

# Wakes Colne Parish Council

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MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY WAKES COLNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2010 AT 7.15PM IN THE WAKES COLNE VILLAGE HALL.

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IN THE CHAIR:                    **CLLR. J. TAYLOR.**  
PRESENT:                         **CLLRS: S. STRATFORD, K. MARTIN, S. HOUNSLOW,**  
                                       **H. CRESSWELL, D. DWYER & A. HANNINGTON.**  
CLERK:                            **MRS V. BURROWS.**  
ALSO PRESENT:                 **WARD CLLR. P. CHILLINGWORTH & FOUR MEMBERS OF THE**  
                                       **PUBLIC.**

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22<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY 2010.

**10/001: CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME.**

Cllr. Jim Taylor welcomed those present to the re-scheduled meeting. Cllr. Taylor explained that the meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> January was cancelled due to the spell of bad weather and owing to the amount of Council Business that had to be conducted, he had decided to re-schedule the meeting rather than cancel until the next meeting in February.

**10/002: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

No apologies.

**10/003: MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.**

Draft minutes of the meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2009 had been circulated prior to the meeting.

***RESOLUTION 10/001 THAT THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 2<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER 2009 ARE ACCEPTED AS BEING A TRUE RECORD OF THE MEETING WITH THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENT. AGENDA ITEM 09/198 ITEM 1. AFTER 'COMMENTS, IT SHOULD READ THAT CLLR HOUNSLOW LEFT THE ROOM'.***

PROPOSED: CLLR. STRATFORD. SECONDED: CLLR. MARTIN. FOR: ALL.

**10/004: DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.**

To receive any 'personal' or 'personal and prejudicial' interests relating to items on the agenda. Members of the council are subject to the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007 (SI. 2007/1159) (The Revised Code) with the additional non-mandatory section 12(2)

***Cllr. Hannington 'personal and prejudicial' interest. Item 10/011.***

**10/005: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION WITH RESPECT TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AND OTHER MATTERS THAT ARE OF MUTUAL INTEREST.**

Two members of the public wished it to be recorded that they had been in touch with Colchester Borough Council about the state of the road outside their cottage. The road in question was the A1124 Wakes Street. They stated that the road was in a very bad state of repair and when the large lorries came thundering up and down the road it was shaking their property. The Parish Council stated that they had been in touch with Highways and had reported the condition of all the roads in the Parish, the Clerk also informed the meeting that Tyburn Hill on the A1124 was due to be closed overnight on the 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> February to have the carriageway repairs completed.

**10/006: Ex AGENDA.**

Cllr. Peter Chillingworth spoke briefly on the following issues:

- ❖ Further to the Land and Philip Morant School issue that was spoken about at the last meeting it was reported that this issue had been resolved by Colchester Borough Council. The land had now been made available for development and the project had had the go ahead to start.
- ❖ Refuse collections during the bad weather. Cllr. Chillingworth commented that generally the refuse service had continued in a professional manner despite the bad weather conditions. Everybody seemed happy in Wakes Colne with the service provided and no comments had been received to suggest otherwise. It was also spoken about the legality of spreading salt from the salt bins in the Parishes and who would be responsible, Cllr. Chillingworth reported that if Parish Councils wished to spread salt from the bins they need to get a special dispensation from the Highways Authority to cover themselves.
- ❖ Heatseekers. This is a new initiative from Colchester Borough Council (CBC). It is where thermal images are taken of properties exteriors (the cameras **cannot** see through walls), and the data is analysed to assess which properties are losing the most heat. This initiative is being rolled out over the Borough in 2010 / 2011.
- ❖ The Courier was also spoken about, as most households in Wakes Colne had not received one. It was suggested that a breakdown in communication had occurred but we should all receive the next issue.
- ❖ The Waste and Recycling Consultation had been extended to the 29<sup>th</sup> January if anybody wanted to comment.

Cllr Taylor advised that he was pulling forward Agenda items 10/012 & 10/013 due to a member of the public wishing to speak on both of these items. The meeting was closed to allow Mr Shaun Castle to speak.

**10/012: Lower Green – Phone Box – Request for Adoption.**

Mr Castle explained how he had become interested in the Phone Box and what he could offer the Council in respect of the maintenance and up-keep of the phone box once it had been adopted. Mr Castle agreed subject to the box being adopted that he would maintain the box to the required standard of the Council with the costs of materials being the responsibility of the Council. Mr Castle agreed to give his time and knowledge for the benefit of the community. It was suggested to get the box in some sort of order it would cost in the region of approx. £60.

The meeting was re-opened and the Members voted on adoption of the phone box.

***RESOLUTION 10/002 THAT PHONE BOX AT LOWER GREEN BE ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL SUBJECT TO FINDING OUT ABOUT ANY HIDDEN COSTS.***

**PROPOSED: CLLR. STRATFORD. SECONDED: CLLR. CRESSWELL. FOR: ALL.**

### **10/013: Adopted Phone Box on the A1124 ideas for upkeep.**

The Clerk explained that the adoption had gone through for this phone box and it was now down to the Parish Council to follow the procedure through and the Clerk had been given details on how to do this. Cllr. Martin reported that he had heard a news report which stated that there were some hidden costs when adopting BT Phone Boxes and it was requested that the Clerk look into this and report back next meeting. The meeting was closed again to allow Mr Castle to comment on the A1124 Phone Box which he said was not in as bad a state of repair as the Lower Green box. Again, he suggested a cost of approx. £30 to paint and repair.

### **10/007: CLERKS REPORT.**

The Clerk asked if anybody needed any clarification on items in the Clerks Report and none were requested. The Clerk delivered a couple of updates and these were as follows:

- ❖ Clerk advised that the 2010 NAP meeting dates that had been received were correct although the venue had changed. The Clerk agreed to put the correct venues in the next Clerks Report.
- ❖ It was noted that the notice board due to be removed at Middle Green was not now covered on the insurance. It was also discussed that the notice board was going to be repaired as opposed to being scrapped. It was agreed that due to its bad state of repair there was still no need to insure it once it had been 'patched up'.
- ❖ The Clerk advised that Chappel Parish Council had been approached via e-mail by an agent acting on behalf of the landowners of a piece of land in Vernons Road near to the Orchard Place (Traveller Site). The reason for being approached was to explore the possibility of affordable housing on this area of land. It was agreed that the Clerk would keep the Council informed of any developments.

### **10/008: FINANCE & EXPENDITURE.**

- 1) Cheques/BACS payments to be approved for payment and signed (See payment schedule). It was noted that when all the cheques had been cashed the Current Account would be overdrawn by £285.56. It was agreed that the Clerk should transfer funds from the High Interest Account to cover the short fall.

***RESOLUTION 10/003. THAT THE CLERK TRANSFERS £1,500 FROM THE HIGH INTEREST ACCOUNT TO COVER THE 2 CHEQUES WHICH HAVE BEEN AUTHORISED FOR PAYMENT.***

**PROPOSED: CLLR. MARTIN. SECONDED: CLLR. TAYLOR. FOR: ALL.**

- 2) Budget Statement for December 2009 / January 2010. The statement was discussed in full and the Clerk explained what the money had been spent on.
- 3) Insurance Policy & Lights. The Clerk explained that the insurance policy had been updated to include the Bus Shelter on the A1124 and the lights which had recently been upgraded. Next month it was expected that we would have an invoice for the outstanding amount of money owing on the newly insured street furniture.

### **10/009: PLANNING APPLICATIONS & RESULTS.**

None

**10/010: Sheltered Seat for the Elderly.** It was reported that the insurance company were waiting for 2 quotes to replace the shelter that was burnt down. One quote had been received from Wayne Goodchild and we were waiting for a further one to be sought. The Clerk reported that we could also apply for a grant from

Essex County Council to replace the sheltered seat. It was agreed that the Clerk would find out more information and report back at the next meeting.

**10/011: Chappel Bridge – Road Closure - Update.**

Cllr. Hannington spoke at length about the proposed new bridge and footway. He advised that the County Structures Manager from Essex County Council would be prepared to come out and present to both Chappel and Wakes Colne Parish Council's with regards to the situation so far. It was agreed that the Clerk would send a formal invitation once a date had been agreed.

**10/014: Grass area near to Village Shop.**

Cllr. Taylor explained that he would like the Parish Council to take an interest in the area where the tree had been planted in 1995 on the corner of The Street & A1124. He explained that at present, it was looking very untidy and did not give a good impression when passing along the A1124. It was discussed that, at present the piece of land in question was not registered with Land Registry as being owned by the Parish Council. It was discussed that once the weather gets better we need to get the land tidied up and it was suggested that we approach somebody to do this. Cllr. Martin agreed to co-ordinate the project.

**10/015: NAP Update.**

Cllr. Dwyer reported that the NAP meeting *again* had been a waste of time. The Nightclub at Copford had been the main the agenda item which had taken up an hour of the meeting. Other items that followed took up a mere 5 minutes. **The meeting was closed to allow Cllr Chillingworth to speak.** It was reported that the NAP meetings in the Rural West Area were not very successful due to a low crime rate and therefore it was suggested in the future that maybe scrapped. The meeting was re-opened and Cllr Dwyer announced that he was standing down as a Councillor from the Parish Council with immediate effect. Cllr Taylor said he was very sorry to hear of Cllr Dwyer's resignation but wished him well in the future. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the Borough and get the position advertised. It was suggested that instead of a new representative being appointed to attend the NAP meeting it would be more beneficial for the Police to attend the monthly Council meeting and the Clerk was instructed to try and organise this for the March Meeting.

**The meeting was re-opened.**

**10/016: CALC Meeting Report.**

Cllr Hounslow reported that she had not attended the meeting and therefore could not give a report. Cllr Hounslow also reported that she would not be attending anymore meetings as it was too time consuming for her. The Council's other members thought it was important that somebody from Wakes Colne Parish attend the 3 monthly meetings and Cllr Hannington agreed to become the new representative. It was agreed that the Clerk would e-mail the CALC Clerk to amend their records.

**10/017: Footpath Update.**

The meeting was closed to allow Cllr. Martin to speak to Cllr. Cresswell. The meeting was re-opened and Cllr. Martin spoke about a footpath which had been destroyed by horses. Cllr Martin agreed to report back at the next meeting with regards to this issue. The Clerk advised that the new P3 representative had been invited to speak at Chappel Parish Council's February meeting and all Cllrs. from Wakes Colne had been invited and were welcome to attend.

**10/018: Next Agenda Items.**

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| Broomhill Culvert            | March Meeting  |
| Highways                     | A1124 and issues raised in the Public Forum.                                 |
| East Anglian Railway Museum  | 2.4-meter gate on to Spring Gardens Road erected without planning permission |
| East Anglian Railway Museum  | Development of Orchard   |
| Phone Boxes                  | A1124 & Lower Green update.  |
| Grass Area near Village Shop | Progress Report  |
| Reports from Cllr Martin     | Footpaths  |

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

The next meeting is on the 3rd February 2010 at 7.15pm at Wakes Colne Village Hall, Wakes Colne. Our Chairperson Cllr. Taylor thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

Signed.....  
Chairperson of the Parish Council

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2010

