

ALRESFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Alresford Parish Council held on
Wednesday 4 February 2009 in the Parish Council Pavilion

PUBLIC FORUM: Three members of the public attended the meeting and confirmed that with reference to item 14, arrangements for the installation of dropped kerbs outside 8 and 9 Ford Lane were in hand.

The meeting was opened by the Chairman.

Those present : Cllrs I Robinson, N Fairbanks, E Osborne, A Wiggins, J Richards, J Housdem, L Belgrove, C Barratt, H Green, S Carlsson Browne

02.09.1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

All members of the Council were in attendance.

02.09.2 PREVIOUS MINUTES

It was proposed by Cllr J Robinson, seconded by Cllr Simon Carlsson Browne and agreed that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 2 January 2009 be agreed and signed as a correct record. There were no matters arising to be considered.

02.09.3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA^[2]

Cllr N Fairbanks declared an interest in item 02.09.9.

02.09.4 REPORT FROM PCSO

In her written report, PCSO Louise Cox noted that dog fouling had increased within the village. The main areas appeared to be by the shops in Station Road and along Ford Lane. Residents had complained that some dog owners allowed their dogs to foul the pavements without cleaning up after them; any offenders caught would receive a fixed penalty ticket of £50. One owner had been identified and advised and had subsequently cleaned the pavement. Caravan parking beside St Peters Church remained a problem

and the PCSO was advised that the "No Overnight Parking" sign was to be ordered for delivery as soon as possible. This would enable her to enforce the restriction. Details of persons using the playing field after dark had been passed to the Clerk would be writing to the offenders advising them that they were in breach of the bye law and that action would be taken against them if this occurred again.

Other matters dealt with during January included :

Broken down vehicle	1
RTC	1
Theft of exhaust box and tail pipes from vehicle	1
Domestic abuse	2
Harassment via a web site	1
Nuisance bonfires at rear of rain station	1
Criminal damage to windscreens on vehicles at Alresford Garage	2
Syringe found at rear of station – removed by Environmental Services	1
Coach Road level crossing barriers stuck	1
Vehicles meeting at rear of st Peters and anti social driving	1
Concern for welfare of vulnerable adult	1
Hate crime incident on train passed to BTP	1

02.09.5 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

County Councillor Derek Robinson advised that a joint meeting of Thorrington and Alresford Councillors regarding the B1027 should be arranged but preferably not on a Tuesday. The Clerks to liaise about this. A meeting had been arranged for 7.00pm on 12 February at Thorrington Village Hall regarding the new minerals proposals for the area, and 100 miles of footpaths were planned for upgrading in the Tendring Area. Colchester Council overall tax increases were proposed to be kept to 1.9%. Cllr H Green asked whether any action could be taken with regard to the depressions on the inside lane of Clinghoe Hill as these were getting worse and also why there was no roundabout at the Clacton end of the St Osyth bypass. Councillor Robinson agreed to make enquiries into these issues but said that St Osyth Parish Council did not want a roundabout.

Councillor Robinson was thanked for his attendance and left the meeting.

ACTION : CLERK

02.09.6 REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr Gary Scott advised that two local businesses, the Post Office and The Pointer were to receive a 100% refund in Council tax rates to assist with the economic downturn. This assistance would cover 2008-2010 and be reviewed again in 2011 and was part of a scheme applying to Post Offices, Pubs and General Stores in the Tendring Area. Cllr Scott advised that if any other rural businesses felt themselves to be under pressure they should contact TDC for relief. There was a total, so far, of 33 businesses in the Tendring district being helped in this way. More complaints had been received about the lights at the level crossings. Those in Coach Road had been adjusted but the Station Road lights were still causing a nuisance. Cllr Scott had spoken to Mr Bernard Jenkins MP asking for his assistance with this matter. It was noted that the government wanted to have a traveller site in every Local Authority area by 2011. It was noted that the light at the junction of Laxton and Coach Road was not working properly. Cllr J Housden would report this. The Highways Authority were to again be asked to look at local roads and pavements and Environmental Services had been asked to sweep the area alongside the bottle banks. Cllr C Barratt advised that the two large potholes at the lower end of Ford Lane which had been repaired last year had broken open again and the Clerk was asked to report this to Highways.

ACTION : CLERK : CLLR J HOUSDEN

02.09.7 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- (i) ECC Area Highways Manager re waiting restrictions o/s school – these were welcomed and the Clerk asked to respond accordingly.
- (ii) WI – invitation to Quiz Night on 12 March. Clerk to respond accordingly – team to be Cllr J Robinson, Cllrs Carlsson Browne, Green, Housden, Wiggins and Coates
- (iii) TDC – re local precepts - noted
- (iv) Network Rail – re lights at crossings - noted
- (v) Network Rail – re timings - Cllr H Green to consider and report back
- (vi) Network Rail re Crossings – CCTV – clerk to respond
- (vii) Network Rail – re Crossings - noted
- (viii) TDC – planning appeal – 186 Wivenhoe Road (passed to Planning committee)
- (ix) TDC re electronic [planning training session Cllr J Robinson and Cllr Carlsson Browne to attend.

ACTION : CLERK; CLLR H GREEN; CLLR J ROBINSON; CLLR CARLSSON BROWNE

02.09.8 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE & WORKING PARTIES

- (i) ENVIRONMENT, FOOTPATHS, TREES AND ALLOTMENTS – no meeting held.
- (ii) FINANCE – no meeting held.
- (iii) PLAYING FIELD AND VILLAGE HALL –report on Playing Field Protection Scheme – to be carried forward to next meeting. A meeting to discuss a possible sensory garden had been held and a report would be prepared for the next meeting. The working party reported that the Zaun quotation for the hard court fence should be accepted. This was proposed by Cllr Richards, seconded by Cllr Barratt and agreed. The Clerk to put the order in hand. New Toddler Area equipment and fencing were all in hand. Cllr J Robinson advised that no formal meeting had been held with the Village Hall committee but that he was progressing with drawings and the design and access statement and that a meeting to discuss lease negotiations was to be arranged shortly.
- (iv) COMMUNICATIONS – Cllr Osborne advised that there had not been much recent progress on the new version of the Good Neighbour handbook but that the CCTV was now working well and Cllr Richards confirmed that the web site was fully up-to-date. The Clerk was asked to send a list of the meetings for the rest of the year to Cllr Richards for inclusion on the web site.
- (v) HIGHWAYS - Cllr J Housden advised that a meeting of the working party would be held prior to the next PC meeting. A joint meeting of Thorrington and Alresford Parish Councils was to be held to discuss the B1027 and the Clerk would send details round as soon as she received them.
- (vi) PLANNING - *see appendix 1*
- (vii) HUMAN RESOURCES, PERSONNEL AND TRAINING – no meeting held.
- (viii) GENERAL PURPOSES – no meeting held but a meeting to further discuss the formation of a Youth Council was arranged for 10 February.

ACTION : CLERK : PLAYING FIELD AND VILLAGE HALL, HIGHWAYS, GENERAL PURPOSES WP'S

02.09.9 MONTHLY PAYMENTS AS LISTED BELOW :

Clerk's salary and expenses	1,285.00
NI	106.50
Just Lamps – Call out – 15 Cox Road	279.45*
EON – Street Lighting – DD	120.04
EON– Flood Lighting – DD	60.00
C&C Cleaning – Pavilion (Invoice 3391)	27.60

C&C Cleaning – Pavilion (Invoice 3500)	27.60
C&C Cleaning – Pavilion (Invoice 3441)	27.60
C&C Cleaning – Pavilion (Invoice 3407)	27.60
A&J Lighting – monthly maintenance	69.64
N Fairbanks – removal of posts at Pointer Green	450.00
Banner – stationery	120.94
TDC – allotment rent	190.00

* existing light beyond repair

It was proposed by Cllr J Robinson, seconded by Cllr Osborne and agreed that the above payments should be made.

ACTION : CLERK

02.09.10 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

It was proposed by Cllr Simon Carlsson Browne, seconded by Cllr C Barratt and agreed that the financial statement for December 2008 be approved.

02.09.11 TO RECEIVE REPORTS OF MEETINGS AND COURSES ATTENDED BY MEMBERS SINCE THE LAST MEETING

(i) Cllr Housden – reported that the Village and Community Halls Conference he had attended had been very good and useful.

(ii) EALC Executive – The Clerk advised that training of Councillors should be further encouraged, and that she had been appointed to sit on a working party to try to establish a more fair way of assigning the quota of tickets to Buckingham Palace Garden parties for the EALC and also a the Essex Quality of Life Partnership with regard to homelessness in the county.

(iii) Cllr Barratt had attended an Essex Shoreline Management Stakeholder Event which had been aimed at those dwelling near to rivers and had been very well presented.

(iv) Cllr Osborne said that he and other Councillors had attended an event in the village hall on 31 January to publicise the Cockaynes Wood Trust. This, he said, was a very exciting venture and worthy of support by the PC and he asked whether Robin Cottrill, Chairman of the Trust would be willing to do a short presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting. The Clerk to contact Mr Cottrill and ask.

ACTION : CLERK

02.09 12 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Clerk confirmed the date of 11 March 2009 and advised that she had booked the Church. She had also provisionally asked Mr Chris Kitcher, acting Head of Environmental Services at TDC to attend and give a presentation on Health Inequalities in the Tendring Area. It was agreed that she should confirm this and make the necessary arrangements for refreshments, posters etc.

ACTION : CLERK

02.09.13 SPEED MANAGEMENT STRATEGY CONSULTATION 2009

The Clerk was asked to re-send the Report for the Highways Working Party to consider.

ACTION : CLERK : HIGHWAYS WORKING PARTY

02.09.14 VERGES OUTSIDE 8-9 FORD LANE

No further action to be taken in the light of the report in public forum.

02.09 15 AFFORDABLE RURAL HOUSING PROJECT

A meeting with Mrs Moore of ERH had been held to look at possible alternative sites for affordable housing. Meanwhile, the situation regarding the purchase of land behind the railway station was looking slightly more positive.

02.09.16 FOOTPATH REPAIRS

(a) – along creek towards Wivenhoe and (b) off Ford Lane adjacent to quarry towards Thorrington. It was reported that these footpaths were deteriorating due to weather, time and horses being ridden on them. The Clerk was asked to write to Anthony Marvin at ECC regarding repairs. Cllr C Barratt or Cllr Linda Belgrove offered to walk the footpaths with someone from Highways and Footpaths at ECC if required to do so.

ACTION : CLERK

02.09.17 PAVILION

Councillors were asked to consider the following suggestions: -

- (i) painting/stenciling identification on door of Pavilion
- (ii) the provision of a solar powered wall light at entrance to football changing rooms
- (iii) a notice reminding users to turn the flood lights off after use.

It was proposed by Cllr Linda Belgrove , seconded by Cllr Simon Carlsson Browne and agreed that the word "PAVILION" should be stencilled in white on the door to the pavilion.

A request had been received from ACRFC for an outside light in the area leading to the changing rooms. The Clerk to establish whether the footballers were asking permission to install this and pay for it, or whether they wanted the PC to fund this. The Clerk to establish this and meanwhile also to get quotations for a repair or replacement of the flood lights time switch and a repair to the pavilion roof where water was getting in.

ACTION : CLERK

02.09.18 REFURBISHMENT OF ROAD SIGNS

Cllr Belgrove had noted that the road signs around the village looked shabby but TDC were not able to repaint the ones that said "Parish of Alresford" because of the cost. She therefore proposed to find out about a suitable paint and form a working party of volunteers to do this as soon as the weather improved. This was seconded by Cllr Carlsson Browne and agreed.

02.09.19 CRESTLANDS

Cllr Green advised that he accepted the response from TDC regarding green space at Crestlands.

02.09.20 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

The Clerk advised that it was now an obligation on Councillors to adopt the new Freedom of Information Act Approved Publication Scheme but Councillors asked to see details of this before doing so. Copies will therefore be circulated with the agendas for the March meeting and the Act will be formally adopted at that meeting.

ACTION : CLERK

02.09.21 RURAL SERVICES NETWORK

The Clerk was asked to get more information regarding this organisation before Councillors could consider whether or not to join.

ACTION : CLERK

02.09.24 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY AND ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON NEXT AGENDA

- (i) The Clerk reported that the footpath on B1027 opposite Mitchells Farm Shop had been cleared and tidied by Highways.
- (ii) The Clerk advised that one of the cleaners from the team used to clean the pavillion had set up her own cleaning business and had asked to be considered for the contract. It had been noted that the standard of cleaning had fallen since this employee had left and a complaint had been made. The situation to be monitored.
- (iii) The school were holding an information evening on 18 March and had asked if the PC would like to have a table to give out PC information but Councillors felt that this was not necessary as it was so close to the Annual Parish Meeting.
- (iv) Cllr J Richards asked for an item regarding procedures relating to the Clerk's computer to be added to the March agenda.
- (v) Cllr Linda Belgrove said that she would try to get some more wrap signs for lamp posts reminding dog owners to clear up after their dogs – this was following various complaints received about the amount of dog fouling in the village. She also advised that NAPS were looking into the matter of speeding in Ford Lane.
- (vi) Cllr J Robinson advised that AYP would be having a meeting at which a representative from the Essex Boys Clubs had been present and that the group had become affiliated to this. Also the group had secured the services of a youth worker and the youth bus.

ACTION : CLERK; CLLR BELGROVE

There being no further business the Chairman thanked Councillors for their attendance and closed the meeting at 10.15pm.

**The next meeting of Alresford Parish Council will be held
on Wednesday 7 March 2009 at 7.30pm in the Parish
Council Pavilion**
