

Minutes of the Parish Council, held on Wednesday, 21st July 2010

Present Cllr John Phipps (Chairman)
Cllr David Eversden
Cllr Dave Isbell
Cllr Colin Golding
Cllr Hull
Cathryn Carlisle (Clerk)
Andrew Brown ECC
James Egan ECC

7 members of the public

The Chairman welcomed Andrew Brown and James Egan and the members of the public.

10/421 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Binks
Cllr Oates

10/422 The minutes of the PC meeting held on Wednesday 16th June 2010 were approved and signed

10/423 Declarations of interest

There were none

10/424 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.

Members of the public were concerned with what would be happening to the amenity site once the site closes on 29th July. People have already broken into the site recently by taking down a fence. What is ECC going to do to stop people entering the site once it's closed? There were also concerns about vehicles parking at night causing noise nuisance.

10/425 Clerk's Report

The clerk had received an email from Brenda Hanley saying that she will be giving up as the Shalford 'press secretary' from the end of August. The subject of a replacement for Brenda will be an agenda item in August.

The clerk had received letters from the Village Hall Committee and Shalford School PTA thanking the Parish Council for the grants they have received.

A letter has been received from Holmes and Hill regarding the PC taking a part in the management of Sewage Treatment Plant at Jasper's Green. This will be an agenda item in August.

Braintree District Council has started the Green Heart of Essex campaign which is a two year campaign to keep the district in tip top condition.

The clerk has received a letter from Highways saying that the sites for the two salt/grit bins have been approved. These are opposite 'Little Martins' at Victoria Hill and opposite the George at the entrance to Barryfield. ECC are waiting for the completion of boundary searches, once these have been completed the salt bins can be put into place.

A new funding opportunity for community wildlife programme has been launched.

As the PC wishes to monitor the effectiveness of ECC being responsible for cutting the footpaths that were cut under the P3 scheme it is essential that the Clerk is told of any footpaths that are in need of cutting and only the Clerk report the matter to ECC. If other councillors contact ECC it cannot be on behalf of the PC and therefore is not an 'official' complaint.

The clerk had received an e-mail from Cllr Oates regarding 'poaching' the verge in Water Hall Lane by placing logs on the verge opposite Flint Cottage. This has been passed on to ECC Highways Department who will be putting roadside reflectors on the verge opposite Flint Cottage to keep vehicles from mounting the verge.

10/426 Stoneley Park/Amenity Site

Andrew Brown stated that he and James Egan had agreed to come to this meeting to get feedback from the Parish Council and local residents, on the plans that ECC have for the site and to explain the time line for the site's closure and remediation. The site will close pm 29th July and the new site opens on Friday the 30th July at 9 am. People will be at the Shalford site for 3 weekends after the site closes to inform people where to go etc. BDC clean team will check the gates when passing to see if anyone leaves any rubbish. People are to report any fly tipping to BDC Clean team.

It was suggested that signs on the roads from Saling, Stebbing, Wethersfield and Bocking would help let people know that Shalford site is closed. Andrew Brown informed the PC that such signs are not allowed.

Once the site is cleared ECC will apply to the Environment Agency to get the waste management licence revoked. This could take 3 to 4 months and until this has been done nothing else can be done. Once the licence has been

removed ECC will then apply to BDC for a change of use. In the meantime ECC could be looking for local people to open and close the gates. But with the concerns that people might try and break into the site the PC recommended that as soon as the site is cleared of everything on site the outer green gates be locked and kept locked until the remediation work commences. Andrew Brown agreed to this proposal and in addition the inner gates will either have soil placed inside the gates or large concrete blocks would be placed so that no vehicles can access the 'amenity site'. While the Green Gates are locked some three vehicles could still be parked in the gateway. It was suggested that instead of making a larger car park, a lay-by on the side of the Braintree Road could provide parking for visitors to Stoneley Park. ECC will speak to Highways to see if this is possible.

ECC will continue to manage the site cutting the grass, maintain footpaths and looking after any water and gas evolution problems. The only vehicles that are allowed into Stoneley Park are vehicles from ECC. ECC will still need 24hr access to monitor the gas at the park. It was agreed that the PC will be kept informed of all developments and a new lease that will set out the responsibilities of the PC and ECC for managing Stoneley Park.

At this juncture the Chairman closed the meeting in order to give members of the public the opportunity of asking questions and making comments about the information they had been given.

The major concern was still over vehicles parking at night causing noise nuisance and most members of the public present thought that a 'car park within the Green Gates was not necessary. There was also concern over 'travellers' moving onto the site.

After thanking Andrew Brown and James Egan for attending the Chairman reconvened the meeting.

10/427 Report from the Planning Committee

Cllr Golding made a comment that the core of the Planning Committee consisted of himself, Cllr Oates and Cllr Isbell. As all the other councillors are members of the Planning Committee they are welcome to the meetings. If any of the three core Planning Committee cannot attend a meeting they are to contact the Clerk in order that it can be arranged for another Councillor to be present at the meeting to make sure there is a quorum.

10/428 Finance

10/428.1	£176.60	Clerks Salary,
10/428.2	£45.00	Phipps Landscapes, Bus shelter maintenance
10/428.3	£23.14	Clerks Expenses Stamps 3.88/Travel 34 miles @ £0.40 = £13.60/Telephone Calls £5.00

10/428.4 £204.46 MD Landscapes Grass Cutting
10/428.5 £37.50 Madeline Eversden 50% repairs to computer
10/428.6 Monthly Budget and Bank Reconciliation -These where approved
10/428.7 £55.00 RCCE Subs
10/428.8 £41.00 SLCC Subs
10/428.9 £14.87 E-on Electricity
All Payments were approved.

10/430 Standing Orders

A Vote of thanks was given to Cllr Eversden for all his hard work on printing out the Standing Orders.

Their adoption was proposed by Cllr Golding and Seconded Cllr Hull and agreed unanimously.

10/431 Speedwatch

It was reported that the speed-gun had been sent away for recalibration and the Speed Watch programme should be up and running next week.

10/432 Rural Housing Questionnaire

The Parish Council felt they needed more time to look at the survey and this will be completed at the August meeting.

10/433 Village Hall Management Committee matters affecting the Parish Council

Cllr Phipps attended a Village Hall Management meeting earlier in the week and reported that the fete will be taking place in September.

10/434 Matters to be raised by members for the next agenda

Shalford Press Secretary

Rural Housing Questionnaire

Sewage Treatment Plant at Jasper's Green, reply to letter from Holmes and Hill

10/435 Date of next Meeting

18th August 2010

10/436 Meeting closed 9.25pm

Signed..... Dated.....