

Minutes of the meeting held on the 18th November 2009

Present Cllr John Phipps (Chairman)
Cllr Andrew Hull PC Carter
Cllr Dave Isbell PCSO Chittendon
Cllr Alan Oates Tim Lucas BDC
Cllr Colin Golding
Cllr Kate Binks
Cathryn Carlisle (Clerk)
DC Tim Wilkinson

09/283 Apologies

There were none

09/284 The minutes of the PC meeting held on Wednesday 21st October 2009 were amended and signed.

09/285 Declarations of interest

Cllr Golding agenda item 09/294
Cllr Hull agenda item 09/294
Cllr Oates item 09/292

09/286 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.

As there were no members of the public present it was agreed to hear reports from the Police and a report from DC Tim Wilkinson on the LDF and housing matters affecting the Shalford and the three hamlets.

286.1 PC Carter and PCSO Chittenden reported that things had been quiet around the area there's been 13 recorded crimes between 17th Oct - 17th Nov 5 of these were theft from outbuildings, and theft from unlocked cars in the Wethersfield area. So the polices advice is to lock your car. To date there has not been any thefts of heating oil.

286.2 Cllr Tim Wilkinson reported that the maps that the Parish Council showed him at the last meeting were part of the LDF where BDC have an obligation to invite landowners to put forward land that they would like to see developed. BDC has identified 3 areas which are Witham, Northwest Braintree and Silver End for development. BDC decided where they would like to develop first then looked for the land.

BDC has it housing target up to the year 2021 as per the core strategy there will be a required review to extend the plan until 2031 which means, we could

keep on building at the rate we are now or we look to develop else where. BDC is looking at a continuation. It all depends on population driver economic driver or a mix of both. The extra settlement could be Boxted Wood, Uttlesford and Chelmsford will also need more housing. With regards to the Elsenham development in Uttlesford Cllr Wilkinson has spoken to Uttlesford and they say Elsenham has been chosen. The Parish Council at Elsenham are working hard to get this changed.

Cllr Golding is the PC representative on the Save Boxted Wood Committee which consists of Cllrs from Stebbing, Gt Saling, Rayne, Felsted, Gt Bardfield, Finchingfield, and Bardfield Saling. There is a web site set up www.saveboxtedwood.org.uk for information.

- 09/287 Presentation by Tim Lucas** Housing Research and Development Manager
Tim Lucas gave a presentation on how people register for housing on the Braintree Website www.braintree.gov.uk go to Gateway to Homechoice Housing register. And go to Login and click on register here to complete login identification. Here you have to put all your personal detail and then you go to property search and in your area. People with the greater needs get to the top of the list, our new houses will have a Box with LC which means you must have a local connection to the village. If the parish council choose to use to strong a connections such as the person must have lived in the village for 5-10 years this will very quickly get past over. The 106 agreement also needs to accommodate the fact that people go away to college and university and only come back a couple of times a year.

The draft 106 agreement will be agreed with an opportunity to amend at a later date.

Parish Councillors are to look at the draft 106 agreement for discussion at the next meeting. The review of the draft agreement to completed in March 2010.

Cllr Wilkinson suggested that the Parish Council open up dialogue with Circle Anglia so the parish council so no mistakes take place with the build.

09/288 Clerk's Report

The clerk reported that she had received a cheque for £1482.50 from P3

The clerk has also received a consultation for Review of off street parking within Braintree District. The Parish had no comments on this item.

09/289 Highways and Footpaths

09/289.1 Flower Beds

No update

09/289.2 Speedwatch

No update from Cllr Isbell.

Cllr Phipps said he had spoken to someone in Braintree Speedwatch awareness in the George Yard and he was told that the 1st time you get caught speeding by the speed gun you get a letter for the police at Billericay the 2nd a warning and the 3rd you get a visit from the police. They can not take you to court as speed watch is run by volunteers.

More volunteers are needed the Clerk to do a poster to be put on the website and the shop.

09/289.3 Water Lane

Cllr Oates gave an update on the situation at Water Lane with regards to speeding vehicle. Residents from the lane have asked ECC to put a sign saying Access Only at either end of the road. Robbie Jamieson from ECC Highways says that the Parish Council have to write and ask if this would be possible. The Clerk to write to ECC and ask if this is possible and if so could all the other signs be removed from either end of the road.

09/290 Report from the Planning Committee

09/289.1 The Clerk reported that the minimum number of Committee Members for a quorum is 3 this means the planning committee needs to have an additional member to be ensured of a quorum in the event of a member not being able to attend. The Chairman reported that as both he and the PC Vice-Chairman are voting members of any Committee of the Parish Council, one of them could attend if any member is unable to attend a Planning Committee meeting.

09/289.2 Minutes of meetings

It was agreed that the planning committee will file proper minutes as from now.

09/291 Planning Results.

09/01284/FUL & 09/01285/LBC

Demolition of modern porch to east elevation and provision of conservatory to south west of extension. Brook Cottage Water Lane Shalford.

09/01290/FUL & 09/01291/LBC

Erection of two storey extension to west side dwelling with one and half storey link adjoining single storey rear extension; demolition of C20th additions (single storey west and north) and general repair and maintenance. Garretts, Garretts Lane Shalford Braintree

09/00980/LBC Brook Cottage Water Lane Shalford Braintree CM7 4QX

Detail amendments to extension and alterations.

09/292 Finance

- 09/291.1 £176.60 Clerks Salary,
09/291.2 £45.00 Phipps Landscapes, Bus shelter maintenance
09/291.3 £ 18.17 Clerks Expenses Stamps 3 @ .39 = £1.17/Travel 30 miles @ £0.40 = £12.00/Telephone Calls £5.00
09/291.4 £144.90 MD Landscapes Grass Cutting
09/291.5 £190.00 Shalford Parochial Council - Churchyard grass cutting
Proposed Cllr Hull and Seconded Cllr Binks
09/291.6 Monthly Budget and Bank Reconciliation
The Bank Reconciliation and monthly budget were presented.

09/293 To agree the action regarding Alan Oates' claim for Footpath Cutting in 2009

Alan Oates left the meeting.

It was reported that the Clerk and the Chairman had spent a considerable amount of time trying to find a legal way to pay Cllr Oates his claim for footpath cutting for 2009. It was reported that the Chairman had been informed that the internal auditor will not sign off this years account if the Parish Council pay any more money to Cllr Oates without it being declared by the PC as a payment for services and declared as income by him and the necessary HMC&E Inland Revenue documents are completed.

The Clerk reported that a parish council is not allowed to pay a councillor for any work done on behalf of the PC, LGA 1972, s116.

Cllr Phipps reported that he had ask ECC if they could pay Cllr Oates claim directly either as 'expenses' or as a contractor employed by ECC. He had been told that that without any receipts for petrol or repairs they are unable to pay expenses and that they already employed a contractor to cut footpaths and could not be seen to take on another one. It was noted that previously Cllr Oates had stated that he could not produce fuel receipts and did his own servicing of machinery

With regard to payments under the P3 Agreement an e-mail from Charlotte Fellingham dated 21 October 2009 stated that the 12 pence per metre was a contractor's rate and that volunteers were only reimbursed of the cost of purchasing fuel and servicing of any machinery used. The payment to Cllr Oates of 12 pence per metre, as claimed, could not be considered by ECC as an 'expense' and was a contractor's rate. It was not clear how the misunderstanding had arisen and she apologized for the fact that it had not been picked up by the P3 officer in the past.

After discussion, by a unanimous vote, Cllr Eversden, Cllr Hull, Cllr Isbell, Cllr Binks, Cllr Golding and Cllr Phipps agreed that the PC had no alternative but could not pay Cllr Oates claim for cutting footpaths during 2009. Cllr Oates returned to the meeting and was told of the decision.

09/294 Parish Support Grant

After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would send a letter to Cllr Graham Butland objecting to the proposal to withdraw the PSG Grant.

09/295 Village Hall Funding

09/294.1 To receive an estimate of the annual cost of running the Village Hall.

The clerk has received a letter about the amount of money the village hall needs for the general up keep of the village hall, this includes Heating, Electric, Water, Insurance, Cleaner, Grass Cutting. This comes to £5,000 per annum. The clerk will now put this forward for consideration at the budget meeting in December.

09/294.2 To discuss a letter asking for a donation to complete the renovation of the showers.

The Clerk had received a letter from the Village Hall Management Committee asking for a £1,000 donation so that the away showers can be refurbished.

After discussion the proposal was put to a vote. The result was 2 for, 2 against, one abstention and Cllrs Golding and Hull not voting. The Chairman gave his casting vote against the proposal.

The Chairman then proposed that the PC should recommend that the Village Hall Management Committee consider using some of the £4,500, already given as a donation by the PC for playing field play equipment, to complete the refurbishment of the showers, as this money would probably not be needed until March 2010. This to be considered in the knowledge that it is probable that the PC will agree to a grant for maintenance of the Village Hall in 2010. This proposal was agreed and the Clerk will write to the Village Hall Management Committee with this suggestion.

09/296 Cluster Meeting, Panfield 16th November, to receive a verbal report of the meeting.

The meeting was attended by the Clerk, Cllr Binks and Cllr Phipps.

Vehicle Weight restrictions being ignored was once again a topic. Robbie Jamieson ECC Highways suggested that the three parishes have a separate meeting to agree a plan for overcoming this problem. This plan to be submitted to ECC for consideration. The list of projects to be considered by ECC Highways contained an error with the place name signs for Shalford Green being put down as 'gateway signs' for Church End. The Clerk will write to Olive Cowel regarding getting this error rectified.

The proposal to withdraw the Parish Support Grant was outlined and all three PCs present stated that they were against the proposal.

ECC gave a presentation on Transport in the area

09/297 Matters to be raised by members for the next agenda

- Boxted Wood
- 2010 Budget
- S 106 Agreements
- Parking on the pavements at Church End

09/298 Date of next Meeting

16th December 2009

09/299 Meeting Closed at 10.40pm

Signed

Dated.....