

CANEWDON PARISH COUNCIL



Clerk to the CPC: Mrs Kelly Holland
33 Rowan Way
Canewdon
Essex
SS4 3PD

Tel: 07596 747873
Email: canewdonparishcouncil@btconnect.com

Minutes of the Parish Council Precept Meeting held in the Trust House on Wednesday 11th November 2009 at 7.30pm.

Present:	<u>Chairman</u>	Cllr. N. Wallace	
	<u>Vice Chairman</u>	Cllr. V. Newby	
	<u>Councillors</u>	Cllr. A. Haken Cllr. J. Smith Cllr. L. Van Houten	Cllr. R. Kirton Cllr. N. Storer
	<u>Members of press and public</u>	None	

THE MEETING IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC BETWEEN 7.30pm to 7.40pm.

- 09/224**
224.1 **Apologies for Absence.**
Cllr. E. Toleman – no apologies received.
- 09/225**
225.1 **To receive member's declaration of interests in items on the Agenda.**
09/226 – Cllr. J. Smith declared a personal interest as she is the secretary of St Nicholas' Church.
225.2 09/227 - Cllr. R. Kirton declared a personal interest as he is an allotment tenant.
225.3 09/229 – Cllr. J. Smith declared a personal interest as she is a member of the CCA.
225.4 09/229 – Vice Chairman, V. Newby declared a personal interest as he is a member of the CCA and the rebuild committee.
225.5 09/234 – Cllr. J. Smith declared a personal interest as she is the editor of the broomstick.
- 09/226**
226.1 **Review Contracts.**
Grass cutting for St Nicholas' Church and the Congregational Church.
Quote for 10/11 is the same price as 09/10.

Councillors agreed that as there have been no complaints on service and the pricing has been held, the grass cutting budget should remain unchanged. **All in favour.**
- 09/227**
227.1 **Allotment Gardens**
To review the allotment gardens rent.
Clerk advised that the allotment rents totalled £598 per year.

Due to the increase of water for the second year running Vice Chairman, V. Newby proposed increasing the water charge to £10.00 per full plot per year and £5.00 per half plot per year. **All in favour.**

Due to necessary improvements and extra maintenance to the allotment gardens Vice Chairman, V. Newby proposed increasing the allotment garden rent to £13.00 per full plot per year and £6.50 per half plot per year. **All in favour.**

- 227.2 To consider buying tools for the allotments.
Due to the Health and Safety issues it was agreed that this was not viable. **All in favour.**
- 227.3 To consider buying a new gate for the Anchor Lane access.
Councillors reviewed the quotes and requested further quotes in steel and galvanised metal. The Chairman, N. Wallace requested quotes from local companies.
- Cllr. L. Van Houten advised that she may know someone in Paglesham who can make a metal gate. She will forward the contact details to the Clerk.
- Cllr. L. Van Houten also suggested contacting RDC to see what company they use and also contact Patrick McKenna at RDC to see if products are still being made from trees that fell in Hockley Woods.
- Clerk to provide further quotes at the December Parish Council meeting.
- Payment for the new gate will come from the 2009/10 Village Repairs budget. **All in favour.**
- 227.4 To consider other one-off expenses including hiring a skip.
Councillors reviewed the quotes for skip hire and requested a quote from T J Cottis. Clerk to provide additional quote at the December Parish Council meeting.
- Payment for the skip will come from the 2009/10 Allotment maintenance budget. **All in favour.**
- 09/228**
228.1 **CPC assets.**
To review assets and consider the proposed budget for 2010/11.
Councillors agreed that no repairs were needed at present but agreed to keep the budget the same as the bus shelters and stocks may need painting/varnishing. **All in favour.**
- Chairman, N. Wallace requested that a thank you letter be sent to Mr Cook of Scotts Hall Road for cleaning and looking after the bus shelter in Scotts Hall Road. **All in favour.**
- Cllr. J. Smith requested a similar letter be sent to Mrs Cottis for the cleaning the bus shelter at Loftmans Corner, Lambourne Hall Road. **All in favour.**
- Cllr. R. Kirton requested a thank you letter be sent to Mr Tindley for clearing the village of rubbish. **All in favour.**
- 09/229**
229.1 **Village Hall Rebuild**
To discuss match funding.
Vice Chairman, V. Newby advised that the total bill for the whole rebuild is thought to be £500,000.
- The plans and advisory service will cost £30,000, a grant is available but match funding will be needed. The CCA are match funding £5000. Vice Chairman, V. Newby suggested that the CPC match fund £5000 also.
- After reviewing the budget a vote was taken to agree to match fund £5000, Vice Chairman, V. Newby and Cllr. J. Smith abstained. **All in favour.**
- 09/230**
230.1 **Training**
To discuss and agree any training required for Councillors.
Chairman, N. Wallace to attend Chairman's Day 2 & 3 at a cost of £108.
- Councillors requested a training session with Joy Shepherd of the EALC for January 2010. This will benefit Cllr. N. Storer and the new Councillor who is expected to be co-opted at the December Parish Council meeting. The training session will also be a refresher for other Councillors. **All in favour.**

- 230.2 To discuss and agree any training required for the Clerk.
Clerk advised that the only training that she thinks is needed for 2010/11 is the Election Day course at a cost of £54. **All in favour.**
- 09/231**
231.1 **Councillor Allowances**
To discuss whether there is a need for Councillor Allowances.
Councillors agreed that as long as reasonable expenses are reimbursed, there is no need for allowances. **All in favour.**
- 09/232**
232.1 **Clerk**
To discuss the Clerks working hours.
Clerk advised that she is doing between 3 and 6 hours overtime per month, which is mainly due to the monthly meeting.

It was suggested increasing the Clerks hours from 15 hours per week to 16 hours per week.
All in favour.
- 232.2 To discuss the University of Gloucester degree course.
Clerk advised that there is a two year home study course costing £3225. A £500 grant can be claimed from the Clerks training bursary for 2010 and may be available in 2011 but has not yet been confirmed.

Cllr J Smith suggested deferring for a year as this is not essential, and in view of the contribution to the CCA for the village hall rebuild. **All in favour.**
- 09/233**
233.1 **To discuss the closing reserve for 2009/10.**
The Councillors agreed that the closing reserve is lower than previous years but accepted that this due to a withdrawal in 2008.
- 09/234**
234.1 **To discuss and set Precept for the financial year 2010/11.**
Councillors reviewed the budget and precept report.
- 234.2 The precept figure for 2010/11 is £29,411. **All in favour.**

The next Parish Council Meeting is on Wed. 2nd DECEMBER 2009 at 7.40pm

The meeting was closed at 9.30pm

Chairman's Signature



Dated

2nd December 2009