

Wakes Colne Parish Council

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Minutes of the monthly Wakes Colne Parish Council Meeting held on
Wednesday 3rd December 2008 at 7.15pm in the Wakes Colne Village Hall,
Colchester Road, Wakes Colne.

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4th December 2008

08/113 VICE CHAIRPERSON'S WELCOME

Vice Chair Cllr Cresswell welcomed everybody to the meeting

08/114 CLERK TO READ OUT CHAIRMAN'S RESIGNATION LETTER

The Clerk read out Cllr Goodchild's resignation letter that had been received on the 12th November 2008. Cllr Glen-Martin commented that the letter only stated that Cllr Goodchild had resigned as Chairman and not also as a member of the Council. So it was agreed that the Clerk would get in touch with Cllr Goodchild and ask him to re-issue his resignation letter to read that he had resigned as both Chairman and member of the Council.

08/115 ELECTION OF A NEW CHAIRPERSON

The only nomination received was Cllr Cresswell – this was proposed by Cllr Stratford and seconded by Cllr Martin, it was then put to the vote and Cllr Cresswell got a majority vote - three Cllrs voted for Cllr Cresswell and one Cllr abstained

08/116 ELECTION OF A VICE CHAIRPERSON IF REQUIRED

Cllr Stratford asked Cllr Martin if he would consider taking on the Vice-Chair role. Cllr Martin said he would consider it in the short term until the next AGM which will be in May 2009. Cllr Stratford proposed Cllr Martin and Cllr Glen-Martin seconded Cllr Martin. It was then put to the vote and Cllr Martin was unanimously voted in as Vice Chair.

08/117 RECORD OF MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson Cllr H Cresswell, Vice-Chairperson Cllr K Martin, Cllr J Glen-Martin, Cllr S Stratford, Cllr S Hounslow & Cllr P Chillingworth

Two members of the public - Mr A Myers & Valerie Sayer who arrived about 7.40pm

08/118 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Cllr J Taylor

08/119 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

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|--------------------|----------|---|------------------------|
| Cllr S Stratford | 08/127 2 | Cricket Club & Funding for the Drainage Project | Personal |
| Cllr J Glen-Martin | 08/125 1 | Planning Application No: 081828 | Personal |
| Cllr J Glen-Martin | 08/127 6 | Wakes Colne Footpath 5 | Personal |
| Cllr H Cresswell | 08/125 1 | Planning Application No: 081828 | Personal & Prejudicial |
| Cllr H Cresswell | 08/127 6 | Wakes Colne Footpath 5 | Personal & Prejudicial |
| Cllr S Hounslow | 08/127 6 | Wakes Colne Footpath 5 | Personal & Prejudicial |

08/120 PUBLIC FORUM.

No questions were raised in the public forum.

08/121 Ex-AGENDA

The meeting was closed for Cllr Chillingworth to deliver his report

P Chillingworth said he was pleased to see we all had the recycling information and that it had also gone up in the notice boards advising what the Christmas arrangements were. He stated that we were lucky as we would have a collection on Christmas Eve. He also mentioned that if anybody was short of clear plastic recycling bags we could collect some from Angel Court.

Cllr Chillingworth spoke briefly about the Local Development Framework & Core Strategy document which had at a recent meeting been described as 'Sound'. This was very good news as a lot of Local Authorities had had these documents found to be 'un sound' and they have had to start again. Cllr Chillingworth mentioned that in the document several areas for Affordable Housing had been located and they were all in Chappel, so it was agreed the Clerk would get in touch with Sue Chamley and try and report back at the next meeting in January.

Cllr Martin asked Cllr Chillingworth about the Village Envelopes and it was suggested that this would be part of the next consultation and we should keep an eye on the documents on the website.

Cllr Glen-Martin asked Cllr Chillingworth when the next NAP meeting was as she is without a PC at the moment. Both the Clerk and Cllr Chillingworth agreed to find out and contact her.

08/122 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on the 5th November 2008 were approved and signed as a true record with the following amendments. The Clerk pointed out the meeting had started at 7.30pm due to the NAP meeting prior to the monthly meeting and not 7.15pm as stated. The Clerk also stated that Cricket Club item mentioned in the Public Forum was a different item than the Cricket Club Agenda item. The minutes read as this was the same Agenda item, it was not. Cllr Glen-Martin stated that she did not declare a prejudicial interest in agenda item 08/108 1 as stated in the minutes it was only a personal interest. Cllr Stratford stated that in her report Agenda item 08/111 she had also stated that Parish Council can now make their own by-laws if the need arises

08/123 MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

Clerks Report:-The clerks report was circulated prior to the meeting and all Councillors had read it. The Clerk clarified a couple of issues which are on the Agenda later and advised why these items were back on the agenda as they had been on in November. The Agenda items in question were 08/124 3 & 4 and 08/126 1 – a full explanation is in the Clerks Report but the Clerks just explained in a little further details in case anybody had not understood or indeed not read the Clerks report. The Clerk asked if we still wanted to have a sign designed to go at the top of Station Road. The meeting was closed to ask Cllr Chillingworth if he thought this was still a good idea to have this done if Ann Brown wanted to get involved at a later date? Cllr Chillingworth advised we should continue to have the sign designed. The meeting was re-opened it was agreed that yes we should pursue the matter and the Clerks was asked to contact George Ward.

08/124 FINANCE AND EXPENDITURE

- 1) Cheques/BACS payments all approved for payment and signed.
- 2) Financial Summary for December 2008: This was signed as a true record
- 3) Lubbock Fine & Audited Accounts for 2004 /2005, 2005 / 2006 & 2006 / 2007. Notices to sign of the Accounts. The Clerk gave a little more detail as to the notice which had been displayed in both notice boards and the Website. The Clerk advised that the notice had to be displayed for 14 day's after that we can take it down.
- 4) Letter received from Audit Commission Re: drawing a line under lost years. The Clerk explained that we had had 1 month to advertise the Public Interest Report and as we had not done this she had had to call the Audit Commission and extend the date. She advised that it had been agreed by the Audit Commission that we could advertise in the Village Reporter that the Public Interest Report will be on the Agenda for the January meeting and if anybody

wishes to read it will be available to do so. Once this has been done the Clerk needs to send a copy of the newsletter & agenda to Paul King at the Audit Commission and this will then drawn a line under the lost years and we can move on.

- 5) Precept 2009 / 2010. The precept was discussed last month and it was requested by a member of the public that we quantify the donation/grant that we give to the Church each year. The Clerk contacted the Church and had a very nice letter from Mr Chris Cordingley explaining how our grant is used each year. The letter was read by all the Councillors and it was agreed that we must continue to provide the same level of support for the foreseeable future. Other issues raised with the budget/precept were the electricity charges that have been increased by Colchester Borough Council and it was agreed that we need to increase the budget by £40.00, also Cllr Martin asked if we could put £35.00 in the budget for the website. It was also mentioned that we had no money set aside for grass cutting and it was agreed that we should put in £75.00 to cover this cost. Due to these increase and the state of the economy the Clerk offered to cancel her subscription to the SLCC. After further discussion it was agreed that we could take out the £500 that was set aside for donations and not reduce the subscription budget. It was agreed the Clerk would re-work the budget for the next meeting so it could be signed off.

08/125 PLANNING APPLICATIONS & RESULTS

Cllr Cresswell left the room

- 1) **Application No: 081828** Maynhoods, Inworth Lane, Wakes Colne, Colchester, CO6 2BG. Single Storey rear extension. Cllr Cresswell left the room and the plans were looked at. It was discussed that no plans of the proposed extension were available to look at, however it was discussed that the extension was at the rear of the property and should not cause any problems. The clerk was asked to send a reply to the planning department to say we had no comments on the application but some of the plans were missing.

Cllr Cresswell returned to the room

08/126 HIGHWAYS ISSUES

- 1) **Rural Speed Restrictions & “Welcome to Wakes Colne” Sign on Station Road.** This item was discussed under agenda item 08/123

08/127 NEW AGENDA ITEMS

- 1) **Bus Stop – Colchester:** No news, the Clerk was asked to chase
- 2) **Cricket Club & Funding for the Drainage Project in respect of S106.** The Clerk advised that she had had an e-mail from Bob Penny advising that the spend release forms had been received back from Peter Chillingworth. The Clerk advised that she had put Robin Carter in contact with Bob Penny at CBC and this item could now come off the Agenda.
- 3) **Cllr J Taylor and e-mail sent to the Clerk:** The e-mail that had been sent by Cllr J Taylor to the Clerk earlier in the month was discussed at length. Cllr Hounslow said she was not a supporter of the BNP party and some the policies were contentious. Cllr’s Cresswell, Stratford, Glen-Martin & Martin all said that politics should not come into it and that Cllr Taylor had never brought any of his politics into his work on the Parish Council. It was agreed that nobody had any issues with Cllr Taylor remaining on the Parish Council and the Clerk was asked to contact him as soon as possible after the meeting to inform him of the outcome.
- 4) **Mount Bures Water Tower – Savills information Re: information received from Savills:** The Clerk addressed the Clerks Report where 2 questions had been asked. And it was discussed and agreed that the Water Tower was within Wakes Colne boundary. The Clerk asked why Savills had contacted the Council to ask what they were proposing was ok by the Council. The meeting was closed and Cllr Chillingworth advised that developers often contact the Parish Council to ask what they are proposing is acceptable before they send in planning application. This is because if the Parish Council doesn’t like it they can amend it before they submit the plan and pay the planning fee. So it was agreed that what Savills were proposing was a good idea and that the Clerk should reply according.

- 5) **A consultation – Codes of Conduct for Local Authority Members:** This agenda item was discussed at length and decided that we have no comments about the 'New Code'. It all seemed common sense and it was welcomed that the code was going to be written in easier to understand language.

Cllr's Hounslow & Cresswell left the room

- 6) **Wakes Colne Footpath 5 – Parish Council views on its location:** Cllr's Hounslow & Cresswell left the room due to having declared a Personal & Prejudicial interest in this item. A copy of the e-mail which had been given to all Cllr's was discussed at length. It was spoken about that this was not really a Parish Council problem and that the issues need to be dealt with by Simon Taylor PROW Enforcement & Liaison Officer at Essex County Council and the other parties involved away from the Parish Council. It was agreed that the Clerk would write back to Simon Taylor and inform him that the Parish Council has no comments and does not wish to be contacted again in the future over this outstanding issue. The Clerk advised that she had also received a letter from Mr Cochram (one of the parties involved). The letter addressed to Mrs Hounslow had been attached to an e-mail and sent to the Clerk late afternoon on the 2nd December 2008. Having read the letter the Clerk replied to Mr Cochram that evening. Mr Cochram's letter had only one action point for Wakes Colne Parish Council and this was to put the item on the Agenda for next month. Following the Councils discussion and that the agreed outcome was that the Council have no further comments, it was agreed that the Clerk would write to Mr Cochram and ask if he would still like Footpath 5 to remain on the Agenda for January 2009. It was also agreed that the Clerk would advise Mr Cochram about how the Public Forum works in respect of all agenda items.

Cllr's Cresswell & Hounslow returned to the room

08/128 REPORTS.

Cllr Stratford - Update on the Community Initiative Grants (Meeting on the 20th Nov): Cllr Stratford spoke about the meeting she had attended for Community Initiative Grants. She said it was a very interesting meeting and that only Councils that were represented were awarded grants. She advised that the Cricket Club had secured a £5k grant towards the ongoing projects. Cllr Stratford said that the people in authority running the meeting had no say whatsoever as to how much each council received, it was all down to the Councillors in attendance.

08/129 NEXT AGENDA ITEMS.

Emergency Planning Meeting 1st December
EARM – Public Footpath issue

08/130 DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting is on the 7th January 2009 at 7.15pm at Wake Colne Village Hall, Wakes Colne. Items for inclusion on the agenda must be received by the clerk by 5pm on 22th December 2008. Our new Chairperson Cllr Cresswell thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 8.58pm

Signed.....
Chairman of the Parish Council

Date.....