

ALRESFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Alresford Parish Council held on
Wednesday 1 October 2008 in the Parish Council Pavilion

PUBLIC FORUM : Members of the public were invited to address the Council. A resident asked how the cost per household of the PCSO was calculated and advised Councillors that this should have taken into account those not paying rates. This was noted. A representative of the Village Hall Committee advised the Council that, in view of the recent problems experienced at a booking for a birthday party at the village hall, no further bookings for parties for under 25's would be accepted. PC Chairman, Mrs Joan Coates commented that she felt this was a very sad situation. A resident living on the B1027 advised that 11,500 vehicles per day travelled along the B1027, 15% of which were travelling at over the speed limit. It was reported that following the recent party in the village hall it had taken members of the football teams, and others, a long time to clear up the glass and rubbish from the playing field in order for the football matches to be played. The Council was further advised that the new dug-outs had now been installed and permission was asked for and granted by Council, to cut back some of the hedge behind them. The five a side goals on the hard court to be fixed to the fencing again now that the resurfacing had been completed.

The Parish Council meeting was opened by the Chairman who thanked members of the public for their attendance.

PRESENT : Mrs Joan Coates, Chairman, Cllr Ann Wiggins, Cllr J Robinson, Cllr N Fairbanks, Cllr E Osborne, Cllr J Richards, Cllr J Housden, Cllr H Green, Cllr L Belgrove, Cllr C Barrett and the Clerk.

10.08.1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE¹

Received from Cllr Carlsson Browne who was away on business.

10.08.2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA²

Cllr Fairbanks and Cllr Belgrove both declared an interest in items on the agenda.

10.08.3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Osborne, seconded by Cllr J Robinson and agreed that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 5 September 2008 be confirmed and signed as a correct record. There were no matters arising.

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

2 Local Government Act 2000 Part III

10.08.4 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr D Robinson sent his apologies but advised the Clerk that he had nothing significant to report.

10.08.5 REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr Scott advised that there was nothing further to report on the enforcement order regarding 21 The Heath. He had recently met with a representative from Highways to identify various highway defects around the village and would e-mail the Clerk to confirm the list of matters requiring attention. Cllr Osborne asked whether the pavements in Station and Coach Road would be included in the list and was advised that they were included but would probably not be totally resurfaced. Cllr Green asked Cllr Scott to request that the street signs be repainted but not replaced. The Council were anxious to retain the old signs saying "Parish of Alresford" and that these should not be replaced with the new, more anonymous, signs. Cllr Scott said he would let the Clerk have some application forms for highways funding so that she, too, could follow up the various matters referred to, including weeds on pavements and in gutters. The Clerk was asked to contact Tendring Environmental Services to ask for the area around the recycling bins to be kept swept – broken glass in the area was causing some residents to use recycling bins elsewhere rather than risk damage to car tyres and this resulted in a loss of revenue within the village. The Clerk was also reminded to chase up the request for a tetra-pack bank and Cllr Scott also agreed to chase this matter up at Tendring. The police had been informed of noise nuisance from flats in Wivenhoe Road. It was noted that a light in Worcester Crescent had been reported as being continually on and Cllr Housden agreed to report this.

Mr Simons asked Cllr Scott if he would contact Gary England regarding the closure of the level crossing gates and also said that he would contact the railways himself if the Clerk would let him have the appropriate e-mail address. This she agreed to do.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Scott for his attendance and his report.

ACTION : Clerk : CLLR SCOTT

10.08.6 REPORT FROM PCSO

No representatives from the Police were able to attend the meeting but the PCSO report for September was circulated to Councillors as follows :

- | | | |
|----------------------------|----|---|
| Concern for welfare - | 1 | |
| Drug possession – | 1. | A gathering had taken place at White House Beach and 3 persons arrested. |
| RTC – no injuries – | 2 | |
| Nuisance – | 4. | This included youths jumping on a residents garden hedge, removing road barriers from Wivenhoe Road being used for road works, and a scrambler bike being driven on private land – the person was apprehended and dealt with. |
| Criminal damage - | 1 | Fence panels to a property in Wivenhoe Road. |
| Suspicious circumstances – | 3 | |

Information from a resident – 1

Abandoned 999 call – from telephone kiosk in Coach Road.

Patrols on the playing field had been increased and children had been advised not to play in the woodlands at the rear of St Andrews Close. Feedback from parents regarding this had been generally positive. Youths were congregating on the bench in Station Road and litter in this area had increased as a result. £75 penalty tickets would be issued. It was noted that it was vital for the community to work together on these nuisance matters and residents should report any incidents of crime or littering, which would be treated in confidence.

Regarding speeding in Cockaynes Lane, there is a 60mph limit in this lane but all residents were asked to please advise PCSO Cox of any known instances of this speed being exceeded.

Door to door sales persons had been operating in the village and residents were advised to have a door chain fitted and USE IT. If in doubt the advice was to close the door and call the police.

Any information regarding local matters should be passed to PCSO Cox or one of her colleagues on 0300 333 4444 extension 17140

10.08.7 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- (i) TDC re green space in Crestlands
- (ii) RCCE – Community Building Conference
- (iii) Essex Playing Fields Association re roundabout
- (iv) ECC – Highways – various matters
- (v) Mrs Morris re dog waste bin for Crestlands

The above matters were noted and the the Clerk was asked to put the request for more dog bins, especially one for the Crestlands area on the November agenda and include provision for this in the budget for 2009-2010.

ACTION : Clerk

10.08.8 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND WORKING PARTIES :

- (i) *ENVIRONMENT, FOOTPATHS, TREES & ALLOTMENTS* – no meeting held
- (ii) *FINANCE* - Next meeting to be held on 25 October
- (iii) *PLAYING FIELD AND VILLAGE HALL* – No Village Hall meeting had been held but the Playing Field working party had met to discuss progress on the 4 year plan. Costings had been received in excess of the budget for equipment and would have to be reconsidered, and the Clerk was asked to put a further £10,000 into the budget for 1009-2010. The new Froggo waste bin was to be installed as soon as weather permitted.
- (iv) *COMMUNICATIONS* – No meeting held.
- (v) *HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS* - The Clerk advised that an application for

- funding under the Highways Bonanza had been completed.
- (vi) *PLANNING* - see Appendix 1
 - (vii) *HUMAN RESOURCES, PERSONNEL AND TRAINING* – no meeting held
 - (viii) *GENERAL PURPOSES* – next meeting to be held on Saturday 4 October.
 - (ix) *CCTV* – see item 15

ACTION : Clerk : GP, PLAYING FIELD AND FINANCE WORKING PARTIES

10.08.9 MONTHLY PAYMENTS AS LISTED BELOW :

Clerk's salary (DD)	1260.82
NI	103.40
Expenses – Clerk – travel	15.47
A&J Lighting - Monthly maintenance – August	71.16
C & C Cleaning (invoice 2412)	28.20
C & C Cleaning (invoice 2346)	28.20
C & C Cleaning (invoice 2426)	28.20
C & C Cleaning (invoice 2522)	28.20
C & C Cleaning (invoice 2599)	28.20
EON – street lighting – (DD)	122.65
EON – Pavilion/floodlighting (DD)	60.00
TDC – Pavilion rates (DD)	57.00
N Fairbanks – repairs to concrete posts at Pointer corner	80.00
THWS – Allotments	36.66
THWS – Pavilion	92.85

It was proposed by Cllr Housden, seconded by Cllr Osborne and agreed that the above bills be paid by the Clerk.

ACTION : Clerk

10.08.10 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

It was proposed by Cllr J Robinson, seconded by Cllr Wiggins and agreed that the financial statements for August 2008 and half yearly balance sheet to 31 August 2008 be accepted.

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

- (i) EALC Executive Meeting 17 July
- (ii) TDALC – 30 July

The above reports having been circulated, were noted.

10.08.12 NEW STREET LIGHTS FOR B1027

A quotation had been received from EDF for connection to existing lamp posts but the matter was still proving difficult. The Clerk advised that she had asked Mr Boutell of Just Lamps (the Councils own lighting contractors) to advise. The matter would be put

on the agenda for November and meanwhile, Cllr Scott would let the Clerk have details of a grant he thought was available for street lighting.

ACTION : Clerk : Cllr G Scott

10.08.13. BEST RURAL RETAILER

It was agreed that nominations for the above should be dealt with by the Clerk and include the Farm Shop under item 1, the Butcher under item 4 and the Pine Shop under item 3. Nominations to be in by 27 October.

ACTION : Clerk

10.08.14 VANDALISM REPORT

Further spray paint on the bus shelter had been cleaned off by residents together with clearing of litter. It was noted that many residents were taking responsibility for litter clearing around the village and the Clerk was asked to note this in the Advertiser and express the thanks of the Council.

ACTION : Clerk

10.08.15 CCTV

The CCTV working party were asked to meet to consider the various quotations received. It was proposed by Cllr Barrett, seconded by Cllr Green and agreed that members of the working party should then make a decision based on the quotations and known views of the council or call an extraordinary meeting. If necessary they should ask the Clerk to add this to the next agenda for a final decision.

ACTION : CCTV WORKING PARTY

10.08.16 RAILWAY STATION

A report regarding the Station had been received from Mr Belgrove advising of the Awards recently received. It was agreed that the Clerk should note this in the Advertiser and write to the station staff thanking them for their efforts. A thank you presentation should be arranged for the staff and the press should be invited. The Clerk to arrange and notify Councillors when this was to be held.

The Clerk was asked by Cllr Green to write to the chairman of network rail regarding the failure of Network Rail to reply to correspondence, with a copy to Bernard Jenkins MP.

ACTION : Clerk (x2)

10.08.17 FUTURE PLANS

The Clerk asked for items for inclusion in budget for 2009/10 to be handed to her as soon as possible.

It was proposed by Cllr J Robinson and seconded by Cllr Green that the provision for the PCSO should be removed from the budget. It was further proposed that provision for the appointment of a village warden to carry out litter picking, garden maintenance, playing field patrol duties, etc be included instead. The proposal to discontinue with the services of the PCSO was discussed at length. Cllr Fairbanks said that he felt that feedback from the village confirmed that the PCSO should be retained and it was noted that in the village survey carried out recently 68% of those responding felt that the PCSO should be retained and that this was money well spent. The chairman called for a vote on whether the PCSO should be discontinued, the motion being defeated by 6 against and 4 in favour. The proposal to appoint a village warden was therefore withdrawn.

10.08.18 YOUTH ACTIVITIES

A report from Cllr Belgrove advised that the youth bus project had been handed over to Mrs Laver for CRB checks to be carried out.

10.08.19 BRIDGE OVER CREEK

The matter of the proposed bridge over the creek was considered in the light of information received and Cllr Osborne advised that the benefit would be access to Brightlingsea and the continuation of the coastal route for walkers. It was felt that this was a matter that warranted more discussion but was a long way into the future if it was to happen at all. Cllr Barrett noted that although plans for a small rustic bridge were being put forward, in reality this would not be practical and any bridge would have to be quite a major construction.

10.08.20 NOTICES RE CAMPER VANS

Consideration was given to a proposal for the provision of notices prohibiting the parking of camper vans at St Peters Church and elsewhere in the village and the Clerk was asked to get a quotation for this and add the item to the November agenda.

ACTION : Clerk

10.08.21 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES REGARDING BOATS

Cllr Belgrove expressed the concerns of herself and others regarding the environmental issues arising out of the number of people now living on boats at the creek. Cllr Barrett said that he would make further enquiries and asked the Clerk to add this matter to the next agenda.

ACTION : Clerk : Cllr C Barrett

10.08.22 BENCH OUTSIDE SHOPS

It was noted that complaints were being received from shop keepers regarding the bench outside the shops and the amount of nuisance and litter that was being generated. It was also noted that the bench was much used by those for whom it was intended. Councillors

and the Clerk to monitor the situation and to ask the PCSO to keep a special note of the area and hand out the fixed litter penalties where appropriate. The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Tinneveld about the state of the paving around the shops. She was also asked to write to the owners of the food shops and ask them to supply extra litter bins for the area and take responsibility for emptying them

ACTION : Clerk x4 : ALL COUNCILLORS

10.08.23 COCKAYNES LANE

Concerns regarding speeding vehicles in Cockaynes Lane were expressed and the Clerk was asked to write to Contract Interiors and ask them to note that although there was a national speed limit in force this was a narrow country lane much used by walkers and cyclists and ask them to take action to keep the speeding down to a lower limit on a voluntary basis.

ACTION : Clerk.

10.08.24 GENERAL MATTERS ARISING FROM HOUSE CALLS

Cllr Belgrove advised that as a member of NAPS she and PCSO Cox had been making a series of house calls around the village and the following matters had been highlighted :

- (i) Broken glass around recycling bins – residents were going elsewhere to recycle items and this was resulting in a loss of revenue to the village. The Clerk to deal with this.
- (ii) More information was required about station crossing gates and how they are to be operated. Cllr Green to take action on this matter.
- (iii) Buses/coaches speeding through village – the Clerk to write to the bus companies about this matter.
- (iv) Rubbish outside shops – PCSO Cox to be asked to monitor the situation,
- (v) Requests for Traffic Warden to visit and take action on pavement parking etc. PSCO Cox again to be asked to monitor this.

ACTION : CLERK x 4 : Cllr Green

10.08.25 WORKING PARTIES

The Clerk was asked by Cllr Belgrove to add the possible need for further clarification regarding research carried out by working parties to provide the best possible facts and figures for consideration by full Council to the next agenda.

ACTION : Clerk

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

- (i) The appointment of Mr Hedley Green as Passenger Transport Representative for Alresford in place of Mrs Pettitt was noted.
- (ii) Code of Conduct fact sheets regarding gifts and hospitality were distributed to Councillors and noted.
- (iii) Quality Council Status - changes to criteria for Quality Council Status for re-applying councils were noted.
- (iv) **Cllr J Robinson** asked the Clerk to write to residents in Crestlands regarding parking on verges and also residents of the B1027 who used the verges for the sale of cars. He also noted that the finger post sign at the end of Ford Lane had been turned around. He and Cllr Fairbanks would adjust this together.
- (v) Cllr E Osborne reminded the Clerk that the tree outside his house in Coach Road had died and needed to be replaced under the guarantee,
- (vi) Cllr Belgrove offered to do a weekly litter pick of the playing field whilst the Clerk was unable to do this. Cllr Scott also offered to help with this.
- (vii) Cllr Housden agreed attend the RCCE Village Hall and Community Building Conference at Copford Village Hall on 18 October conference and asked the Clerk to pass on details.
- (viii) Cllr J Coates thanked Cllr Ann Wiggins for taking the September meeting in her absence and advised of an InTend presentation to be held at Weeley on 6 October. She had also been advised that the Alresford Millennium Book had now been completed and needed to be bound. It was unlikely that the Millennium Committee had sufficient funds and the PC were to be asked by letter if they would be willing to give financial assistance towards this. Councillors felt this was a strong probability and would await a letter of request.

ACTION : CLERK : CLLR BELGROVE; CLLR SCOTT; CLLR HOUSDEN

There being no further business the meeting was closed by the Chairman at 10.00pm with thanks to all for their input and attendance.

**The next meeting of Alresford Parish Council will be held
on Wednesday 5 November 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**

APPENDIX 1

08/01182/FUL

Contract Interiors

Letter dated 8.9.08

Contract Interiors

Cockaynes Lane

Alresford

Variation of conditions 3,7 and 10 of planning permission 01/02031/FUL – change of use of land buildings to B2 industrial assembly, production and storage of furniture with associated office use and staff car parking (land and buildings at Cockaynes Orchard)

The wording of condition 7 was objected to as there was no height restriction given and it was felt that this should be not more than 2 meters. Regarding condition 10 there was no objection to returning vehicles up to 20.00 hours but no later than this. No future retail activity was should be envisaged

ESS/52/97/TEN(R) Cemex Angling Ltd Letter dated 11.8.08	Land at Plumptons 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.	See below ****
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****** ESS/52/97/TEN(R) Cemex Angling Ltd ******

The Committee objected to this application on the grounds of the unwelcome visual impact and noise, and the security and safety of the site. Access from the B1027 is at the position

of a recent accident involving and causing the death of a horse and injury to its rider, and is close to two stable blocks for which planning permission has recently been given.

The mix of angling on such a scale (100 anglers), open seven days a week, with the conservation of the site would be uneasy and there is no planning gain to the village. There is already sufficient angling provision for local residents; this new facility would be for large scale fishing activities and is seen as being a commercial enterprise which breaches TCR16 for a site of importance for nature conservation. The site is also thought to be part of the Coastal Protection Belt and the effect of the proposals on wildlife from both the angling and equipment inevitably left behind (lines, hooks etc, together with the noise and disturbance would be detrimental.

It appears there has been a procedural error in sending out the notifications regarding this proposal, as only two members of the public received the correct information after first having received applications (relating I believe to a development in Mistley) and having queried this. Other residents in the area do not appear to have been properly advised.

The car parking access and arrangements are not shown on the plans enclosed. Despite notation on coloured plan P3/284/4/3 it is impossible to locate the car parking areas and access track shown in the key to the plan. This needs to be improved and further information is requested.

Finally, the Committee objected to the plan as angling use is different from the original application and the area which has now established itself as a natural area much used by overwintering, feeding and nesting birds and other indigenous wildlife will be threatened by this proposal.