
Wednesday 3 September 2008 at 7.30pm  
for the purpose of transacting the following business:

Mrs J Pettitt, Clerk to the Council, 27 August 2008

## AGENDA

**PUBLIC FORUM**: Members of the public are invited to address the Council for a maximum of three minutes from 7.30 until 7.45pm

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The meeting to be opened by the Chairman

**09.08.1 TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE<sup>1</sup>**

**09.08.2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA<sup>2</sup>**

**09.08.3 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 2 July 2008 to be agreed and signed and matters arising to be considered :

- (i) Football storage container – update (*ref 07.08 3(ii)*)
- (ii) Grass cutting (*ref 07.08.16*)
- (iii) Status of flood lights, picnic tables and swings

**09.08.4 TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

**09.08.5 TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

**09.08.6 TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM PCSO**

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1 Local Government Act 1972 Section 85(1) and (2)

2 Local Government Act 2000 Part III

**09.08.7 AFFORDABLE RURAL HOUSING**

To receive report and update from Chris Moor of English Rural Housing.

**09.08.8 TO CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

- (i) ECC re Public Rights of Way – Rolling Inspection and Maintenance Programme
- (ii) Bernard Jenkin re CPRE Stop the Drop litter campaign
- (iii) TDC re Church Farm
- (iv) Mr N Moore re bus shelter (e-mail)
- (v) TDC recycling credits
- (vi) TDC – Parish Notifications re Development Control Committee
- (vii) Allianz Cornhill – letter re bye laws (Appendix 1 - green)

**09.08.9 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND WORKING PARTIES :**

- (i) ENVIRONMENT, FOOTPATHS, TREES & ALLOTMENTS – *report on tree planting scheme – see appendix 2 (yellow)*
- (ii) FINANCE
- (iii) PLAYING FIELD AND VILLAGE HALL
- (iv) COMMUNICATIONS -
- (v) HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS - see appendix 3 (blue)
- (vi) PLANNING - *Report attached*
- (vii) HUMAN RESOURCES, PERSONNEL AND TRAINING – Clerks Appraisal – *see attached confidential document, Appendix 4 (apricot)*
- (viii) GENERAL PURPOSES – see Appendix 5 attached (yellow)
- (ix) CCTV

**09.08.10 TO AGREE PAYMENTS AS LISTED BELOW :**

Clerk's salary and expenses (DD)*	1260.82
NI*	103.40
Clerk's salary and expenses (DD)	1260.82
NI	103.40
A & J Lighting– Monthly maintenance – July *	71.16
A&J Lighting – annual check and clean*	237.35
A & J Lighting - Monthly maintenance – August	71.16
A & J Lighting – flood light repair*	637.73
A & J Lighting – repairs Cox Rd, Bramley Close & De Staunton Close	52.88
C & C Cleaning (invoice 1889)*	28.20
C & C Cleaning (invoice 1967)*	28.20
C & C Cleaning (invoice 2049)*	28.20
C & C Cleaning (invoice 2117)*	28.20
C & C Cleaning (invoice 2163)*	28.20

C & C Cleaning (invoice 2223)	28.20
C & C Cleaning (invoice 2296)	28.20
St Andrews Church – use of for 2.7.08 meeting*	22.50
EON – street lighting – (DD) - June	122.65
EON – street lighting – (DD) – July*	122.65
Powergen – Pavilion/floodlighting July (DD)	60.00
TDC – Pavilion rates (DD)	
Wilson Sports Services – balance of h/c payments*	3,818.75
Mrs J Pettitt – travel*	35.36
Alresford Advertiser PC pages	25.00
Wickstead – swing repair	1386.50
Banner Supplies – stationery	73.33
EALC – Law & Procedures Course (Cllr Belgrove)	52.00
EALC – Governance & Accountability Guide	12.00

\* paid in August

#### **09.08.11 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

To receive financial statements for June and July 2008 and Bank reconciliation as at 31 March 2008 – Appendix 6 (pink)

#### **09.08.12 TO RECEIVE REPORTS OF MEETINGS AND COURSES ATTENDED BY MEMBERS SINCE THE LAST MEETING**

(i)

#### **09.08.13 GRANTS to LOCAL ORGANISATIONS**

To consider feedback responses

#### **09.08.14 VANDALISM REPORTS**

- (i) Frog Bin (£368.25)
- (ii) Notice board
- (iii) Bin outside shops (£60)
- (iv) Bus shelter by Pointer – graffiti 2 days after being repainted at cost of £190.  
Further graffiti – cleaned off by Mr Belgrove
- (v) Summer vandalism report – see attached Appendix ...

#### **09.08.15 TRAINING COURSES AVAILABLE**

- (a) Councillor Training Day – 18 October
- (b) Greens and Commons Course – 24 October
- (c) Roles and Responsibilities – 21 October
- (d) Law and Procedures – 16 October

**09.08.16 FUTURE PLANS – BUDGET PREPARATION**

To consider items to be included in the budget for 2008/2009

**09.08.17 CRICKET STRIP**

Report from Clerk on research and findings

**09.08.18 NETWORK RAIL**

To consider action to be taken with regard to the various complaints received about the behaviour of Network Rail workers in the village during the current work on the railway line and crossings. See Appendix 8 – attached (Apricot)

**09.08.19 YOUTH ACTIVITIES**

Report from Cllr Belgrove on development of youth activities and future plans

**09.08.20 BRIDGE OVER CREEK**

To consider in the light of information received (item on agenda at request of Cllr Barratt).

**09.08.21 YOUTH COUNCIL**

To consider the establishment of a working party specifically to look into the setting up of a Youth Council, or whether this should be dealt with by the General Purposes Working Party

**09.08.22 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY AND ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON NEXT AGENDA**

The next meeting of Alresford Parish Council will be held  
on Wednesday 1st October 2008 at 7.30pm  
in the Parish Council Pavilion

**Further details of Council matters can be obtained from any  
Councillor,  
or the Clerk on 825714  
or from the web site [www.alresford.org.uk](http://www.alresford.org.uk)  
PLANNING**

Application Number and Applicant	Location	Proposal	Comments
08/01150/ful Mr M Miah Letter dated 20.8.08	12 Cox Road, Alresford	First floor extension and dormer window to existing roof	
08/01067/FUL Mrs F Fleischmann Letter Dated : 13.8.08	8 Station Road	Erection of single storey rear extensions	
ESS/52/97/TEN(R) Cemex Angling Ltd Letter dated 11.8.08	Land at Plumpton's   Farm, St Osyth Road, Alresford	Continuation of development without complying with condition 17 (restoration) attached to planning permission ES/52/97/TEN(R) seeking variations to the approved restoration scheme to allow for revised contours and the existing amenity lakes to be used for nature conservation purposes, angling and the creation of wet grassland conservation areas.	

**APPENDIX 1**

**(Ref : 09.08.8 (vii))**

**BYE LAWS**

11<sup>th</sup> August 2008

Dear madam,

Alresford Parish Council Policy No 11 ac 5277876.

Your letter addressed to our Birmingham Office has been passed to us for attention.

We deal with the underwriting and administration of your policy at Woking, and the Property Claims are dealt with by the Property Claims Team at Birmingham.

We note that the Parish Council are considering a request to install flood lights on the hard court part of the recreation area.

We note that there is a bye-law which states that this area must be closed between dusk and dawn.

We would confirm that it is a requirement of your policy, under Policy Conditions 2b, to observe and comply with statutory or local authority laws, obligations and requirements.

We are not able to provide advice in this matter and would suggest you consult with your own legal advisors or alternatively the legal department of the NALC.

Under the Legal Expenses of the cover you have under this policy the Parish Council do have access to the Lawphone Legal Helpline, this is a telephone advisory service provided by Allianz to advise the insured on business related legal matters.

Lawphone 0870 241 4140 Master policy no 35903.

We trust this clarifies the situation.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Harris  
Underwriter Schemes Team.

**APPENDIX 2**  
**(Ref : 09.08.9(i))**

**FREE NATIVE TREES**

To consider initiative from RCCE possibly in conjunction with the Cockaynes Wood Trust and/or Friends of Cockaynes Wood

e-mail correspondence between Chris Fox of Cockaynes Wood Trust and Clerk :

RCCE is offering free native trees to parish councils and community groups under an ECC funded scheme. Should we be interested? I have the application forms and other details.

Chris

Yes - we should! I have already received information and passed it on to the Parish Council - would it be worth the PC and CWT getting together on this?

Jennie

Yes, that could be a good approach. We would also have to ask Bretts for their consent as we have not yet taken on the lease.

Chris

OK - I will put this on the agenda for the September meeting and maybe the Environmental working party and CWT can get together in the early autumn and see what they can come up with. I like the idea of lots more trees around the village - the more the better. We have lovely long approaches from both ends on the B1027 and the back road where trees would be wonderful, plus lots of other spaces. - so I will pas this on and see what sort of a response we get.

J

**APPENDIX 3**  
**(Ref : 09.098.0(v))**

Essex Works: To deliver the best quality of life in

**£1MILLION BONANZA FOR HIGHWAYS PROJECTS ANNOUNCED**

districts are being urged to apply for their share of a £1million bonanza to improve their local highways.

The Community Initiatives Fund (Highways) builds on Essex County Council's trailblazing Community Initiatives Fund which, in its first three rounds, granted £5million to 600 vital community projects across worth more than £38million. That was so successful further funding has been made available this year.

Cllr John Jowers, the county council's portfolio holder for localism, said: "already leads the way on localism by empowering community groups and citizens in their tremendous efforts to preserve facilities and the social hearts of their communities. So it is especially rewarding to be able to offer extra funds to make small, but important, improvements and adjustments to local highways. I enjoy working with highways and this is a fine example of how two portfolios can join together to get things done."

Cllr Norman Hume, the county council's portfolio holder for highways and transportation, added: "We know how important highways issues are in local communities and this new initiative will see local people directly influencing what matters to them. We are told continually that people want to be involved in decisions affecting their community and this will be the embodiment of that."

Eligible projects can include speed indicator devices, village gateways, dropped kerbs at crossing points or junctions, hard standing at bus stops, and other projects at the area highways manager's discretion. Projects are limited to a maximum value of £25,000 for any application.

Deadline for applications [will be in Autumn, exact date to be announced](#). (26.8.08 I am told this is likely to be late October but have send off the initial expression of interest letter. Clerk)

**APPENDIX 7**  
**(Ref : 09.08.14(v))**

Linda Belgrove wrote:

Graffiti Pointer Pub - where else!! Frank has taken photos and cleaned it off.

White House Beach - there was a party there again this Saturday, went on until early hours Sunday. I went there yesterday and they had so much alcohol they used a supermarket trolley to transport it!! Lots of rubbish in the oil drum - not sure if 'they' cleaned it up or probably someone else.

Dear Linda and Frank

Once again we are indebted to you both for your efforts to keep the village clean and tidy and I do understand how discouraged and depressed you must feel. How we can get to grips with this I really don't know but there must be a way.

We had a bad weekend here at the playing field as well. There was glass all over the place again. Mr Barnett from The Spinney I believe was responsible for most of the clearing up, as was the chap who is doing the hard court. He came to paint the surface on Monday and had to spend the first hour clearing glass - unfortunately he didn't let me know he was coming or I would have organised things better so that he didn't have to do it!. He said during the afternoon while he was still there but was sitting in the van having a cuppa, someone came and again started throwing glass on to the court then ran off into the woods. Yesterday when he came to do the lining again he had to spend the first hour clearing glass before he could start work. I feel so embarrassed when this happens to our contractors. I was telling him about getting quotes in for fencing and he apparently also does fencing so he is getting us a quote together which hopefully might not be quite so much as those we have already received. Meanwhile the hard court is looking good with its nice green surface.

Once again, Linda, thanks to you and Frank for all you do.

Jennie

## **APPENDIX 8**

**(Ref : 09.08.18)**

Dear Andrew and Garry,

On Tuesday evening (1<sup>st</sup> July) I attended a Parish Council meeting at Alresford. This commenced with a presentation by Network Rail of their programme of work for the replacement of manned level crossing barriers in Station Road and Coach Road . The presentation was led by Mark Lindsey of NR.

I do not propose, here, to resurrect the concerns many have about the long-term safety consequences of the replacement of manually controlled gates with barriers operated remotely from the Signal Control Box at Colchester . These concerns have been well-documented but have not persuaded Network Rail to change its mind. However, from questions raised at this meeting some (but not all) of our concerns appear to have been addressed.

In response to one question I raised, however, we were informed that Network Rail still proposes to install timber slat hobbles of a type used, with fatal consequences, at Hythe Station recently. This is poor PR and poor sensitivity. We know that the crossing will be abused and that people will take risks, the more so when the crossing is unmanned. The hobbles will not, therefore, act as a deterrent but actually create a further hazard. There are other anti-pedestrian devices (e.g. concrete 'pyramid' pavings) that discourage trespass without giving the potential for entrapment. Please re-consider this.

The main purpose for writing, however, is to bring to your notice serious and current issues that have been troubling some of the local residents recently.

### **NETWORK RAIL - ENGINEERING WORKS**

At this meeting residents complained that NR's workforce working in the evenings and overnight have been noisy, flood lights from their vehicles penetrating houses, the language loud and constantly foul, vehicles parked on pavements, urination against people's fences. When confronted by one lady who complained about some of these problems, she was subjected to foul-mouthed verbal abuse despite the presence of an 8 year old child.

This is totally unacceptable and goes against NRs policy of considerate working. A police officer was present at the Parish Council meeting and it was pointed out that abusive behaviour is a criminal offence and should be reported to the police. Mr Lindsey admitted that the Project Manger/Supervisor is not present on an individual site all the time but is travelling between sites along the branch-line. This is not an acceptable level of supervision; there should always be a Responsible Person leading any team of workers to whom members of the public can turn and who is constantly responsible for the behaviour of the team.

Mr Lindsey said he would be "re-briefing" the teams/gangs. The Parish Council hoped that this was a euphemism for a damned good telling off.

Note that there is ample space for off-road parking on NR land and Mr Lindsey accepted that there was no need for NR vehicles to be parked on the roadside.

### **NATIONAL EXPRESS – REPLACEMENT BUS SERVICE**

Further to my concern that the buses are going in the wrong direction down Station Road the bus drivers have been parking across the drives of local residents, preventing the residents entering or leaving their property. When complained to, the drivers' response has been to turn off the engine, staying put and saying that "this is the designated parking place".

This is not acceptable either. Can you please get this sorted! The residents have been advised to photograph the vehicles should the drivers contravene current road legislation and standards of common decency. Needless to say, this reflects very poorly on NXEA.

In view of the extent of engineering works forecast for the next 12 months it is essential that NR and NXEA address these concerns and improve the quality of their respective workforces when operating in residential areas.

Of course, flouting of the law may lead to prosecution.

I trust that you will give these matters your immediate attention and that the residents will have less cause to complain during the on-going disruption these engineering works are inevitably going to cause to the local communities.

Regards,

*Tony Bedford*

Chairman, Alresford Rail User Group,  
Vice-Chairman, 'ONTRACK'  
Vice-Chairman, Essex Rail Users Federation