

CANEWDON PARISH COUNCIL



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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting at Canewdon Village Hall on Wednesday 3rd March 2010 at 7.40pm.

Present: Chairman Cllr. N. Wallace
Vice Chairman Cllr. V. Newby
Councillors Cllr. R. Kirton Cllr. P. Merrell
Cllr. N. Storer Cllr. E. Toleman
Members of press and public Five

09/295 **Apologies for Absence.**

295.1 Cllr. L. Van Houten – apologies received and accepted.
295.2 Cllr. J. Smith – apologies received and accepted.

09/296 **Acceptance of Minutes from the meeting dated 3rd February 2010.**

296.1 Proposed acceptance of minutes by Vice Chairman, V. Newby and seconded by Cllr. R. Kirton. Signed by the Chairman, N. Wallace as a true record.

09/297 **Progress Report from the Clerk.**

297.1 Clerk gave her report on actions from the previous meeting.

09/298 **To receive member's declaration of interests in items on the Agenda.**

298.1 09/312 - Cllr. R. Kirton declared a personal interest as he is an allotment tenant.
298.2 09/312 - Cllr. E. Toleman declared a personal interest as he is an allotment tenant.
298.3 09/305.1 - Cllr. P Merrell declared a prejudicial interest as the proposal is in close proximity to her residence/public house.

09/299 **To agree to adopt the non mandatory section of the Code Of Conduct paragraph 12(2).**

299.1 It was **RESOLVED** by a unanimous show of hands to adopt paragraph 12(2) of the Code of Conduct.

09/300 **Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.**

There will be 10 minutes available for public question time.

- A member of the public asked if there were any plans for traffic calming by the village pond. The Chairman, N. Wallace advised that this is being discussed with ECC Highways.
- It was also noted that the new traffic calming island in Anchor Lane results in traffic steering towards the school gates. Councillors advised that an ECC engineer decided on the location of the island.
- The Councillors were advised that there are some overgrown conifers by the junction of Gardiners Lane and Lambourne Hall Road. The Chairman, N. Wallace requested the Clerk write to the landowner.
- A member of the public was concerned about excessive water coming down from Church Hill. The Chairman, N. Wallace advised that apart from the recent burst water main, this could be due to rain water or could be from the pond at the Vicarage. Clerk to monitor.

- A brief discussion was had regarding speeding cars on Anchor Lane by Sycamore Way. The Vice Chairman, V. Newby advised that the CPC had looked at enforcing a 20mph speed limit on Anchor Lane but were advised by ECC Highways that traffic calming islands would be needed for the enforcement.
- A local farmer was disappointed with ECC regarding clearing the snow and ice from the highway in the bad weather. He advised that the farmers were clearing some roads without any reimbursement or acknowledgement. The Chairman, N. Wallace asked the Clerk to contact Lyn Harvey at ECC for the procedure in contacting contractors in snow & ice emergencies.

09/301 Parish Councillor Vacancy

301.1 To see if any member of the public is interested in the vacancy.

Mr M. Thorne registered an interest in the vacancy and was invited by Councillors to observe the meeting. The Chairman, N. Wallace asked the Clerk to arrange the relevant documentation in preparation to co-opt Mr Thorne onto the Parish Council at the April meeting.

09/302 Finance:

302.1 To approve Bank Reconciliation Figures for February 2010 (Appendix 1).

Checked and proposed acceptance by Vice Chairman, V. Newby and seconded by Cllr. N. Storer.

302.2 To approve March 2010 Payments/Cheques for signature in accordance with the 2009/10 budget (Appendix 1).

Checked and proposed acceptance by Chairman, N. Wallace and seconded by Vice Chairman, V. Newby.

302.3 To agree to notify the ICO (Information Commissioners Office) under the Data Protection Act, at a cost of £35 per year.

It was **RESOLVED** by a unanimous show of hands to notify the Information Commissioner.

302.4 To discuss and decide whether to purchase "Standing Orders for Local Councils" from the EALC at a cost of £25.00.

Available budget: £145.40 – Training (inc. books)

It was **RESOLVED** by a unanimous show of hands to purchase the new information on Standing Orders from the EALC.

302.5 To discuss and agree to instruct ACS to complete the PFI spreadsheet at a cost of approx £208.

Available budget: £2486.80 – Street light Maintenance

It was **RESOLVED** by a unanimous show of hands to instruct ACS to complete the PFI spreadsheet.

302.6 To discuss and decide whether to purchase a personalised CPC rubber stamp for council envelopes & documents (Appendix 2).

Available budget: £342.75 – Other Office Equipment

It was **RESOLVED** by a unanimous show of hands to purchase a personalised rubber stamp from Rubber Stamps Direct at a cost of £12.91.

302.7 To discuss and decide whether to give a donation to Mr Tindley for litter picking under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Available budget: £38.08 – Village repairs/Maintenance

The Chairman, N. Wallace advised that Mr Tindley is a volunteer and must have instructions on what he should and shouldn't do, including a risk assessment. Vice Chairman, V. Newby to discuss with Mr Tindley. Defer to April meeting.

302.8 To advise that the interest accrued on the National Savings Account for 2009 totalled £24.47.

Noted.

302.9 To agree that the Premium Account will drop below the authorised limit of £4000 to facilitate payments from the Current Account in March 2010.

It was **RESOLVED** by a unanimous show of hands that the Premium Account would drop below the authorised limit of £4000 until the first precept instalment in April 2010.

09/303 To receive a report from the District Councillor, T. Capon.

- Belated apologies were given for last month.

- District Councillor, T. Capon requested that her name be removed from future agendas.
- RDC have held their meeting regarding setting the Council Tax. Some comments were made regarding the increase in parish precepts. RDC were advised that more work was coming down to parishes, and that precepts go up and then may not change at all over next few years.

09/304 Personnel Committee

304.1 To appoint three Councillors to the personnel committee.

It was **RESOLVED** by a unanimous show of hands that the Chairman, N. Wallace, Vice Chairman, V. Newby and Cllr. P. Merrell would sit on the personnel committee.

304.2 To agree that the personnel committee have delegated power to:

a) deal with a grievance;

b) issue disciplinary action;

c) employ a clerk or responsible financial officer.

It was **RESOLVED** by a unanimous show of hands that the personnel committee would have delegated power to deal with a grievance, issue disciplinary action and employ a Clerk or RFO.

09/305 Planning:

Councillor P Merrell left the meeting whilst this item was discussed.

305.1 Location: Baltic Wharf, Wallasea Island
Application No: 09/00591/HAZARD
Proposal: To handle and store bagged ammonium nitrate fertiliser at transit shed no.11 and open area alongside for a period of two years, and use of new buildings shed no. 27 & 28 and open space between them thereafter.
CPC Comments: Shed 11 and the proposed open storage areas seem close to the boundaries and cause concern regarding security. Concerned that if Wallasea Island floods the material could cause contamination to the River Crouch and have a negative impact on the RSPB project. More lorries would be travelling along roads that are not designed or maintained for this kind of traffic.

Councillor P Merrell returned to the meeting.

305.2 Location: Pudsey Hall Farm, Pudsey Hall Lane
Application No: 09/00655/FUL
Proposal: Retain existing dwelling.
CPC Comments: If these elements were the subject of an upheld Enforcement Notice, then they should not remain & we strongly object to their retention.

305.3 Location: Wades, Creeksea Road
Application No: 10/00041/FUL
Proposal: Demolish existing structure and construct part two storey part single storey rear extension.
CPC Comments: This site is in the Green Belt and the dwelling has already been significantly extended. Not only does this proposal result in even more floor space, but the resultant appearance completely ruins the scale and character of the existing building. We believe the proposal will adversely affect the openness and character of the Green Belt.

305.4 Location: 4 West Cottages, High Street
Application No: 09/00710/FUL
Proposal: Install four double glazed windows to front elevation.
CPC Comments: Awaiting comments from the planning committee.

305.5 To agree to devolve power to the Clerk to respond to planning applications on the Council's behalf. The Clerk must have regard to comments from the planning committee and also consult with one councillor on the planning committee before comments are submitted.
 It was **RESOLVED** by a unanimous show of hands to devolve power to the Clerk to respond to planning applications with the implementation of the following alteration:

"The Clerk must have regard to comments from the planning committee and also consult with at least one councillor on the planning committee before comments are submitted"

09/306 Community Led Plans

306.1 To discuss and decide whether the CPC wish to partake in community led planning (such as parish plans and village design statements) and decide whether anyone would like to attend the RCCE training session on Saturday 27th March 2010 at a cost of £25, plus travel expenses. Available budget – Training: £145.40
Councillors are unable to commit to an ongoing project such as a parish plan at this time.

09/307 Localism

307.1 To decide what action to take regarding the traffic calming in the High Street.
The Chairman, N. Wallace advised that this would need to be brought up at the East Area Committee meeting. The Chairman, N. Wallace asked the Clerk to write to the Committee to address this issue.

09/308 2010 Essex Village of the Year and Best Kept Village Competition (Appendix 3)

308.1 To discuss and decide whether to enter these competitions.
It was **RESOLVED** by a unanimous show of hands that the Parish Council would enter these competitions.

09/309 Essex on Tour (deferred from February's meeting).

309.1 To discuss the scheme and decide whether the CPC would be interested in organising a performance.
Vice Chairman, V. Newby advised that the CCA have not yet had a meeting. Defer to April Meeting.

09/310 Village Cleanup Day (deferred from February's meeting).

310.1 To discuss and decide a date for the cleanup day.
Vice Chairman, V. Newby advised that the CCA have not yet had a meeting. Defer to April Meeting.

09/311 Provision of gritting facilities (deferred from February's meeting) (Appendix 4).

311.1 The Councillors reviewed the email from ECC Highways. The Chairman, N. Wallace requested that the Clerk chase ECC regarding gritting boxes at the end of August 2010 for an update on the situation.

09/312 Allotments Report from Allotment Rep Cllr Richard Kirton.

- The new gate has been installed and should last for some time.
- Cllr. R. Kirton requested that the skip be delivered at the same time as the Village Clean Up day. Defer to April meeting to confirm the date.
- The hedge in Anchor Lane needs cutting. Vice Chairman, V. Newby advised that the farmers' tractor was being fixed and will be done within next few weeks.

09/313 Faulty Street Lights Report (see attached list) (Appendix 5).

313.1 Report given.

09/314 Items from Councillors to be added to next Agenda.

314.1 None

09/315 The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wed. 7th APRIL 2010 at 7.30pm.

09/316 The next Parish Council Meeting is on Wed. 7th APRIL 2010 at 7.40pm.

The meeting was closed at 8.35pm

Chairman's Signature



Dated

7th April 2010