

# Wakes Colne Parish Council

[www.wakescolne.org](http://www.wakescolne.org)

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## Clerks Report November 2009

### Things ongoing in November

As I start to collate all the information for the November Clerks Report I would like you all to consider a thought that I have had: Since the beginning of 2009 the Parish of Wakes Colne has indeed been very busy with lots of issues, some of which are still on-going, some of which are just coming to fruition and some of which have been and gone. That said it seems inevitable that 2010 will be the same, as we have a lot of issues just bubbling under the surface and even more issues that have been discussed but not yet started let alone finished. At last months meeting we didn't have a quorum to make decisions and pass any resolutions, therefore this months meeting will unavoidably, be longer as we have two sets of minutes, the Clerks contract and the precept to discuss and agree as well as all the new issues. However on a positive note we have had two applications this month for the post of Councillor which should mean if they are suitable, the workload will be less and apart from exceptional circumstances we should always have a quorum at the meeting. So sit down get a cup of tea or something stronger if you wish and enjoy!!

Agenda Item	Subject	Action	Status
09/184	<b>Sgt Mike Lee &amp; Vandalism</b>	Jim & I were very saddened to find out that the seat and shelter had been burnt down in what can only be described as an arson attack. Sgt Mike Lee is attending to discuss this item in full and any other issues with the Parish Council and any Parishioners who care to attend. I have been in touch several times since the fire with Copford Police Station and in particular Sgt Mike Lee. At the time of the fire the Fire Brigade reported the incident as a Level 1 which is a low level incident that does not warrant a police investigation. Once we heard about it and contacted the police it was agreed some investigations would be done. It was suggested that it may be local people who had done the damage, however from a few lines of enquiry that have been followed up it would seem that a red hatchback car with a throaty exhaust may be behind the incident and the car is thought to belong to an owner in the Marks Tey or Coggeshall area. The Police have apologised and said the investigation was a too little to late however they will continue to keep a close eye on and report anything to us if the need arises. It would seem that now we are in a position to remove the remains and sort out a replacement. It was suggested that Street Services at CBC maybe able to help	Information & Discussion

Agenda Item	Subject	Action	Status
09/189	<b>Planning &amp; Enforcement</b>	This month we have 1 planning application to consider which is a proposed erection of a brick wall with 8 brick and half piers and timber fence panels at Braeside on Station Road	Decision
FYI	<b>Planning Application No: 091363</b>	<p>After last months meeting the Clerk collated comments to be sent to Colchester Borough Council in respect of planning application no: 091363 Long Acre Bungalow on Wakes Street. During the meeting it came to light that the applicant had made an extra entrance on to the A1124 without planning permission. Following the meeting the Clerk made some investigations with Highways and currently as it stands Highways are recommending refusal due to the following reasons:</p> <p><b>The Highway Authority recommends the application be refused for the following reasons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposal would lead to the creation of an additional and unnecessary vehicle access.</li> <li>• The proposal would create a substandard access by reason of insufficient vehicle visibility splays.</li> <li>• The use of unbound material in the surface finish of the drive would lead to matter migrating onto the highway where it would constitute a safety hazard for existing highway users</li> </ul> <p>The Parish Council and the local residents are sure something will be built in the place of the bungalow but hopefully not a mock tudor mansion as is being proposed.</p>	Information
09/190	<b>Station Road Sign &amp; Greene King</b>	Just after the last meeting the contract from Greene King arrived to be signed and the invoice payment to be raised and sent. This is an agenda item.	information
FYI	<b>Highways</b>	<p>The Clerk has received a Public Notice stating that Station Road, Wakes Colne would be closed from the 29<sup>th</sup> December for 2 days. The alternative route will be Via Lower Green and Lane Road – Closure is due to replacing overhead cables by BT. Also following several e-mails to Anne Brown Re: Tyburn Hill and the dips in the road it would seem that these should have been sorted out by the end of January. The note from County said: Cllr Brown. Thank you for you email dated 3<sup>rd</sup> November and apologise for not responding sooner. The two areas on the A1124 are currently programmed to be resurfaced overnight during the month of January, with a road closure, dates yet to be determined. The subsidence has been exacerbated by the dry summer, the proximity of trees and clay beneath the structure of the road. The funding is from the additional four million pounds extra capital monies recently received for the whole of Essex, of which the East Area has a proportion. We have placed SLOW and uneven road signs at both locations, but as the approval for this work only recently been given, and in view of the long lead in period for this type of work, unfortunately we cannot programme the surfacing sooner. I hope this answers your question and if you require any further information do not hesitate to contact me.</p> <p>Also on the subject of the A1124, it was noted at last months meeting that the white lines were still outstanding and needed to be done, well that has now happened.</p>	Information

Agenda Item	Subject	Action	Status
FYI	<b>E-mail Peter Chillingworth</b>	<p>Cllr Peter Chillingworth has sent an e-mail with regards Christmas and the Salvation Army. If any body would like more information below is the e-mail I received:</p> <p>Dear All I have been asked today by Major David House of the Salvation Army (768465) to request that you let him know if there are any elderly people living on their own in your wards who would be grateful for and need a Christmas food parcel.</p> <p>He would also like to hear from you if any of the above in addition are likely to be on their own on Christmas Day and would like to attend the SA Christmas Day lunch.</p>	Information
09/195	<b>BT Phone Box on the A1124</b>	<p>It was agreed following last months meeting that this box needed to be retained. Since then the Phone Box has now been damaged and it is back on the Agenda for further discussion.</p>	Discussion
09/198	<b>Applications for New Councillor</b>	<p>Since the Village Reporter was sent out we have had two applications for the post of Councillor. I met with the first applicant a Mr Graham Smales and both Cllr Taylor and myself met with the second applicant Mr Alan Hannington# Mr Smales has sent me a brief résumé:</p> <p>Dear Valerie,</p> <p>Thank you for your reply. Alexese and I have lived in Elgin House since September and we are keen to integrate ourselves into the village and community. We were both brought up in small village environments and our parents are both active in their respective communities. Alexese's father has a key role in Aid to Africa, one of Princess Diana's and Prince Harry's charities. I was educated at Malvern College Public School and attended University at Cardiff Business School, where I studied Business Administration. I have a wide range of interests from cars, cycling and music to 20th century antiques. Alexese has a degree in horticulture and has a real passion for gardening and the countryside. We both enjoy walks and share a passion of beer, which made Wakes Colne even more appealing!</p> <p>Alexese and I are both passionate about village issues, both current and in the future, as this is somewhere we wish to put down roots, and a village in which we want to plan our wedding next year. I would be pleased to meet with Cllr Taylor and yourself on Thursday 19th November, and can make myself available during the day or evening</p> <p>Following Mr Hanningtons application sent to Jim which was also brief but informative, it was decided that we invite both of them to the December meeting to give us a little more information about themselves and then we could co-opt one or both of them and ask them to join us for the meeting. In light of two applicants applying for the vacant position of Councillor, Cllr Cresswell has suggested that due to her ill health in recent months she was happy to stand down so we can get some new and active members onto the parish Council. This item is on the Agenda for discussion and decision. Cllr Taylor has more information on Alan Hannington if required. Cllr Taylor suggested I e-mail and ask both candidates to present a brief resume at the meeting.</p>	

Agenda Item	Subject	Action	Status
FYI	<b>Notice board at Middle Green</b>	This item has been taken off the Agenda until the quotes come through, however when I went to put up the Agenda I noticed that one of the doors has been removed / lost / blown away so it maybe that something has to be done sooner rather than later. Your thoughts would be helpful	Information
09/196	<b>Budget / Precept</b>	This was on last months agenda but unfortunately we were unable to have any lengthy discussion as we did not have a quorum, however since then we have had 2 donation requests so we will be a little more informed now. The financial statements have been attached with this e-mail giving you an opportunity to have a look at home before the meeting.	Discussion
09/191	<b>Vernons Road – Possible New Application</b>	This month Vernons Road has reared it ugly head again and it would appear that Mark Russell has been in contact with Dave Cookson the Agent. The information entered into the public domain after Matt Thorn and I had been asking for further information with regards to the committee hearing. The e-mail is too long to incorporate within my report but if you require a copy I can either e-mail it or print it. In a nut shell it suggests that Dave Cookson re-submit a new planning application with 3 pitches and planning and highways would look on it favourably! Mark Russell advised that if this were to happen it would be early in the new year. Following receipt of this e-mail I requested that the 'lost e-mail' referring to the correspondence with Dave Cookson from Mark Russell back in August be found and to our surprise it 'appeared'. Again if you would like any further information please do not hesitate to ask. This is an agenda item to discuss the next course of action should a new application be submitted in January.	Discussion
FYI	<b>Clerks Forum</b>	<p>The Clerks Forum usually has some very interesting speakers and November was no different. The first speaker was <b>Mandy Cook</b> who has had a lot of input as far as the new Colchester Borough Council website is concerned. The second Speaker was <b>Liam M<sup>c</sup>Karry</b> CBC's Arboricultural Planning Officer and lastly <b>Sarah Fleming</b> Relationship Management Officer from Planning at CBC.</p> <p><b><u>Town &amp; Parish Councils – A page on CBC's Website</u></b> Mandy Cook presented the new website for Colchester Borough Council which had just gone live on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November. We had a tour of the site which was very interesting, it now seems to be a little more user friendly with more pictures pointing you in the right direction rather than lines of text. One great tip we received was if you click on the CBC Logo in the top left hand side of the page you will always return to the home page. If you need any information I have numbers for customer service who will help.</p>	

		<p><b><u>Tree Preservation Orders (TPO's)</u></b>  Liam McKarry presented an excellent power point presentation on Tree Preservation Orders – what they are and how they work? He explained that he is the only person at CBC that has any in depth knowledge about TPO's. He said that sometimes it can take up to 9 months for a simple non complicated TPO to be put on a tree or woodland, this is mainly due to the department being very small. The main criteria for a TPO to be served on a tree or woodland would be to stop it being cut down or uprooted, also to stop topping or lopping of the tree or indeed any wilful damage, for all this to be applicable the tree must be visible from a P.R.W, be worthy of protection, have no defects or contribute very strongly to the landscape, have historical or screening value or lastly have a wildlife habitat with in. Liam also presented the new website and how to identify TPO's in your local area. This was very interesting and can be found on the planning map page.</p> <p><b><u>Sarah Fleming – Relationship Management Officer</u></b>  Sarah spoke in depth about the new website and 'they think' the more user friendly features of the planning section. Quite rightly the 'On the Map' feature is fantastic and it scans the area you are looking for from a planning point of view. The map can identify TPO's, Listed Buildings, Restricted Developments, Conservation Area's and Planning Applications by clicking in the area you are looking at. The map also goes back to 2000 for past planning applications. The way you get into the planning area has changed but it does seem a little easier. If anybody wants more info I have numbers of people to contact.</p>	
09/176	<b>BT Phone at Middle Green</b>	This is still waiting to be removed	Discussion

**Clerks Forum Meeting Dates**

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December                      12 – 3pm      Grand Jury Room, Town Hall

**Colchester Association Local Councils Meeting Dates**

14<sup>th</sup> December 2009                              Assembly Rooms in Dedham @ 7.30pm

**Emergency Planning Meeting**

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2010                      Marks Tey Parish Hall              7pm – 9pm

<b>Acronym</b>	<b>Full name of the Organisation</b>	<b>Brief Description of the Organisation or Web Address</b>	<b>Subscription Yes /No</b>
<b>EALC</b>	<b>Essex Association of Local Councils</b>	Essexinfo.net	<b>Yes</b>
<b>CALC</b>	<b>Colchester Association of Local Councils</b>		<b>Yes</b>
<b>CBC</b>	<b>Colchester Borough Council</b>	www.colchester.gov.uk	<b>N/A</b>
<b>SLCC</b>	<b>Society Of Local Council Clerks</b>	Support for professional parish and town councils clerks including training and advice. www.slcc.co.uk	<b>Yes</b>
<b>ODPM</b>	<b>Office of Deputy Prime Minister</b>	Guidance on public participation in planning and comprehensive performance assessment and best value. www.odpm.gov.uk	No
<b>NALC</b>	<b>National Association of Local Councils</b>	www.nalc.gov.uk	No
<b>SBE</b>	<b>Standards Board for England</b>	Guidance on Framework for ethical behaviour in local government. www.standardsboard.co.uk	No
<b>ECC</b>	<b>Essex County Council</b>	Essex.gov.uk	No
<b>DEFRA</b>	<b>Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs</b>	Defra.gov.uk	<b>NO</b>
<b>EPFA</b>	<b>Essex Playing Fields Association</b>	www.essexplayingfields.org.uk	No
<b>RCCE</b>	<b>Rural Community Council of Essex</b>	www.essex.rcce.org.uk	No
<b>CPRE</b>	<b>Campaign to Protect Rural England</b>	www.cpre.org.uk	No
<b>CSCA</b>	<b>Colne Stour Countryside Association</b>	www.colnestour.org	Yes
<b>landreg</b>	<b>Land Registry</b>	www.landreg.gov.uk	No
	<b>Essex police</b>	www.essex.police.uk	No

## Meeting dates for 2010

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### **Parish Calendar 2010/ 2009**

Month	Parish Council meeting	Agenda deadline (5pm)	Notice board deadline	Annual Parish Meeting (AGM)	Annual Parish Council Meeting
January 2010	6 <sup>th</sup> Jan	22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	30 <sup>th</sup> Dec		
February 2010	3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	26 <sup>th</sup> Jan	28 <sup>th</sup> Jan		
March 2010	3 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	25 <sup>th</sup> Feb		
April 2010	7 <sup>th</sup> April	26 <sup>th</sup> March	30 <sup>th</sup> March		
May 2010	5 <sup>th</sup> May	26 <sup>th</sup> April	28 <sup>th</sup> April	5 <sup>th</sup> May	28 <sup>th</sup> April Joint with Chappel
June 2010	2 <sup>nd</sup> June	25 <sup>th</sup> May	27 <sup>th</sup> May		
July 2010	7 <sup>th</sup> July	29 <sup>th</sup> June	1 <sup>st</sup> July		
August 2010	No Meeting	No Meeting	No Meeting		
September 2010	1 <sup>st</sup> Sept	23 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	25 <sup>th</sup> Aug		
October 2010	6 <sup>th</sup> Oct	28 <sup>th</sup> Sept	30 <sup>th</sup> Sept		
November 2010	3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	26 <sup>th</sup> Oct	28 <sup>th</sup> Oct		
December 2010	1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	25 <sup>th</sup> Nov		
January 2011	5 <sup>th</sup> Jan	21 <sup>st</sup> Dec	29 <sup>th</sup> Dec		

