

Minutes of the **MEETING** of the **BIRDBROOK PARISH COUNCIL** which was held on **Tuesday, 5th September 2006**, in the **Community House, Birdbrook at 7.30pm.**

PRESENT Cllr R W Walker
 Cllr R J Bolton
 Cllr Mrs H Hodge
 Cllr D Hoye,
 Cllr R Kirby

Public **One Member Present**

Also in Attendance County Cllr D Finch
 Susan De Luca – Clerk

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no questions from the public present

06.30 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were **RECEIVED** from Cllrs T Fenner and W Rook.

06.31 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr R Bolton declared an interest in the item relating to the urgent action taken on the play area.

06.32 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 4th July 2006 had been circulated, the clerk advised of two amendments that were necessary in relation to the headings of the minutes, they were then declared a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

06.33 REPORT OF THE CLERK

Members **RECEIVED** the oral report of the Clerk on the following matters

<p>a) ECC Highway Matters (i) Response from ECC Highways with regard to the speed survey. The Clerk read a letter regarding the results of the survey. Members noted that no further action was considered necessary by Essex County Council. The Clerk would contact ECC and ask whether or not a revised speed limit of 50mph be placed on the road as it goes through Sturmer as members felt that the 30mph was unrealistic and vehicles simply sped up to a high speed after they had gone through the 30mph speed limit. (ii) Community Speed Watch & Vehicle Activated Signs & Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs). Members noted the details of this initiative.</p>	<p>c) Play Area – (i) Report on meeting between Clerk and Steve Filbey – The Clerk had met with Steve Filbey who had advised her that lockable bollards would be put in place at the entrance to the play area together with a new pedestrian access. The Clerk had agreed to source a lease type agreement which could be drawn up between the Council and the Community House. (ii) Play Area – Report on Urgent Action recently taken–The Clerk advised of the work to the partial fallen tree and with regard to the problems with rats being seen in the play area. A new baitable bin had been purchased and installed.</p>
---	--

<p>(iii) Response re Winter Service Review – Re-location of Salt Bin. The Clerk read a letter which had been received from Essex County Council. It was agreed that the Clerk should approach the County Council and advise that the bin was in a poor state of repair and ask if it could be replaced by a new bin which was green in colour and which would remain in the same place.</p>	<p>Some further works were necessary as the bin had been vandalised within hours of it being set in concrete. It was agreed that the quote be accepted to enable the bin to be baited on a regular basis. The Clerk was further instructed to contact the pest control contractor to ask if he would be willing to empty the bin on a monthly basis between October and March and a weekly basis between April and September.</p> <p>(iii) Grant Funding For New Equipment – members were advised that a total of £12,300 was available for the purchase of new play equipment. The Clerk would arrange a meeting as soon as possible in order for members to look at the proposals and to visit both Birdbrook and Baythorne end Play Areas.</p>
<p>c) Activity Day and Contact Bus – members were advised that both of these events had been fairly well attended.</p>	<p>d) Web Site – Val Rienus advised members of the proposal in relation to the website and the updating. It was agreed that the Council into a contract with CMI Publishing who would regularly update the web site for the sum of £50 per month. Members were urged to send CMI Publishing any local news as often as possible.</p>

6.34 FINANCIAL MATTERS

A) Status of Accounts

Members **APPROVED** the Statement of Accounts and **NOTED** the summary of monies received and the account balances at the end of the month

b) Auditor’s Response

Members noted that this was still awaited

6.35 REPORTS

Members **RECEIVE** brief reports on the following matters:

<p>Essex County Councillors Report – Cllr Finch gave a verbal report to members which included</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Police Non Emergency Number 101, which was a number which would shortly be set up to report non urgent items such as vandalism, graffiti, anti social behaviour, noise, street lights etc. b) Finances and efficiency drives c) Waste & Recycling
<p>Play Parks – Already covered</p>
<p>Pond- The waders had been purchased and would be kept by Cllr D Hoye. It was noted that the pond had no algae on it and that there were both fish and wild fowl in it.</p>

--

6.36 COMMUNICATIONS & CORREPENDENCE

Members **RECEIVED** details of the following correspondence and communications that the Clerk had placed before the Council.

Confirmation of Date for Parish Cluster Meeting – To be hosted by Birdbrook PC on Monday 16 th October. The Clerk to write to all cluster Members and to confirm with Liz Filbey that the Community House would be available.	EALC County Updates & Associated Information - NOTED
BDC Agendas & Minutes – NOTED	RCCE Village Halls Conference – NOTED
ECC Making the Links – NOTED	SLCC – Invitation to join – NOTED
EALC Planning Day – Tuesday 17 October 06 – NOTED	BDC – Affordable Housing – Supplementary Guidance - Noted
Braintree District Voluntary Support Agency – NOTED	NALC Annual Chief Executives Report - NOTED
BDC Open Space Strategy – The Chairman to consider this document	BDC Parish Rangers & Community Wardens – NOTED
Encams – Litter and the Law – NOTED	NALC Local Democracy Campaign – NOTED
Farleigh Hospice - Various Requests – NOTED	CPRE – Request to respond to “How the East of England Will Develop”- NOTED
EALC – Notice of AGM To be held on 20.9.06 NOTED	RCCE – Statutory Planning - NOTED
EALC – Annual Report – NOTED	Parish Plans, Village Design Statements & Community Led Plans – The Council would host a Community Day in the spring to ascertain whether or not parishioners were interested

6.37 DOCUMENTS ON DEPOSIT

None received at present

6.38 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- a) Members **NOTED** the following planning applications which had been received and made the following comments

b)

App No	06/00157/4ful
Location	4 Chadwells, Fell Road
Proposal	Revisions to plans for replacement of existing garage
Resolved	NO OBJECTION
App No	06/01723/ful
Location	Maple House, Sturmer Road
Proposal	Erection of replacement garage / garden store with studio over
Resolved	OBJECTION. The Council objects on the grounds that the proposal represents over development. The proposal is indicative that it is not a replacement garage but a newly developed habitable dwelling.

b) There were no further applications to **CONSIDER**.

c) **DECISIONS BY BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Members **NOTED** the following planning decisions:

<u>APPLICATIONS GRANTED</u>	
App No	06/00617/ful
Location	4 Chadwells, Fell Road
Proposal	Replacement of existing garage with a garage of increased height and width
App No	06/00830/out
Location	Baythorne Hall Offices, Baythorne End
Proposal	Conversion of Vacant Offices to Residential Unit

6.39 PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE

Members **NOTED** that no correspondence had been received

6.40 OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Members **NOTED** the following matters of an urgent nature which a Member drew to the attention of the Council and or request to be included in the Agenda for the next meeting of the Council.

a) The road way by the green and adjacent to the telephone box was in a very poor state of repair. The Clerk was asked to continue with her investigation into who was responsible for the repairs. The Clerk would send a map to ECC Highways and place this matter on the agenda for the November meeting.