

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Monday,
2nd November, 2009 at Church House, Newport.**

<u>Present:</u>	Cllr A. Yarwood	(AY)	(Chairman)
	Cllr P. Arscott	(PA)	
	Cllr L. Bailey		
	(LB)		Cllr M.
	Bowker	(MB)	
	Cllr T. Denyer	(TD)	
	Cllr C. Gilbank	(CG)	
	Cllr A. Johnson	(AJ)	(Vice-Chairman)
	Cllr C. Mitchell	(CM)	
	Cllr J. Smith	(JS)	
<u>In attendance:</u>	C. Griffin		Clerk
	J. Peachey		Treasurer
	A. Neville		Area Station Manager, National Express (C245 – C247) (AN)

09/C245 Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Cllr J. Rose, Cllr M. Sell, Dist Cllr P. Wilcock.

09/C246 To receive any ‘personal’ or ‘personal and prejudicial’ interests relating to items on the Agenda

The following personal interests were declared: AY in C253, C258, C259, C261, personal and prejudicial in C247; TD in C253 and C256; AJ in C253, C258 and C264; LB in C255, C261 and C265; MB in C253; CM in C253; CG in C255; JS in C264.

09/C247 To discuss with Mr Alan Neville, Area Station Manager, National Express, any issues relating to the Railway Station

The Chairman welcomed Mr Alan Neville to the meeting. AN advised that he is Station Manager for Newport and nine other stations from Whittlesey to Elsenham, excluding Cambridge and Waterbeach.. He pointed out that National Express are responsible for managing Newport Station, the owners are Network Rail. As far as Newport is concerned, he is planning to

make changes to the front door and repaint and refurbish the waiting rooms. He feels it is important to establish good relationships with the community and hopes that the PC will contact him on any issues relating to the Railway Station. Members of the PC said they found the person who works at the Station extremely helpful. AN will feed this back to the employee.

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A question was raised regarding the layout of the car park and the possibility of this being extended to the South. AN advised that NCP operate the car park with National Express but he is not aware of any proposals to extend the car park at Newport. Work is already underway on a large extension to the car park at Audley End to provide an additional 150 spaces. The PC pointed out that there is a tremendous car parking problem in the village and informed AN of the work that is being done on the East side (Chalk Farm Lane) which will reduce the number of parking spaces. If the car park was bigger it could encourage more people to use it. In reply to a question regarding the setting of car parking charges and whether there is a case for reducing these, AN said these are set by National Express and he did not think these would be reduced, however he will take this up.

AN reported that there has been a consultation on train services and there will be some new trains, extra carriages and platform lengthening. The PC will be kept up to date with these.

The PC pointed out that there are major problems with litter and also youngsters going up and down the line in the evening. AN said they are dealing with the litter problem and bins have now been placed on the platforms. Also, extra security patrols are being introduced and he will deal with any vandalism in this area. AN urged members to contact him, via the PC Clerk, if there are any problems in Newport.

AN confirmed that he would like to attend the PC Annual Assembly in April and would also like to become involved with the Newport Business Association.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Neville for attending.

09/C248 Public participation session (30 minutes available if required)

No members of the public present.

09/C249 To approve and authorise the Chairman to sign the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 5th October, 2009.

09/C225, second paragraph to be amended to read "It was reported that the Village Hall decided recently to move away from the Temporary Event Notice licence and decided that 16 bookings per year was reasonable, provided bookings are properly managed".

09/C228, second line to read "Clerk will contact 100 Houses Society again, as the street lights in Bowker Close are still not working".

Resolved that with the above amendments the Chairman should sign the Minutes as approved.

Proposed: CM Seconded: TD All agreed

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09/C250 Chairman's comments

The Chairman reported that:

- He will be attending the Remembrance Day Service at the Church on Sunday, and hoped that other members would come along.
- The PC now has all the necessary documents for the Firework event and thanked PA for his help with this. Clerk to ask Neil Saville to inspect the Common prior to the event and decide whether the ground is suitable for parking. Clerk to advise PA.
- Clerk has received an email from a resident of Bridge End praising the team of workmen that installed the new kerbing.
- He received a telephone call from John Lefever of Hastoe and will report on this under C261.
- Some members of the Youth Club will be attending auditions in the Church on Tuesday, 3rd November. Thanks were expressed to Rev. Barbara Sherlock for allowing the Youth Club to use the Church

09/C251 To receive the Clerk's Report

Duly received.

Clerk reported that:

- An application will be submitted to CIF (Highways) for funding for implementing the pedestrian crossing at Belmont Hill.
- She is awaiting proposed dates from Circus Tyanna for their 2010 tour. The PC confirmed that they were perfectly happy for the Circus to use the Common again.
- A letter of thanks was received from the Chairman of the Village Hall for the cheque for £6,979.45 towards the refurbishment project.

09/C252 To receive the Treasurer's Report and approve accounts for payment

Duly received.

The payment schedule showing 10 items, totalling £2,168.20 was approved and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed: JS Seconded: AJ All agreed.

09/C253 To approve the opening of a Corporate Savings Account with the Saffron Building Society and agree a transfer of £6,270.00 from our Nat West Current Account to open the Account.

Deferred until next meeting.

09/C254 To approve a quotation from N.S. Landscapes Ltd., in respect of the grass cutting contract for the next three years.

Proposed that the quotation from N.S. Landscapes Ltd., of £6,815.00 per annum, plus VAT, should be approved for the next three years, 2010 —2012.

Proposed: CG Seconded: AJ All agreed

It was noted that the price could increase by 3% per annum over the three years.

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09/C255 To approve a quotation for the new Fencing at the Diana Sell Playground

Proposed that the quotation from N.S. Landscapes for £6,300 plus VAT should be approved.

Proposed: CG Seconded: LB All agreed.

Clerk to send a letter to Wynchmore Fencing thanking them for their quotation.

‡int wall which will divert pupils to a new bridge over the river to the junction with the Toll House.

AJ pointed out that this is only part of the solution and the path needs to be extended. Further discussions are needed with the School, ECC Highways and the PC. Clerk to contact Cty Cllr Ray Gooding regarding a further meeting.

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09/C259 To receive an update on the proposed development at Jikes Hall

(AJ took the Chair)

AY reported that the proposed Steering Group would consist of representatives from the Scouts, Sports Committee, Jikes Youth Centre, Cllr Ted Denyer and Cty Cllr Ray Gooding. Terms of Reference have been drawn up and circulated.

AY advised that

- new plans are being drawn up and an update will be given at the next Full Council meeting. Plans have been agreed with the Sports Committee.
- Sue Sheppard of the Rural Community Council of Essex has offered to assist.
- A meeting has been held with the Scouts and they are satisfied with the plans. Minutes are available for members.
- Test borings will be carried out on the land.

A question was raised regarding fund raising by the Scouts. This issue will be discussed at the first meeting of the Steering Group which it is hoped can be held in late November.

09/C260 To receive a report on the Village Plan meeting held on 21st October, 2009

The Chairman reported that at the last meeting the Committee studied some of the responses. An Open day would be organised next year. The Committee are considering approaching Newport News regarding the possibility of including the Village Plan in the 2010 Summer edition rather than producing it as a separate document.

09/C261 To receive an update on Planning Application UTT/1109/09/FUL, construction of 34 Affordable dwellings at Frambury Lane

The Chairman reported on a telephone call from Mr John Lefever, of Hastoe Housing concerning the PC's letter to UDC. The

Chairman informed Mr. Lefever that the Parish Council has a duty to represent the views of their parishioners.

Mr. Lefever has now been advised by UDC Planning Officers that, without the support of the Parish Council, they will not be recommending the scheme for acceptance. Mr Lefever also informed the Chairman that, if the current scheme does not proceed, in his opinion, it would not go ahead for at least another three years as it will be impossible to obtain funding. The Chairman had agreed to advise members of the current situation, which he was now doing.

After discussion, members confirmed that they were happy with the letter to UDC and the comments still stand. Clerk was requested to advise Mr.Lefever.

09/C261 To discuss business parking in the High Street

Deferred until next meeting

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09/C262 To receive a report on the current situation regarding the fund raising for the Defibrillator and consider a donation to cover the installation cost which is estimated to be £270.00

Deferred until next meeting as Cllr Jeremy Rose unable to attend.

09/C263 To receive a report on the Village Hall

JS reported that the VHTMC has requested further support from the PC, up to £2,500, in order to submit an application to CIF for work on the walls and roof of the Bar.

Proposed that this could be drawn down from the remaining reserves.

Proposed: AY

Seconded: CG

All

agreed.

09/C264 To receive a report on Neighbourhood Watch

AJ reported that:

- This is "Not in my Neighbourhood Week" and there will be Police and other agencies promoting this in Saffron Walden on Tuesday, 3rd and Gt. Dunmow on Wednesday, 4th November.
- The PC has now received the graffiti removal kits. The Caretaker should receive instructions on using this. It was pointed out that photographs should be taken before removing the graffiti.

09/C265 To receive Reports from Dist Cllr P. Wilcock and Cty Cllr R. Gooding

No reports from Dist Cllr P. Wilcock or Cty Cllr R. Gooding.

The Chairman advised that he is assisting the District Council Finance Department on risk management.

JS enquired as to whether the PC needs to do anything further in connection with the UDC Draft Housing Strategy 2009-2012 and the SHLAA. Clerk will contact UDC and report back at the next meeting. The Chairman confirmed that the consultation process is being handled properly.

09/C266 Items for next Agenda

To approve Budgets and Reserves for 2010/11.

To agree Precept for 2010/11.

To receive an update on the proposed development at Jikes Hall

To discuss business parking in the High Street

To receive a report on the current situation regarding the fund raising for the Defibrillator and consider a donation to cover installation costs.

To discuss Section 106 Payments.

To discuss several issues at Chalk Farm Lane.

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09/C267 To discuss any Urgent matters of interest to the Parish

C267.1 AJ advised that the next PC News has been drafted and will be finalised by 9th November.

C267.2 PA reported that the 30mph sign at Bridge End has been knocked over and the bollard is still missing in School Lane, Clerk will report to ECC.

C267.3 MB advised that light P6 in Cherry Garden Lane is faulty. Clerk will report.

C267.4 JS advised that he will be responding to the UDC Budget and Corporate Plan Consultation. The Chairman said he felt a reply should be sent from the PC and requested members to send comments to the PC office.

C267.5 Clerk advised that UDC had sent details of the temporary road closure for the Fireworks event.

C267.6 Clerk reported on messages received from the Environment Agency following the meeting on 16th October. Residents are extremely unhappy with the current situation. Clerk to suggest that residents contact Sir Alan Haselhurst MP.

09/C268 Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Monday, 7th December at 7.30 pm at Church House.

The meeting closed at 9.55 pm