

Wakes Colne Parish Council

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

4th September 2008

08/72 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 K Martin & Cllr P Chillingworth
Clerk Mrs V Burrows & two members of the public - Mr A Myers & Mr P Twyford

08/73 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

None

08/74 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

Cllr S Stratford	08/82	4	H&DMCC & Wakes Colne Cricket Club	Personal & Predjudicial
Cllr J Glen-Martin	08/82	8	NAP Meeting before PC November Meeting	Personal
Cllr J Glen-Martin	08/82	4	H&DMCC & Wakes Colne Cricket Club	Personal
Cllr W Goodchild	08/82	.4	H&DMCC & Wakes Colne Cricket Club	Personal

08/75 PUBLIC FORUM.

Mr P Twyford said he was pleased to see Agenda items 08/81 1 & 3 on the Agenda for discussion he also asked if we could have the VAS Sign on Station Road moved to where the "Welcome to Wakes Colne" sign was agreed to be sited i.e. near to the Railway Station entrance.

Mr A Myers asked if we could minute a recommendation to Colchester Borough Council (CBC) for acting very quickly to remove a burnt out car that had been abandoned in Lane Road. From calling CBC the car was removed some 18hours later – Well done CBC.

08/76 Ex-AGENDA

The meeting was closed for Cllr Chillingworth to deliver his report

- ❖ Following the July meeting it was agreed that Cllr Chillingworth would approve a proposal sent by the Parish Council on behalf of the Cricket Club for funds from Section 106 available to the Ward. Cllr Chillingworth advised that the money paid to CBC is on a 65% / 35% split. 65% comes to the Ward and 35% stays in the borough for leisure services. 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; the remaining

property which is in Wakes Colne is still outstanding. Cllr Chillingworth advised that he attended Mount Bures last meeting and it had been agreed that Wakes Colne Parish Council could use all the money in the pot at the moment, however the remaining money to be paid would go to Mount Bures. Cllr Chillingworth advised of the approximate amount of money to ask for (6.5K) and said he would action the letter as soon as it arrived

- ❖ Councillor Chillingworth advised that he had given the Chairman and the Clerk copies of the Village Envelopes that will be discussed in Agenda Item 08/82 10
- ❖ Councillor Chillingworth advised that both he and the Clerk had been in touch with George Ward from Essex County Highways re: the new legislation that is being looked at for setting local speed limits. It had been discussed prior to the meeting that the speed restrictions that exist at the top of Station Road could be re-looked at under this new guidance. Cllr Chillingworth advised that George Ward would be the best person to contact to discuss how the new legislation can help at the top of Station Road.
- ❖ Councillor Chillingworth reported that he had spoken about Freehooks Farm at a planning meeting following our concerns in July. He advised that the planners were shamefaced and that they had again made an error and not enforced requirements of planning applications. Everybody agreed that this is not the first time this has happened and asked what measures were going to be put into place to stop this happening again. Cllr Chillingworth advised that an early warning monitoring system was going to be put in place at CBC to advise planners that time limits were due to expire and planners need to enforce the conditions of planning application. Cllr Chillingworth advised that in the case of Freehooks Farm nothing could now be done because the legal amount of time that had elapsed, however in the future this could be avoided by the early warning monitoring system. At this point two planning applications that had been submitted and appeared on the agenda were discussed briefly. Cllr Chillingworth advised that if we have any concerns about any planning enforcement issues we need to contact Cheryl Headford at CBC. It was asked what guarantee could be given that the same situation would not arise again in respect of future applications. In the case of Hemps Barn the planners were contacted regularly and still nothing was done to enforce planning measures. Cllr Chillingworth advised that since the Hemp Barn issue CBC had employed more planners and systems had improved and he was confident that the early warning monitoring system would help with the issues that have been occurring.
- ❖ The Council were advised about bus passes and that they now could be used from 9am
- ❖ Cllr Chillingworth advised that the next NAP Meeting was at Copford on Tuesday 9th September 2008 and that NAP training was taking place on the 15th October 2008.
- ❖ Cllr Chillingworth advised that he had some re-useable bags to hand out to the Council to help stop the use of plastic bags; he agreed to deliver them out in the near future.
- ❖ Finally Cllr Chillingworth gave the Clerk a printed copy of information about a Rural Stress Helpline, it was agreed that the Clerk would copy this information and post it on the Notice boards.

Cllr Goodchild re- opened the meeting.

08/77 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd July 2008 were approved and signed as a true record with the following amendment – Chappel had been spelt wrong on Pg 4 under Agenda item 08/68 – 6 between on and agenda.

08/78 MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

Clerks Report:-The clerks report was circulated prior to the meeting and all Councillors had read it. One issue that was raised was against the proposed Footpath resurfacing. It was asked if the steps

were being removed and just a ramp put in its place. The Clerk agreed to e-mail her contact and have the issue resolved. One other item discussed was the Telephone Box on the A1124 and the Clerk advised that she had handed out some information on adopting a phone box or sponsoring a phone box, but nothing had been advised about the box that we had asked if we could retain. The Clerk hoped to have an update for the next meeting

08/79 FINANCE AND EXPENDITURE

- 1) Cheques/BACS payments all approved for payment and signed.
- 2) Financial Summary for July & August 2008: This was signed as a true record.
- 3) Lubbock Fine & Audited Accounts for 2004 /2005, 2005 / 2006 & 2006 / 2007. Briefly the Clerk advised that she had spoken to Lubbock Fine and all the years in question had been signed off. The delay in receiving the paperwork was for the legal letter to confirm that the years prior to the ones in question which were lost have also been signed off. (See Clerks report for full explanation)
- 4) Draft Accounts for the audit Commission 2007 /2008: This item was not dealt with as no paperwork had been received to confirm that previous years had been signed off. This item will be on the agenda next month.

08/80 PLANNING APPLICATIONS & RESULTS

- 1) **Application No: 081430** Jordans Farm, Lower Green, Wakes Colne, Colchester, CO6 2AZ: Replacement of two metal windows with hardwood frames of same style to match existing frames. **NO COMMENTS**
- 2) **Application No: 083199** Timberlands Farm, Spring Garden Road, Chappel, Colchester, Essex: **General purpose farm building. Several issues were raised against this application. One concern was that on the site was a caravan which the council believed did not have planning permission to be there – it was agreed the clerk would get in touch with Cheryl Headford enforcement officer and ask her to investigate. Another concern was that the proposed farm building was going to be situated on land that has no farming business at present yet it was requested so it could house Farm machinery and produce. It was agreed that the clerk should write to Simon Osborn in Planning and request more information.**
- 3) **Application No: 081338** Norton Hall Farm, Boarded Barn Road, Wakes Colne, Colchester, Essex, CO6 2AU: **Conversion of existing barn and outbuildings for residential use. Again the Councillors have concerns over this application. It was agreed that the proposed building was very large to house a “key worker” and the clerk was asked to comment to Simon Osborn on this issue. Also the Councillors rose that the size of the proposed building may not be in keeping with the existing building; the clerk was also asked to raise this comment with planning.**

08/81 HIGHWAYS ISSUES

- 1) **“Welcome to Wakes Colne” Sign on Station Road:** The Clerk advised she had chased up George Ward for an update and he has said he hadn't really done a lot about it but he would now get on and sort it out.
- 2) **Ditch clearance before the winter sets in:** This item was put on the Agenda so we could be proactive about sorting out the ditches before the bad weather sets in. The clerk had been in touch with Malcolm Dade who had advised that we need to speak to Alan Blyth and ask who owns the ditches. Once this has been established it was agreed that it was a good idea that we ask the Council to write to the landowners requesting that all ditches be cleared. Cllr Stratford requested that it be put on record that all ditches that were on her land had been cleared.
- 3) **Rural Speed Restrictions - 30 mph Roundels & Signs moved northwards up Station Road.** This item was on the agenda to address the issues of new legislation that is being looked at with respect of rural speed restrictions. It was discussed that the Roundels and the

new "Welcome to Wakes Colne" sign that are situated at the top of Station Road could be moved back about 100 metres to help with traffic calming in Station road. It was agreed that the clerk should contact George Ward and ask if he would come out and advise what new legislation would be helpful with traffic calming in Station road and Wakes Colne Village in General.

- 4) **VAS sign on Station Road – Fault reported.** See Clerks report.

08/82 NEW AGENDA ITEMS

- 1) **CSW Programme –Rota & Availability:** It was agreed that we must keep this programme running, it had resulted in the mobile speed camera being placed on the A1124 on several occasion and this can only be a good thing. The clerk advised that she had availability from everybody except Cllr Martin & Cllr Hounslow and once she had all the information she could then get the rota up and running. The Clerk advised that she had spoken to Tony Langley from Chappel Council and he was keen to get the CSW up and running within Chappel Parish. It was noted that our clerk had put a note in the village reporter requesting volunteers and Tony Langley has put a note out in the Colne Valley Connection magazine also requesting volunteers. Once enough new people were ready to get involved the clerk advised that she would contact Adam Pipe and organise some new training. It was also agreed that the Clerk would contact Mount Bures as they seemed keen to get involved and would need training.
- 2) **Affordable Housing & Questionnaires:** Cllr Goodchild advised which route the Clerk had already pursued to get the questionnaire's delivered (see clerks report), however Cllr Cresswell suggested we contact the Village Reporter and ask if they could deliver the questionnaire when the Village Reporter Magazine is delivered. The clerk agreed to contact Noel Graham ASAP as the Reporter was due out in the next day or so.
- 3) **Joint Parish Meeting:** The date was advised of the 24th September 2008 for a joint meeting, however it was advised that the Clerk had contacted the chair of Chappel PC to ask the question about a joint meeting and had not received a reply. Cllr Goodchild asked if anybody had any items to go on the Agenda – CSW, Affordable Housing and cutting back vegetation in common areas in the two villages.
- 4) **Halstead & District Motor Cycle Club & Wakes Colne Cricket Club.** It was agreed that this year it had been very successful that the Motor Cycle meets had not clashed with any home cricket matches. The Clerk had spoken several times with the H&DMCC on several issues however it was agreed that both organisations should contact each other to agree fixtures and meets for 2009.
- 5) **Installation of Transmission Dishes at Mount Bures Water Tower, Wakes Colne.** The Council discussed that the look of the tower if another dish is added would not be sympathetic on the eye. The Councillors were asking why do we have to have great big unsightly dishes – can this now not be done via internet? It was agreed the clerk would write a letter with the comments raised from the meeting.
- 6) **SLCC Membership – Extremely useful for the Clerk.** The Clerk asked if Wakes Colne Parish Council could become a member of the Society of Local Council Clerks. It was discussed and agreed that this could be looked at for year to see if it was beneficial,
- 7) **Installation of Level Entry Bus Stops.** It was discussed that this had already happened during the summer
- 8) **NAP Meeting before PC November Meeting:** The clerk advised that the next NAP meeting after the 9th September would be prior to our monthly meeting in November. The clerk asked if any members of the council would be happy to arrive early in support of the meeting. It was agreed that this was a good idea and several of the councillors volunteered to attend
- 9) **Relief Clerk for November Meeting:** The council were advised that the clerk would not be in attendance at the November meeting due to other commitments and it was agreed that Cllr Hounslow would take the minutes at the meeting. It was also agreed that the clerk would do all other work required before and after the meeting.

- 9a) **Correspondence File – Lots of new items in the file, please could everybody read as a point of interest.** This item was on the agenda to ask all councillors to read the information and bring any points of interest to the next meeting
- 10) **Action Following the Core Strategy Examination** - E-mail to Parish Clerks. An e-mail had been received by the clerk following the Core Strategy Examinations, requesting that all councils look at the village envelopes and advise if they would like any area's not already incorporated in the envelope to be incorporated. Cllr Chillingworth had kindly brought along copies of the envelopes and the Clerk agreed to copy them and send out to all the Councillors so they could look at them before the next meeting.

08/83 REPORTS.

Cllr Martin **Progress report on the website:** Cllr Martin gave us a brief overview of the website to update us all on the progress that is being made. 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.

08/84 NEXT AGENDA ITEMS.

None

08/85 DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting is on the 1st October 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 23rd September 2008.

Cllr Goodchild thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 9.15pm

Signed.....
Chairman of the Parish Council

Date.....