

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday
5th January, 2009 at Church House, Newport.**

<u>Present:</u>	Cllr A. Yarwood	(AY)	(Chairman)
	Cllr M. Bowker	(MB)	
	Cllr T. Denyer	(TD)	
	Cllr J. Rose	(JR)	
	Cllr J. Smith	(JS)	
<u>In attendance:</u>	C. Griffin	Clerk	
	J. Grogan	Treasurer	
	J. Parker	Resident (from C001-C003)	
	Dist Cllr P. Wilcock	(PW)	

09/C001 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr A. Johnson, Cllr C. Mitchell, Cllr M. Sell.
Dist Cllr P. Wilcock arriving late.

09/C002 To receive any 'personal' or 'personal and prejudicial' interests relating to items on the Agenda

The following interests were declared: AY in C009, C010, C016 and C021; TD in C010 and C021; JR in C009, C010, C011 and C016; JS in C011, C014 and C021.

08/C003 Public participation session (15 minutes available if required)

Mr. John Parker of Turigs, Cambridge Road, advised that he has made a number of planning applications in order to make parking provision in front of his property and these have been refused. His Appeal is currently being considered and as comments are required before the next PC Planning meeting he enquired as to whether the PC would be sending a response.

The Chairman confirmed that the PC was supportive of the application and views have not changed. The PC will definitely be sending a response before the deadline of 13th January.

Mr Parker thanked the PC and then left the meeting.

08/C004 To approve and authorise the Chairman to sign the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 1st December, 2008.

Resolved that the Chairman should sign the Minutes as approved.

Proposed: JS Seconded: MB All agreed

09/C005 Chairman's comments

The Chairman reported that

- All members will receive an invitation to the official opening of Bowker Close by HRH The Princess Royal on 27th January and it is hoped that everybody will be able to attend.
- He was grateful to the NhW group of volunteers for delivering the Housing Needs questionnaire, and PC newsletter along with the NhW Observer.
- He will be attending the North Uttlesford Community Forum meeting at UDC offices, Saffron Walden on 6th January.

08/C006 To discuss the co-option of new Council Members

The Chairman advised that Charles Gilbank is still interested in joining the Parish Council but his workload may make it difficult for him to attend every meeting. One resident has been in touch with AJ. JS advised that he has spoken to two potential candidates and they are currently giving this some thought. If members are aware of other residents interested in co-option please advise the Clerk

08/C007 To receive the Clerk's Report

Duly received.

Clerk reported that:

- There is no further news at the moment on the repairs to the bridges.
- The trees and hedging for planting on the Common should arrive on 6th January
- The new development at Bury Water Lane will be named Willow Vale.
- The annual report has been received from Uttlesford Buffy Bus Association. Clerk will advise that a further donation will be considered in the next financial year.

09/C008 To receive the Treasurer's Report and approve accounts for payment

Duly received.

The payment schedule showing 18 items, totalling £6,139.71 was approved and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed: JS

Seconded: JR

All agreed

09/C009 To discuss the booklet "Newport – As Safe As We All Make It"

The Chairman asked JR to give a short statement and after this members would have an opportunity to ask questions or make any comments

JR explained that the Newport Business Association wanted to launch the association and the booklet at the same time. The aim was to get the businesses in Newport talking to each other. The residents of Bowker Close had experienced a number of incidents and issues, therefore, it was hoped, that this would raise the profile of the business association and the booklet would be helpful as all the emergency services and helpful contact details would be contained in one booklet.

The Chairman pointed out that this was presented initially at an NAP meeting in October and the PC had no prior knowledge of this. Part of our Code of Conduct states that members should treat others with respect. As AJ has carried out a considerable amount of work in this area it would have been helpful for the PC to have been consulted. The Chairman added that it would have been beneficial for the PC to have some input. TD confirmed that he thought the Chairman and AJ should have known about this.

JR said he was sorry if he had offended anybody and apologised if he had done so. This was certainly not intended.

JR would welcome any ideas, criticisms or support for the booklet. Immense support has been received and it is hoped that a similar booklet can be produced for other parishes in the area.

It was agreed that if the booklet is updated or re-printed the PC should be involved.

09/C010 To receive an update on the website

The Chairman advised that he has sent some changes to JR and some amendments have been made. JR would welcome any further comments.

JR advised that the site has already been viewed by 214 visitors.

09/C011 To discuss Energy Conservation in the Village

JR suggested organising an Energy Efficiency Day to make residents more aware of the things that can be done to save energy and money. After discussion it was agreed that Clerk would contact UDC and ask for a representative to attend the next PC meeting when the proposals can be discussed.

Clerk will also contact NFGS regarding the floodlights around the Hockey Pitch.

09/C012 To receive a report on the meetings with ECC at Bridge End on 17th December and 22nd December

Clerk and MS attended a meeting with Steven Rodzianko, ECC, on 17th December Mr. Pullen from The Priory also attended. Mrs Baird was unable to attend but has sent comments to ECC.

SR explained that ECC would install a granite kerb around the triangle at a cost of £3,000-£5,000. Mr Pullen is most unhappy about this and Clerk has received one further email since the meeting which has been forwarded to the Chairman, AJ and MS.

During the meeting we were approached by the resident of “Brookside”, on the other side of the viaduct, and Clerk subsequently attended a meeting with Ray Curtis, ECC on 22nd December. This issue concerns parking underneath the railway arches and the right of way and ECC asked Clerk to obtain the PC’s views on moving the small fence on the edge of the road on the north side.

Clerk will clarify with ECC whether the right of way is for vehicles or pedestrians. The PC felt this was not something they should be involved in but should be handled by ECC and National Express.

SR also looked at the bank of the stream next to the Viaduct and advised the PC to contact the Environmental Agency.

09/C013 To receive an update on the street lighting on the path between the High Street and Pond Cross Way

Clerk advised that she has contacted our lighting contractors, A & J Lighting, and they have advised that the existing light is the most suitable for the footpath. The PC could consider an alternative fitting which would give a slightly brighter light but the cost would be in the region of £250. Alternatively, an additional light could be installed, slightly higher to cover a larger area, but this may not be acceptable to the neighbouring houses and would be costly. It was agreed that Clerk should contact the owners of the trees and plants at the High Street end which are in need of trimming.

09/C014 To receive an update on the possibility of a disabled access to the Pharmacy in the High Street

Following discussions at the last meeting Clerk contacted Barbara Bosworth, Conservation Officer, and she advised that UDC has not received an application for a disabled access.

JS agreed to speak to the Pharmacist again and report back at the next meeting.

09/C015 To receive an update on the building of a Teen Shelter in the Village

The Chairman advised that Mr. Reed from Palletts Farmhouse has contacted the Clerk and has advised that he would support the building of a Teen Shelter but this must be built by the youngsters themselves. The PC agreed that the most suitable location would be the Common and it would be helpful if it could be a village facility rather than just a Shelter for youngsters.

After discussion it was agreed that Clerk would contact Mr. Reed and arrange for the Chairman to meet him together with some of the youngsters who said they would be willing to help.

09/C016 To receive an update of the RHT Affordable Housing Scheme in Frambury Lane

Clerk reported that following discussions at the last meeting regarding an Edincare central drainage system, RHT advised that such schemes have been considered in the past but the expenditure is quite unviable. What is being proposed is the most cost effective solution and ecologically friendly.

The RHT are having problems with regard to upgrading the track up to the recreation ground and a letter has been sent from the PC supporting this. Clerk to ask Cty Cllr R. Gooding and Cllr. N. Hume (Cabinet Member for Highways & Transportation at ECC) to send a letter of support.

Chairman and Clerk will discuss this at meeting with the RHT on 6th January and suggest that the footpath becomes a cycle path.

09/C017 To receive an update on Chalk Farm Lane and confirm that the PC wishes to proceed with the waiting restrictions

Clerk reported that the fence was taken down before Christmas and has now been placed on the edge of the field. ECC has asked if the PC wish to proceed with the waiting restrictions, providing the residents withdraw their objections. Clerk will contact ECC and advise that the verge on the field side must be made suitable for the cars to park before proceeding with the waiting restrictions as originally planned.

09/C018 To discuss the reaccreditation of the PC Quality Status that expires on 29th April, 2009

Clerk reported that the PC Quality status expires on 29th April and if the PC would like to apply for reaccreditation the application has to be submitted by 27th March. Clerk estimates it will take roughly 15 – 20 Hrs to compile the evidence required.

The Chairman pointed out that the PC need to consider the benefits we receive before deciding whether to re-apply. It was agreed that this should be given further consideration and a decision made at the February meeting. In the meantime Clerk will contact the National Association of Local Councils pointing out that as we have already fulfilled the requirements for Quality status could the requirements for reaccreditation be simplified.

09/C019 To receive an update on the David Wilson Homes Appeal and the reaction from the Sports Committee to the plan

Following discussions at the last Facilities meeting, Clerk contacted the Chairman of the Sports Committee. They felt that as a planning application will be submitted shortly for a new building to replace Jikes Hall, it is not a good time to create a mini soccer pitch in the area suggested. Regarding improvements to drainage, some years ago the Sports Committee received a lottery grant for drainage work on the recreation ground and in addition spent money themselves, therefore it is unlikely that any further improvements could be made.

Clerk has advised David Wilson Homes.

09/C020 To adopt and maintain a publication scheme under the Freedom of Information Act.

Clerk has been advised that it is the duty of every public authority to adopt and maintain a publication scheme under the Freedom of Information Act.

Clerk has obtained a model and will complete this as soon as possible. The PC agreed that Clerk should charge 10p per copy for hard copies of information.

09/C021 To receive a report on the Village Hall

JS reported that:

- The query on the Markwell bill has not yet been resolved.
- Work on Phase 2 will now start on 9th February
- £2,000 may be needed from the PC funds for Phase 2 towards the end of the financial year.
- There are four/five items that need attending to quite urgently. The PC needs to discuss these in detail at the next meeting.

Clerk advised that Peter Arscott attended the meeting with Steven Rodzianko, ECC on 17th December when the tarmac area in front of the Village Hall was discussed. Steven said he would contact Peter Arscott direct. It is hoped that this will be completed in the next few weeks.

09/C022 To receive a report on Neighbourhood Watch

AJ advised prior to the meeting that he had nothing to report.

It is hoped that Essex Police will continue the monthly “drop in” sessions in the PC office. Clerk has heard nothing further from PCSO Mike O’Donnell-Smith since the initial meeting.

JS reported that some damage has been caused to the exhaust vent at the Village Hall.

The Chairman reported that over the last month a driver from Rickling has been using their car irresponsibly. A Section 59 notice has now been served on this driver. The vehicle involved was a Red Rover 200 and if there should be any further problems elsewhere in the village please notify the Chairman.

09/C023 To receive Reports from Dist Cllr P. Wilcock and Cty Cllr R. Gooding

Dist Cllr P Wilcock wished all members a very happy new year. Nothing further to report.

Cty Cllr R Gooding - No report as Cllr Gooding was unable to attend

09/C024 Items for next Agenda

To receive a report on the Joint Parish Council Group meeting

To receive an update on the possibility of a disabled access to the Pharmacy in the High Street.

To receive an update on the building of a Teen Shelter.

To discuss the organisation of an Energy Conservation Day in the Village.

09/C025 To discuss any Urgent matters of interest to the Parish

C025.1 Clerk contacted ECC regarding the results of the part night lighting survey and a response is not required.

C025.2 JS advised that following his report at the last meeting regarding “Zebrite”, examples can be seen in Cambridge at Maids Causeway and Chesterton Road. If the PC are unable to get the Pelican crossings included in the Traffic Management Scheme it might be worth considering “Zebrite”

C025.3 Clerk reported that a complaint has been received today concerning the graffiti on the wall at the bottom of Frambury Lane. As the wall is not our responsibility Clerk will contact the owners.

09/C026 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held at 7.30 p.m on Monday, 2nd February, 2009 at Church House.

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m