

Wakes Colne Parish Council

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Minutes of the monthly Wakes Colne Parish Council Meeting held on
Wednesday 2nd July 2008 at 7.15pm in the Wakes Colne Village Hall, Colchester
Road, Wakes Colne.

3rd July 2008

08/58 RECORD OF MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman Cllr W Goodchild, Cllr J Glen-Martin, Cllr S Stratford, Cllr S Hounslow, Cllr J Taylor, Cllr H Cresswell & Cllr P Chillingworth arrived about 7.30pm
Clerk Mrs V Burrows & one member of the public - Mr A Myers

08/59 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Cllr K Martin

08/60 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

Cllr S Stratford	08/68	2	Caravan at Freechooks Farm	Personal
Cllr S Stratford	08/68	4	Chappel & Wakes Colne Cricket Club	Personal & Predjudicial
Cllr J Glen-Martin	08/68	8	Moto Cross Meetings at Little Loveney Hall	Personal
Cllr W Goodchild	08/68	4	Chappel & Wakes Colne Cricket Club	Personal

08/61 PUBLIC FORUM.

No

08/62 Ex-AGENDA

Cllr Chillingworth had not arrived so it was agreed that we should move on the come back to this agenda item if Cllr Chillingworth attended. Cllr Chillingworth arrived at 7.30pm and the meeting was closed and he spoke briefly on several issues:

- ❖ Following last months meeting it was agreed that Cllr Chillingworth would find out more information on the 65% / 35% split on the funds paid to Colchester Borough Council in respect of new houses being built in the Village. At present 3 houses have been built in Cllr Chillingworth's Ward 2 in Wakes Colne and 1 in Mount Bures. 2 of the properties have paid the money and 1 is still outstanding. Cllr Chillingworth advised that the money is available for use of sport and recreational facilities in the local area and suggested that it was used for the Cricket Club. Cllr Chillingworth suggested that if the Council would like to prepare a proposal for the Cricket Club and send it to him he would forward it on to the relevant officer with his approval.

- ❖ Cllr Chillingworth advised that a ditch near to Crepping Hall was full of unsavoury matter and suggested that we get in touch with Malcolm Dade from Highways in the first instance to get it sorted.
- ❖ Cllr Chillingworth brought a copy of the Dedham Parish Plan to show the Councillors and asked if we had seen it. We advised that although the Councillors had not seen Dedham's Parish Plan we had indeed seen a copy of Earls Colne's Village Design Statement
- ❖ The Council were advised that the new site for Sainsbury's at Stanway had been approved and it would be 11% bigger than the existing site and would employ 40 more people. The land where the site will be (next to the Harvester pub) had been employment land i.e. Offices etc so a swap has been done and the land where Sainsbury's is at present will now become employment land. Only a few minor alterations to the road system will need to be done to accommodate the new building. Cllr Hounslow asked if any other Supermarket chains were thinking of coming to the Stanway area or if there were restrictions on only one supermarket in the area? Cllr Chillingworth advised that a Waitrose was being built on Cowdray Ave and Highfields had a big Tesco's, so all the major chains were represented in Colchester.
- ❖ Cllr Chillingworth reported that planning permission had been granted for a new restaurant (Frankie and Benny's) to be built near the medical centre at Stanway.
- ❖ Cllr Glen-Martin asked if Cllr Chillingworth had seen the e-mail which all the Councillors had been given before the start of the meeting Re: Freechooks Farm. The Clerk stated that as the e-mail had only arrived at 6.10pm that evening then **no** Cllr Chillingworth would not have seen it. Cllr Chillingworth read the e-mail and it was agreed that the Clerk would draft a letter to planning re: the issue as yet again the Colchester Borough Council had failed in its duty to follow up the planning measures that were put into place as a condition of the planning application. Cllr Chillingworth asked if the Clerk could forward the e-mail so he could take it further at the next planning meeting

Cllr Goodchild re- opened the meeting.

08/63 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on the 4th June were approved and signed as a true record with the following amendment - Cllr Glen-Martin & Cllr Stratford both advised that Cllr Chillingworth was not now the Chairman of the Planning Committee as opposed to still being the Chairman as reported in the minutes. The following amendment was noted.

08/64 MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

Clerks Report:-The clerks report was circulated prior to the meeting; all Councillors had read it and had no issues. The Clerk updated the Councillors on her attendance of the Parish Clerks Forum meeting on Thursday 26th June in Stanway. The meeting was very informative with two speakers. A lady called Chloe Rothwell from Trading Standards told us more about Weight Restrictions across the County. 27 Roads across the County have a weight restriction enforcement and Chloe is one of the officers that police these roads. Contravening of the weight restrictions is a criminal offence and carries up to a maximum fine of £1000 for the driver and or the owner/operator. By enforcing on the 27 roads they have reduced the number of offences and it is a very successful campaign. The second speaker was Clare Atkinson Colchester Borough Council Communication Officer. Clare spoke at length about the Common Ground Publication and the Courier. We were asked lots of questions and Clare noted our answers. The idea was to take the answers and work on improving both publications. The Clerk also stated that these meetings are very informative and that she must make sure she attends every two months.

Cllr Chillingworth arrived at 7.30pm, the meeting was closed and Cllr Chillingworth delivered his report see agenda item 08/62 Cllr Goodchild re-opened the meeting

08/65 FINANCE AND EXPENDITURE

- 1) Cheques/BACS payments all approved for payment and signed.
- 2) Financial Summary for May 2008: This was signed as a true record.
- 3) Draft Accounts for 2007 / 2008. The Clerk reported that this has been an on-going issue this month but now she had spoken to several people at Lubbock Fine and the Audit Commission the position was clearer and the Clerk & Mark Fogg-Elliot. (Internal Auditor) could work towards getting all the years accounts signed off by the September meeting.

08/66 PLANNING APPLICATIONS & RESULTS

- 1) Application No: 080843 Jordans Farm, Lower Green, Wakes Colne, Colchester, CO6 2AZ:
Planning Granted

08/67 HIGHWAYS ISSUES

- 1) **“Welcome to Wakes Colne” Sign on Station Road:** The Clerk advised she had spoken to George Ward and he was going to design the sign and then we would have a meeting to decide exactly where the sign would go.
- 2) **Safer Journey’s to School & Zebra Crossing on the A1124.** The Clerk had advised in her report that she had had e-mail contact with Marie Faber who is the new person working on the Safer Journey’s to School Project. Marie reported that if we could identify a significant change with regards to the zebra crossing on the A1124 they will re-look at it. A significant change could be anything that would increase the amount of pedestrians or vehicles near to the proposed site. With regards to a ‘Lolly Pop Person’, if we could do a count of traffic and pedestrians on a couple of normal activity days, then send it to Marie she will have a look and advise if it is appropriate – need to count on both roads i.e Station Road & A1124. It was suggested that we could look at a Pelican Crossing for the site, however it was agreed that we should concentrate on the footpath that is being re-surfaced. Once that project is completed and the children are getting to school in a safer way we could re-look at the A1124 and the Zebra Crossing. The Clerk agreed that she would send the new contact details for Marie Faber to Sue Chamley at Chappel Parish Council.

08/68 NEW AGENDA ITEMS

- 1) **Telephone Boxes & Letter from Colchester Borough Council:** The Clerk advised that following last months meeting, she had received a formal letter from Colchester Borough Council, asking for our written views on the removal of the two Telephone Boxes in Wakes Colne. It was agreed that the Council would request that the telephone box on the A1124 should be retained, this was because of the Station, our rural position and that both Villages required a least one telephone box for emergency reasons.
- 2) **Caravan at Freechooks Farm:** This item had been discussed at great length in Cllr Chillingworth’s report. However it was discussed that this was the second time in a year, which Colchester Borough Council had failed within the area of planning in respect of Wakes Colne. The Councillors explained that to be vigilant within the village would mean trespassing, as the caravan in question is on private property. It was agreed that the Clerk would draft a letter to send to Nicola George to ask why this had happened.
- 3) **CSW Programme –Rota & Availability:** It was agreed that we must keep this programme running, as it had resulted in the mobile speed camera being placed on the A1124 on several occasion. Everybody agreed to e-mail availability. Cllr Goodchild closed the meeting so Mr Alan Myers could explain that his next door neighbour had just retired from the police force and he may be willing to co-ordinate the project. The meeting re-opened and it was agreed

that the Clerk would write to him and ask the question. The Gentleman is called Dean Dwyer, Highland Cottage, Inworth Lane, Wakes Colne,

- 4) **Chappel & Wakes Colne Cricket Club / Funding of Parish Grant Scheme.** Cllr Stratford left the room. Robin Carter had advised Cllr Goodchild that money was still available. The clerk had attended a meeting (Clerks Forum) and asked if the Cricket Club could apply again from the same pot of money and she was waiting to hear from Yvonne Towndrow.
- 5) **Affordable Housing:** The clerk had given all the Councillors the information that the Rural Housing Trust were proposing to send out to all the houses in Chappel & Wakes Colne. It was agreed that the Clerk would e-mail Chappel to ask how many houses they had and then get back in touch with Anne Bishop and get the information sent ready for distribution.
- 6) **Rural Community Council of Essex (RCCE):** This item was on Chapels Agenda and Cllr Goodchild spoke briefly with Cllr Chamley about the item. Chappel Parish Council were reluctant to get involved with something that had not been a success in recent months. It was agreed by everybody that these projects are usually very successful in the early months but then volunteers fall by the wayside and it becomes very difficult to continue on and complete the project. All agreed that the Steering Group had done a very good job before being disbanded, but it was probably not something that either council should now get involved in. It was agreed that the Clerk would request the raw data from the original survey / questionnaire via the RCCE which Wakes Colne Parish Council would then hold with a view to sometime in the future people of the parish wanting to do something similar. The meeting was closed and Cllr Chillingworth suggested that we have an informal chat with Bernard Sibthorpe as he had been involved in project since the beginning and he would be very knowledgeable. The meeting was re-opened and Cllr Goodchild agreed that Cllr Chillingworth's suggestion was a good one and he would follow it through and report back at the next meeting.
- 7) **Joint Parish Meeting:** Cllr Goodchild had spoken briefly to Cllr Chamley who had suggested that we have a joint meeting in September. The Clerk will check availability and confirm by e-mail.
- 8) **Moto Cross Meetings at Little Loveney Hall 2008:** Concern was expressed at the traffic exiting via Lane Road by Cllr Glen-Martin & Cllr Stratford. It was suggested that we write to the Halstead & District Motor Cycle Club and ask if they can spare a Marshall to direct the traffic after the meetings have finished. The Clerk suggested we get in touch with Police Community Safety Officer as they may be able to help direct traffic.
- 9) **Proposed Footpath Re-surfacing / Footbridge Improvements:** The comments that had been supplied by the Councillors prior to the meeting were discussed but no further comments were made. It was agreed that the Clerk would send a letter with our comments.

08/69 REPORTS.

Cllr Martin **Progress report on the website:** In Cllr Martin's absence, the Clerk read out a brief statement supplied by Cllr Martin on the progress of the Website. All agreed that Cllr Martin is working very hard on the Website and it is looking very good.

Cllr Goodchild **Monthly Update:** Cllr Goodchild gave us a brief overview for the month although most of it had been covered during the meeting. Cllr Goodchild had been invited to the opening of the new classroom at the local School in June, which he said was very well attended and the classroom looked fantastic. A lot of hard work had gone into organisation, not only in building the classroom but by the children decorating it, ready to open.

Cllr Glen-Martin **NAP Meeting Update:** Cllr Glen-Martin explained that the meeting was very poorly organised and attended. The meeting was before Chappels monthly meeting in June and the majority of the Councillors did not attend. Cllr Glen-Martin suggested that she e-mail out asking if we could hold the next Nap Meeting before our next Council meeting in September.

08/70 NEXT AGENDA ITEMS.

None

08/71 DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting is on the 3rd September at 7.15pm at Wake Colne Village Hall, Wakes Colne. It was agreed that the August meeting would be cancelled due to the holidays and this would be a regular occurrence each year. Cllr Goodchild asked the Clerk to put a note up in the Noticeboards advising of the change to the Parish Calendar

Items for inclusion on the agenda must be received by the clerk by 5pm on 26th August 2008.

Cllr Goodchild thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 9.06pm

Signed.....
Chairman of the Parish Council

Date.....