

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Parish Council Meeting

12th April 2010

- ❖ Good evening everybody hopefully you have all signed in – if not please do so.
- ❖ As usual I remind you that this is not an open meeting, but there will be a Public Forum later in the meeting at which any topic may be raised and discussed.
- ❖ Firstly may I introduce Gary Donoghue of Harwich Runners who is with us tonight - no doubt to talk about this year's Wix 5-mile - and also Sharon Scott, who may well assist us in running the Youth Club.
- ❖ We still await the survey forms from The English Rural Housing Association in respect of the provision of affordable housing in Wix. In anticipation of their imminent arrival may I request that **every** resident responds to the survey questionnaire to ensure that the villagers as a whole are properly represented.
- ❖ We also still await the outcome of our CIF bid for funds for our village gateways - as yet there is no further hint of when a decision will be made.
- ❖ The enforcement notice in respect of tidying up the White Hart under notice 09/00526/UNTDY3 - untidy site - is reported as cleared, although I have had one complaint that what has been done is not enough. However, I can report that, as recently as last Friday and Saturday work was continuing to be carried out inside the premises. Precisely what is being done inside I am unable to tell you - because, ironically, the complainant just referred to kept me talking at the very time that I intended to talk to the contractors involved. By the time I "escaped" the contractors had left!

I can, however, inform this meeting that the White Hart has now been placed on the Historic Buildings at Risk Register and that I remain in touch with Phil Hornby of TDC Planning Heritage in this respect. I would also advise that English Heritage will continue to show a lack of interest in the plight of this property until we can change the listing from a Grade II to at least a grade II*- which is a difficult and almost impossible task.

- ❖ The Zippy Moonflower / Mayflower Cottage situation remains as at last reported, namely that Mr Moonflowers bank is holding up critical paperwork. I have been too busy on other matters to follow this up with TDC enforcement. It is, of course well beyond the enforcement deadline of the 1st March.
As said before it is not in the interest of the Village to allow this site to revert to wasteland.
- ❖ We have now had a cost for clearing the land at the allotment site of £5K this considerable amount of money is primarily because of the transport costs of removing the unwanted material from the site. The land considered suitable for clearing would give us fifteen full sized plots. This matter is on the agenda for discussion later in this meeting.

Since our last meeting we have had one new planning application within the village. It is for a portal frame side extension to form a general purpose agricultural building for grading and general storage at Hempstalls Farm, Clacton Road, Horsley Cross. At present this does not appear to be contentious. The planning number is: 10/00285/FUL.

- ❖ As always, I wish to thank Sue and all of the councillors for their hard work – work that is not always appreciated outside the Council.
- ❖ Finally, I am about to take a short break away from the village and, because my deputy resigned a few weeks ago and the spot has yet to be filled Steve has kindly volunteered to cover for the duration of that break..
- ❖ Thank you for listening.

JAM 11th April 2010