

# Wakes Colne Parish Council

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Minutes of the monthly Wakes Colne Parish Council Meeting held on  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2008 at 7.15pm in the Wakes Colne Village Hall, Colchester  
Road, Wakes Colne.

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4<sup>th</sup> June 2008

## 08/44 RECORD OF MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman Cllr W Goodchild, Cllr J Glen-Martin, Cllr S Stratford, Cllr H Cresswell & Cllr P Chillingworth  
Clerk Mrs V Burrows & Three members of the public –, Mr A Myers, Mrs S Chamley & Mrs R Eyre-Pugh

## 08/45 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Cllr S Hounslow  
Cllr K Martin  
Cllr J Taylor

## 08/46 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

Cllr S Stratford	08/54	2	Caravan at Freechooks Farm	Personal
Cllr S Stratford	08/54	7	Chappel & Wakes Colne Cricket Club	Personal & Predjudicial
Cllr J Glen-Martin	08/54	4	Dates for the Moto Cross Meetings at Little	Personal
Cllr W Goodchild	08/54	7	Chappel & Wakes Colne Cricket Club	Personal

## 08/47 PUBLIC FORUM.

No questions were raised

## 08/48 Ex-AGENDA

Cllr Chillingworth spoke briefly on several issues:

- ❖ Hammonds Farm was finally approved Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2008.
- ❖ Recycling bags had been delivered.
- ❖ Bus passes can now be used in certain areas before 9.30am.
- ❖ Following the elections Cllr Chillingworth was still Chairman of the Planning Committee, however a few issues had arisen due to the new administration not agreeing with policies already in place. Cllr Chillingworth advised keeping an eye on the local newspapers.
- ❖ Local Development Framework – The Marks Tey proposals were definitely not happening although the housing targets were still in place. Cllr Stratford asked if the proposed housing developments were followed through in the Colchester Area what

provisions had been put in place for adequate water to all new households? Cllr Stratford went on to explain that she had been advised that some houses in Colchester did not have adequate water facilities. Cllr Chillingworth said he was unaware of a water problem in North Essex although he was knew about the problems South Essex were experiencing. Cllr Chillingworth explained that it was the responsibility of the local water authority and the government to provide adequate water.

#### **08/49 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> May were approved and signed as a true record with the following amendment - Cllr Hounslow had requested that it be minuted that she left the room at item 08/38 1

#### **08/50 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.

#### **08/51 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 had e-mailed Mark Fogg-Elliot our internal auditor for an update and a meeting had been scheduled for next week.
- 4) Moving Funds from the Business Account to the High Interest Account. The Clerk advised that £3000 had been the balance in the Business Account at the end of 2007 / 2008 it was agreed that this money could be transferred to the High Interest Account ASAP. Cllr Glen-Martin had expressed a concern that if we did this how quickly could it be transferred back if we needed it. The Clerk was going to find out and report back at the next meeting.

#### **08/52 PLANNING APPLICATIONS & RESULTS**

- 1) Application No: 080843 Jordans Farm, Lower Green, Wakes Colne, Colchester, CO6 2AZ: Change of use of redundant agricultural building to storage and retail of bridal dresses. **NO COMMENTS**
- 2) Comments received from Simon Osborn on Application No: 071085. **The Clerk read out Simon Osborn's reply and the meeting was adjourned so Cllr Chillingworth could advise in respect of the question that was asked of planning. The money that is paid to the Borough Council for leisure services only applies to new residential houses. 65% of the money is used for the local area and 35% for the borough. Cllr Chillingworth advised that the money goes into a pot and you can apply to the Council for specific projects within your Parish. Cllr Chillingworth was going to find out more information and report back.**
- 3) Comments received from Simon Osborn on Application No: 080815. **All comments received in respect of this application (See Clerks Report) were adequate.**

#### **08/53 HIGHWAYS ISSUES**

- 1) VAS Sign – Engineer Called. The Clerk advised that due to the reported problems with the VAS sign an engineer had been called from the company that installed it and Jenny Hill would report back in due course.
- 2) Survey on the A1124 for a Zebra Crossing - More information on the Survey Results: The Clerk circulated actual figures that had been sent from Mr Ward at Highways for all the Councillors to comment on. The meeting was adjourned so Cllr S Chamley could advise the Clerk of a contact name through the Safe Journey to School Campaign. The meeting was re-opened.
- 3) "Welcome to Wakes Colne" Sign on Station Road: The Clerk had received a map from Greene King asking us to mark on the exact location for the sign. In addition they had asked for dimension of the proposed sign and it was suggested that Greene King speak to Mr Ward

directly as the Clerk was just passing information backward and forward. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Mr Ward and ask the question.

### **08/54 NEW AGENDA ITEMS**

- 1) Removal of Telephone Boxes: Cllr Cresswell expressed a concern that BT were proposing to get rid of both telephone boxes in the village. It was discussed that due to the infrequent use of these boxes and the rise in cost of maintenance to keep them in good working order we should look at the possibility of losing one box. It was agreed that we should contact Colchester Borough Council and request that the Red Telephone Box on the A1124 should be retained.
- 2) Caravan at Freechooks Farm: It was discussed that the caravan in question should have been vacated and removed on completion of the building works some time ago. The meeting was adjourned so Cllr Chillingworth could comment. Cllr Chillingworth had contacted Bill Rhodes but no further action had been taken. The meeting was reconvened and it was agreed that the enforcement officer should be contacted and then report back on the outcome at the next meeting.
- 3) Outcome of the Village Appraisal Steering Group Meeting – 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2008: Cllr Glen-Martin spoke briefly about the meeting and the outcome of the Steering Group being disbanded.
- 4) Dates for the Moto Cross Meetings at Little Loveney Hall 2008: Concern was expressed at the traffic exiting via Lane Road and not the desired route. Cllr Glen-Martin declared a personal interest in this item and the Clerk gave the dates to Cllr S Stratford.
- 5) Points arising from the Annual Parish Meeting: Everybody agreed the evening had been very successful and the majority of the speakers that were invited turned up and gave lots of useful information. It was commented on the disappointing number of parishioners that attended even though all houses had had a leaflet advising of the details, it was agreed that more notice next time may be helpful. Cllr Goodchild thanked Cllr Stratford for doing the tea & coffee.
- 6) CSW Programme – New Recruits: It is with regret that Mr P Twyford could not carry on organising the CSW Programme. Cllr Jim Taylor now had the equipment in his garage and the Clerk was going to e-mail all the people who are trained and get there availability and take it forward. The Clerk agreed to e-mail Cllr S Chamley for information on people who want to get involved from Chappel Parish Council.
- 7) Chappel & Wakes Colne Cricket Club. Cllr Stratford left the room. Cllr Goodchild spoke about the drainage and the extra facilities that the Cricket Club were hoping to implement and it was agreed that the Clerk would find out more about the Capital Grant Scheme and apply for funding. This was put proposed by Cllr Glen-Martin and seconded by Cllr Cresswell. Cllr Stratford re-entered the room.
- 8) Affordable Housing: It was agreed that this was a slow process but it was now time to re-visit the project as we have potentially identified a site near to the Village Hall. It was discussed that we go to the Rural Housing Trust and get a new survey done to establish the exact demand for the number of affordable houses in the area. It was proposed by Cllr Goodchild and seconded by Cllr Stratford that we ask the Rural Housing Trust to carry out the survey and follow the project through to its conclusion. A resolution was passed to agree this. All were in favour.
- 9) Rural Community Council of Essex (RCCE). The Clerk spoke at length following a meeting she had attended at Feering with the RCCE and the Clerk from Chappel Parish Council. The Meeting addressed the issues surrounding the Village Design Statement (VDS) that had been delivered to every household in both Parishes. The RCCE asked if the two Parishes were prepared to take the project forward and bring it to its conclusion and produce a Parish Plan. It was suggested that 2 or 3 people from each council set up a committee to take it forward. It was discussed that the document produced by the Village Appraisal Steering Group (VASG) was not actually a VDS because the questions asked on the original questionnaire were specific for a Parish Plan and not a Design Statement. It was discussed that in the last two years a lot of the findings from the questionnaire had indeed been completed or at the very least started and were on going. It was also discussed that some of the information contained

in the VDS was now not happening e.g. the Marks Tey development and therefore the document was inaccurate. The Cllrs felt that because the VASG had now been disbanded and that the project had not been successful, for both Councils to now pick up the project and take it to its conclusion might not be successful either. All the Cllrs felt that it should not just be the Councillors on the committee but other individuals as well and it was agreed that local parishioners were just not that interested in getting involved. It was agreed that we would wait and see the outcome from Chappel's meeting next week and it might be that we have a joint meeting to discuss the issue further.

**08/55 REPORTS.**

**Cllr Martin**            **Progress report on the website:** In Cllr Martin's absence Cllr Goodchild commented on how well the website was now looking and we would look forward to an update next month.

**Cllr Goodchild**        **Monthly update:** Cllr Goodchild gave us a brief overview for the month however most of it had been covered in the meeting.

**Cllr Stratford**        **Training Update:** Cllr Stratford had attended a training session on Law and Procedure at the EALC and she spoke at length about what she had learnt. She said a lot was not relevant to the smaller Councils however she found out some very interesting fact which could be used in our Parish.

**08/56 NEXT AGENDA ITEMS.**

Joint Parish Meeting

**08/57 DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

The next meeting is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 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 27<sup>th</sup> June 2008.  
Cllr Goodchild thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 8.44pm

**Signed.....**  
**Chairman of the Parish Council**

**Date.....**