

Wakes Colne Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs. V Burrows

23 Crossways

Colne Engaine

Essex, CO6 2JA

Telephone: 01787 221922

Email: wakescolnepc@yahoo.co.uk

Minutes of the monthly Wakes Colne Parish Council Meeting held on 4th February 2008.

6th February 2008

Public Forum

Several Members of the public registered questions that were answered by Cllr Wayne Goodchild

Mr J Bowden & Mr P Sparks wanted to speak about the Kissing Gate Agenda Item No 11, the state of repair of the A1124, the road works on the A1124 near the cottages and the state of the white lines on the road in Wakes Colne. Mr Bowden also mentioned the concert that was held in the Church on Saturday 26th January, this was a huge success and £1000 had been raised and sent to the Charity Breakthrough Breast Cancer. Cllr Goodchild and Cllr Martin spoke at length re: the Kissing Gate and agreed that Cllr Martin would get in touch with the footpaths representative with their concerns and report back. Both Mr Bowden & Mr Sparks were advised that the state of the A1124 and the road works were on the agenda and would be raised at the appropriate time. The white line question was briefly spoken about and it was agreed that the Clerk would speak to Malcolm Dade from Highways and report back.

Mr Twyford attended the meeting and wanted to speak about the VAS on Station Road and the general progress on the Traffic Calming in Wakes Colne. Cllr Goodchild advised that all these items were on the agenda and would be covered in great depth.

Mr Myers attended the meeting also to speak about 2 items that had been e-mailed through to the Clerk prior to the meeting (copy attached to minutes) Cllr Goodchild advised that the precept deadline was the 4th February to submit to Colchester Borough Council and we should be advised in due course of whether our budget had been agreed. Mr Myers was advised that the percentage increase would be approximately 10%. The other question related to Agenda item No 8 and he was advised that this would be covered in the meeting.

1. Chairman's Welcome

Cllr Goodchild welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Those present: Cllr S Stratford, Cllr H Cresswell, Cllr S Hounslow, Cllr J Glen-Martin, Cllr W Goodchild, Cllr K Martin, Cllr J Taylor

Clerk: Mrs V Burrows

Also present Mr Bowden, Mr Sparks, Mr Twyford & Mr Myers

2. Apologies for absence: Cllr P Chillingworth

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr K Martin personal agenda item 6a, 6b & 11
Cllr S Hounslow personal agenda item 6a & 6b
Cllr S Stratford personal agenda item 9
Cllr H Cresswell personal agenda item 8
Cllr W Goodchild personal agenda item 8 & 9
Cllr J Taylor personal agenda item 6b

4. **Minutes of the meeting held on the 7th January 2008**: they were signed as a true record.

5. **Finance**

- a. **Financial Summary for January 2008**: This was signed as a true record.
- b. **To agree payments as per the attached payment schedule**: All agreed payments could be made.
- c. **Internet & Telephone Banking**:- The Clerk reported that she had spoken to Wakes Colne Parish Council's Relationship Manager at Witham and she confirmed that once the form was signed Cllr Goodchild & Cllr H Cresswell would have access to the bank account on line and the telephone as would the Clerk. All agreed that this was beneficial to the Parish Council.

6. **Highways Issues**

- a. **Traffic Calming Station Road**: It was reported that the Clerk had been in touch via e-mail with Jennifer Gudka to get an update on the installation of the VAS sign. It was reported that the orders had been placed for the pole and the sign and that the Clerk would be notified when installation would take place.
- b. **Traffic Calming in Wakes Colne**: It was reported that the Clerk had received a letter from Highways on all the current traffic issues in Wakes Colne. The Traffic/Pedestrian Survey will be completed by the end of February on the A1124. The "Welcome to Wakes Colne" sign incorporating the speed limit would cause obstruction to the sight line of traffic emerging from the station; however they would investigate if we could have one erected high up on two poles. Lower Green was offered SLOW markings on the road on both approaches. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact George Ward and ask if he would come out to the Parish to discuss what traffic management is available.
- c. **Meeting with Highways**: The Clerk reported that she had been out with Malcolm Dade from highways to have a look at the state of the parish roads. On the day they went out a burst water main on the A1124 just lower down than Wakes Hall going towards White Colne was reported. This was sorted and fixed on the same day by Anglian Water. Malcolm advised that Lower Green was going to be the first road to be fixed at the start of the new financial year and he would put an order in for the junction at Middle Green and Parkhurst Green to be sorted out. Other than that the Parish roads were not in too bad a state of repair.
- d. **Flood on the Bures Road**:- This was reported after the heavy rain in the middle of January. Highways were called and the landowner cleared the ditches. It was reported that this area of Bures Road was now ok.
- e. **Flood on the A1124**:- **Again** this was reported after the heavy rain in January. While the Clerk was meeting with Highways she was advised that an emergency order had been placed and as soon as a team were available this problem would be fixed. On Monday 4th February the team had arrived to start the repair works. It was also reported that water was still coming onto the A1124 at the Junction of Lane Road and the A1124, it was agreed that the Clerk would contact Highways to see what could be done.

- f **Broken Sign at Lower Green:-** The clerk reported that following her visit from Highways the Sign was being repaired and would be re-installed as soon as it was ready but it may take a couple of months.

7. New Planning Applications

- a. Application No: 080147 Delfan, Colchester Road, Wakes Colne, Colchester, CO6 2BX – Erection of single storey extension & alterations to porch *No Comments*
- b. Application No: 080001: Border House, Station Road, Wakes Colne, Colchester, CO6 2DS – Change of use of part of outbuilding to an office. *No Comments*
8. **Inworth Lane enclosure into the village envelope.** It was reported that Valerie Sayer had written to the Parish Council Re a plot of land in Inworth Lane being enclosed in the village envelope for residential use. It was agreed that the Clerk should write back to Mrs V Sayer and refer her directly to Colchester Borough Council
9. **Cricket Ground Hedge Cutting:-**It was reported that a letter had been received by the Clerk asking if the Cricket Club would kindly cut the hedge as it was over hanging the road. It was agreed that Cllr Stratford would contact the Cricket Club and request that the hedge be cut back.
10. **Letter from Adrian Coombs (Police Chief Inspector)** A letter had been received by the Clerk from the Chief Inspector for the Colchester Area (Letter attached to Agenda) to inform the Parish Council of new minimum standards. It was agreed that the Clerk would write back to Mr Coombs informing him that we agree with the contents of the letter and we look forward to more contact in the future.
11. **New Kissing Gate off the A1124 behind the C.W.P. Cottages:-** This was discussed at some length in the Public forum and it was agreed that Cllr Martin would contact Charlotte from Essex County Council and report back on developments in due course.
12. **Parish Council Meetings / Bookings for the Village Hall:** The Clerk explained that several organisations had contacted her during the month to ask if the Parish Council would be prepared to move the monthly meeting to the first Wednesday in the month. The reason for this was to accommodate the other organisations and help out with increasing the revenue for the Village Hall. It was discussed in length and nobody had any concerns. It was then proposed by Cllr Wayne Goodchild and seconded by Cllr Glen-Martin
13. **Further Information on the Website for Wakes Colne Parish Council:-** Cllr K Martin spoke about the information he had sourced over the month since the last meeting. Following on from the information he sent out to everybody via e-mail it was agreed to have the domain name wakescolne.org if at all possible and to go ahead and purchase the software to start building the website. Cllr Martin agreed to e-mail the contents of the home page that he had developed and if nobody had any objections he would start to build the site and have an update for the next meeting.
14. **Training – Clerk, Councillors & Code of Conduct.** January had been a busy month for training. The Clerk, Cllr J Taylor and Cllr Glen-Martin had all attended training at the EALC offices in Great Dunmow. Both courses were similar in that we spoke about several issues that would raise the profile of our Parish Council. Ideas suggested were Quarterly Newsletters, Good

Websites and Surgeries for the public to attend away from the regular meetings. All in all it was agreed that both training sessions had been beneficial. Cllr Goodchild spoke briefly about the Code of Conduct training that had taken place in the Town Hall in Colchester. This was attended by the Chairman, Cllr Stratford, Cllr J Taylor and the Clerk. Again it was agreed that this training had been very good and was well worth attending.

- 15. Affordable Housing.** Following a meeting with the local badger people and various e-mails which had been sent to Anne Bishop it was agreed that the Clerk would write to Anne and ask if we could look at the entrance into the Village Hall to be considered as an alternative to moving the badgers and cutting down the trees on the A1124.
- 16. Update on the Community Speed Watch:** The Clerk contacted Mr Adam Pipe to clarify the situation with the speed gun. He confirmed that Earls Colne should be sharing the gun with us and suggested that the Clerk contact Mr Sparks directly. This was done very unsuccessfully however as at the time of the meeting Mr Sparks had not returned the call. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Mr A Pipe and Earls Colne Parish Council Clerk to take this matter further and try and get the Speed Gun this month.
- 17. Funding for the notice boards:** It was agreed to take this off the agenda until the Website is up and running as it was thought that we may not need an third notice board in Lower Green. It was discussed that people do not perhaps use the notice boards as much now due to the introduction of the internet.
- 18. Items for inclusion on next agenda:** Website, Update of Speed Gun situation Affordable housing,
- 19. Next Meeting:** Wednesday 5th March 2008.
- 20.** The agenda will be prepared and any items for inclusion must be received by the Clerk by 5pm on Tuesday 26th February 2008.
- 21. Closure:** Our Chairman Cllr W Goodchild thanked everybody for attending and advised that the next meeting will be on the Wednesday 5th March 2008 at the Village Hall. The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Signed.....
Chairman of the Parish Council

Date.....