

ALRESFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Alresford Parish Council held on
Wednesday 2 January 2008 in the Parish Council Pavilion at 7.30pm

PRESENT : Cllr J Coates, Chairman, Cllr I Robinson, Cllr Ann Wiggins, Cllr Linda Belgrove, Cllr C Barrett, Cllr E Osborne, Cllr N Fairbanks, Cllr J Housden, Cllr J Richards, Cllr S Carlsson Browne, Cllr H Green and the Clerk.

PUBLIC FORUM :

Eight members of the public attended. Mr M Hester asked about the continued state of disrepair of the village footpaths and both Cllr G Scott and the Clerk both agreed to chase ECC further on this, although they had been advised that funds for repairs were short and little could be done. The Clerk, having received no acknowledgment of her letters to the shops in Station Road about the state of the paving outside their premises which was the responsibility of the shop owners, would write again requesting action to be taken.

Cllr J Coates opened the meeting by wishing all Councilors and members of the public a very Happy New Year.

01.08.1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE¹

Were received from Cllr D Robinson.

01.08.2 PREVIOUS MINUTES

It was proposed by Cllr Barrett, seconded by Cllr Housden and agreed that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 5 December 2007 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

(i) Open Spaces Society – It had been proposed that consideration should be given to making a donation towards Registration of New Green Lands but it was proposed by Cllr Osborne and agreed that this was not a suitable use of PC funds at the present time.

01.08.3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA²

Cllr N Fairbanks declared an interest in item 11.08.9

01.08.4 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr D Robinson was unable to attend the meeting but had advised the Clerk that there was little to report in any event.

01.08.5 REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr Scott advised that fly tipping at Marsh Farm had been reported to Environmental Services – it was believed that a local builder was responsible. A full council meeting

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

2 Local Government Act 2000 Part III

had been held in December but it had otherwise been a quiet month. Nothing further had been notified regarding 21 The Heath but Cllr Scott advised that he had continued to receive messages in support of the retention of the PCSO.

01.08.6 REPORT FROM PCSO

PCSO Cox was unavailable to attend the meeting as she was on holiday but Sgt Andy Hastings and Chief Inspector John Hayter attended to answer any further questions regarding the role of the PCSO and to express support for the continuation of the employment of PCSO Cox by the PC. CI John Hayter said that he felt that PCSO's were worth their weight in gold, acting as the eyes and ears of the local policing team and emphasised again the need for members of the public to notify the police when seeing crimes being committed by dialing 999 or by letting Brightlingsea police know if they were reporting crimes that had been committed but which they had not actually witnessed. He said that he felt that the contact systems were adequate but not perfect and said that Essex Police were working to improve matters all the time. Cllr Scott spoke in support of the retention of the PCSO but asked whether Brightlingsea Police Station could be open for longer hours. Cllr J Robinson gave a resume of the history of the employment of the PCSO and reiterated his own reservations. Cllr Osborne said that he felt that the Clerk at least should know when PCSO Cox was on duty and receive copies of her weekly work sheets. Cllr Linda Belgrove spoke in favour on behalf of herself and many residents and Cllr Coates read a letter received from Senior Police at Clacton who felt that to discontinue the scheme would be an adverse move. After further discussion of the various points raised the Chairman called for a vote on the proposal to continue to employ a PCSO in the village which was carried with eight votes in favour and three against. Those voting against the motion were Cllr J Robinson, Cllr H Green and Cllr E Osborne. It was therefore proposed by Cllr J Robinson, seconded by Cllr Green and agreed that the budget proposals be adopted and the Clerk apply for a precept for the 2008-2009 year of £71,500 an increase of approximately 2.14%

ACTION : CLERK

01.08.7 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- (i) Tendring Rural South NAPS – noted. Cllr Belgrove to attend.
- (ii) Essex Police (Dave Hudson) re B1027 – noted – Clerk to pass to Cllr Belgrove for Highways working party.
- (iii) Andrew Tyrrell, TDC – re Level Crossing – noted.
- (iv) M J Green re trees on corner of Laxton Rd/Coach Rd. Noted. Clerk to seek a further quotation for comparison before putting the work in hand.
- (v) Foundation for Sport and the Arts re resurfacing hard court. Noted. Clerk to follow up letter.
- (vi) TDC – Strategic Housing Market Assessment Workshop – invitation. Cllr J Robinson to attend.
- (vii) CAB Tendring. Noted. It was proposed by Cllr J Robinson, seconded by Cllr Carlsson Browne and agreed that a donation of £50 be sent.
- (viii) One Railways. It was noted that the railway station ticket office was now open on weekday mornings and that CCTV was to be installed. Mr Frank Belgrove had adopted the station under the Station Adoption Scheme. The

Clerk was asked to respond thanking Andrew Goodrum for his letter and for the action taken.

- (ix) Alresford Primary School – in support of PCSO – noted.
- (x) TDC – Notice of Adoption of TD Local Plan. Noted. The Clerk to obtain a copy.
- (xi) RCCE - Best Green Village - details of a series of meetings. It was agreed that no-one would attend these.
- (xii) Bernard Jenkin re PCSO. Noted. The Clerk to respond.

Cllr Coates advised that she had received a letter from Lord Hanningfield inviting herself and a guest to attend the House of Lords to witness the signing of a Concordat between Essex County Council and Making the Links as part of the Local Area Agreement and the Quality Council Scheme. She had invited the Clerk to attend with her and they would therefore travel to London on February 13 for the event.

**ACTION : CLERK : CLLR BELGROVE : HIGHWAYS WORKING PARTY :
CLLR J ROBINSON ; CHAIRMAN**

01.08.8 REPORTS FROM WORKING PARTIES :

- (i) **ENVIRONMENT, FOOTPATHS, TREES AND ALLOTMENTS** – *no meeting held but it was agreed that Cllr Belgrove be co-opted to the working party.*
- (ii) **FINANCE** – *see item 15 and dealt with under 01.08.6*
- (iii) **PLAYING FIELD AND VILLAGE HALL** – *Hard Court resurfacing to be taken forward to February meeting for decision.*
- (iv) **COMMUNICATIONS** – *no meeting held. Cllr Richards advised that he had added an item to the website for comments.*
- (v) **HIGHWAYS** – *a meeting to be arranged prior to the February PC meeting.*
- (vi) **PLANNING** – *see Appendix 1. Next Planning meeting to be held on 9 January.*
- (vii) **HUMAN RESOURCES, PERSONNEL AND TRAINING** *no meeting held.*
- (viii) **HEALTH AND WELFARE** – *a meeting to be arranged prior to the February PC meeting.*

ACTION : CLERK : HIGHWAYS WP ; PLANNING COMMITTEE; HEALTH AND WELFARE W/P

01.08.9 MONTHLY PAYMENTS AS LISTED BELOW :

Clerk's salary and expenses	1260.82
NI	105.70
Just Lamps – monthly maintenance	71.16
Just Lamps – light - St Andrews Close	23.49

Just Lamps – new lamp at WM	974.08
EON – Flood Lighting – DD	122.40
C&C Cleaning – Pavilion (Invoice 93)	28.20
C&C Cleaning – Pavilion (Invoice 157?)	28.20
C&C Cleaning – Pavilion (Invoice)	28.20
Powergen – Flood Lighting – DD	50.00
EON Street lighting – DD	122.00
SLCC Membership renewal	129.00
Install Sports – capping plates for h/c	94.00
Ramblers Association – renewal	36.00
Nick Fairbanks – notice board	75.00
Nick Fairbanks – vandalised bus sop	75.00
E & J Fire & Security	50.27

It was proposed by Cllr Carlsson Browne, seconded by Cllr Housden and agreed that the Clerk should make the payments as listed.

ACTION : CLERK

01.08.10 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

It was proposed by Cllr Green, seconded by Cllr J Robinson and agreed that the financial statements for October and November be accepted.

01.08.11 HALF YEARLY BALANCE

It was proposed by Cllr J Robinson, seconded by Cllr Green and agreed that the half yearly balance sheet produced by the Clerk be approved.

01.08.12 TDC – OPEN SPACE AUDIT IN SUPPORT OF LOCAL PLAN

The document had been reviewed prior to the meeting and the Clerk was asked to respond by the deadline date of 31 January 2008 noting that according to the audit, Alresford had a shortfall in open space and formal play area of 1.91 of an acre and asking if any funding was available to purchase more.

ACTION : CLERK

01.08.13 DOG WASTE BINS

Following requests for the provision of more dog waste bins the Clerk was asked to seek grant funding for further bins and report in due course. It was felt that these might be sited at the entrance to Crestlands and possibly the Coach Road, Hawkins Road junction, the green area at the top of Coach Road and the Coach Road, Laxton Road junction.

ACTION : CLERK

01.08.14 STREET LIGHTING

Cllr J Housden volunteered to be appointed as the Councillor responsible for street lighting following the resignation of Cllr Barnes and the Clerk would pass on the necessary information to him.

ACTION : CLERK

01.08.15 BUDGET AND PCSO

Dealt with under item 01.08.6

01.08.16 REPORTS OF MEETINGS AND COURSES ATTENDED BY MEMBERS SINCE THE LAST MEETING

- (i) Tendring Passenger Transport Representatives meeting –
13.11.07 – *minutes attached*
- (ii) TDALC Minutes – *attached – Appendix 3*

The above reports were noted.

01.08.17 FLOOD LIGHTS AND WAR MEMORIAL LAMP

The Clerk reported that the new lamp at the War Memorial was in place and that the repairs to the flood lights on the playing field and associated work to the switches was in hand and would be completed early in the New Year.

01.08.18 BYELAWS

Cllr Osborne noted that a number of vehicles were being parked on grassed areas around the village some of which were being advertised for sale. The Clerk was asked to do some research into the question of Bye Laws under the new legislation including this and other matters such as drinking in the streets and report to a later meeting.

ACTION : CLERK

01.08.19 YOUTH SHELTER AND PICNIC TABLES

Cllr Carlsson Browne felt, and it was generally agreed, that further consideration should be given to the provision of a youth shelter and funding be sought. To this end Cllr J Robinson would try to resurrect the AYP and report to a later meeting. Meanwhile it was agreed that the Clerk should order the two picnic tables discussed previously and arrange for their installation.

ACTION : CLERK : CLLR J ROBINSON

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

- (i) Cllr J Robinson asked that the Village Hall and its future management be added to the February agenda for discussion and Cllr Fairbanks asked what action could be taken to reduce nuisance and noise levels occurring as a result of some of the bookings as had been experienced recently.
- (ii) Cllr Osborne asked that PCSO activity be added to the February agenda in order for a way to give her additional support and assistance to be established.
- (iii) Cllr Belgrove requested that CCTV be added as an item for discussion on the February agenda and also the condition of White House Beach.
- (iv) The Clerk reported that the football club had advised a further infestation of moles on the pitch and was instructed to arrange for remedial action to be taken.
- (v) It was agreed that the postponed PC Christmas Party would be held as a New Years Party at the Clerk's home on Friday 4 January. A bring and share buffet was agreed and the wine won at the Quiz Night would be utilised.

ACTION : CLERK

There being no further business the Chairman thanked Councillors for their attendance and the meeting closed at 9.45pm.

**The next meeting of Alresford Parish Council will be held
on Wednesday 7 February 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**