

A Meeting of the Parish Council at The Parish Hall, Great Baddow on Monday 14th December 2009

The Council met at 7.30 pm on **Monday 14th December 2009** in The Parish Hall, Great Baddow. Councillor Mrs C Shaw chaired the meeting.

Present: Councillors Mrs C Shaw, Mrs J Sosin, A Sosin, Mrs M Miller, T Miller, Mrs V Sadowsky, G Jarvis, K Ronaldson, Mrs D Ronaldson and B Heelis

In Attendance: The Clerk of the Council and the Assistant Clerk
Malin Blom, CHP Neighbourhood Engagement Co-ordinator
Carrie Sawkins, CHP Community Development Officer

528/09 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs S Martin, Mrs A Martin and S Russell

529/09 Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interests.

530/09 Minutes of the Council Meeting – 9th November 2009

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 9th November 2009 were signed as a true statement. Proposed by Cllr Mrs C Shaw and seconded by Cllr Mrs D Ronaldson with the following amendment: Item 483/09, fourth bullet point, fifth line, the word 'Affnity' to be deleted and replaced by 'Affinity'.

531/09 BMX Facility

A report provided by Malin Blom had been circulated prior to the meeting. This was introduced by Malin Blom, who outlined the proposals, and the initial discussions that had taken place with young people in the area. It was noted that since the report had been produced, Glenn Parkington at Chelmsford Borough Council had suggested a further two sites that could be considered for the facility and had also noted the possible problems of anti-social behaviour. Malin Blom agreed to visit these areas and also confirmed that a consultation would be carried out with neighbours, and generally in the areas of Great Baddow, Galleywood, and Sandon,

Cllr A Sosin requested clarification on the difference between mountain biking and BMXing and the type of track that would be required. Malin Blom referred to the pictures provided in the report and confirmed that the preferred facility would be a circuit track rather than a series of ramps for high jumps. It was also noted that the site currently being proposed is a particularly damp area having close proximity to the ponds.

It was agreed that further time was needed to consider the report and that the Clerk would draft a response for submission to the Council meeting on 8th February 2010. Malin Blom also agreed to submit an updated report to that meeting.

532/09 Public Question Time

There were no members of the public present.

533/09 Clerk's Report

1. **BT Phonebox**

Due to the e.mail being misplaced, the Clerk has not yet been able to re-direct the email and will look into the matter to see whether the situation can be recovered.

2. **Youth Council Meeting**

No further contact has been received from the two young people who attended the meeting. Cllr Mrs C Shaw has spoken to the Youth Worker, Mike Humphreys, who is very busy at the moment and will chase the matter after Christmas.

3. **CBC Allotments**

Due to the pressure of other matters, the e.mail from John Whitelock about the allotment sites has not yet been answered. The main matter still outstanding is the one of access to the Towerfield site. The access now belongs to CHP and it was agreed that the Clerk should contact the Chief Executive of CHP, Stuart Stackhouse, to negotiate a right of access.

4. **Annual Return**

Enquiries have yet to be made at the bank concerning a change to the dates of the statements.

5. **Bus Shelter in Beehive Lane**

Richard Cilvert from Essex County Council has advised that the developer will be replacing the bus shelter in Beehive Lane very shortly. It is proposed to erect a metal and Perspex shelter with perch seats and the Clerk confirmed that this would be in line with existing shelters in the parish. The Clerk has also received a telephone call from Lee Berry at First Bus with regard to the damage to the original shelter. It has not been possible to find any records of the damage and it is now thought that any further investigation would probably be expensive and ultimately inconclusive. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Ms Wasilewska who had previously corresponded with the Parish Council about the replacement shelter.

6. **Bonus Saver Account**

Cllr Mrs C Shaw enquired as to whether the Bonus Saver Account had been set up. The Clerk replied that it had not and enquiries would be made at the branch to obtain the details of the current business advisor.

7. **Street Lighting**

Cllr Mrs M Miller reported that no decision had yet been made on the street lighting turn off proposal but a meeting was being held tomorrow night at ECC to consider rolling out the pilot schemes.

8. **PROW at Rothmans Avenue entrance to the Recreation Ground**

Cllr Mrs C Shaw enquired as to whether there had been any progress on the formalisation of the S25 agreement for a right of way at this entrance. The Clerk replied that she had not been advised of the current situation on this matter and would request an update. The Grounds Manager would also be asked to reinstate the dog bin that was temporarily removed whilst work was being carried out.

9. **Parish Charter**

Cllr T Miller enquired whether a response had been received to the comments submitted on the Parish Charter and the Clerk replied that it had not.

10. Code of Conduct - Dispensations

Cllr Mrs C Shaw reported that a meeting had been arranged with the Monitoring Officer for 15th December 2009. Cllr Mrs C Shaw and the Clerk will attend.

11. Bank Signatories

Cllr Mrs C Shaw enquired whether the list of bank signatories had been updated and the Clerk replied that it had not. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the councilors who have not signed the mandate by e.mail.

534/09 Correspondence

- Chelmsford Borough Council – Invitation to nominate a person to attend the Community Evening to recognise a contribution to sport. Cllr Mrs D Ronaldson proposed that Yvonne Smith be nominated in recognition of her voluntary work as a swimming instructor and this was agreed. Cllr Mrs D Ronaldson agreed to write a short biography of her work. Cllr Mrs V Sadowsky also agreed to advise of any other nominations that could be made.
- NatWest – Notice of end of Treasury Reserve Account on 4th December 2009 and placing back on deposit at .07%.

535/09 Reports of the Planning Committee 16th November 2009 and 7th December 2009

These were presented to the Council by Cllr Mrs D Ronaldson and signed as a true statement by Cllr Mrs C Shaw.

536/09 Report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee 23rd November 2009 and 7th December 2009

The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee of 23rd November 2009 was presented to the Council by Cllr Mrs C Shaw, proposed by Cllr Mrs C Shaw and seconded by Cllr A Sosin.

The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee of 7th December 2009 was presented to the Council by Cllr Mrs C Shaw, proposed by Cllr Mrs C Shaw and seconded by Cllr Mrs D Ronaldson with the following amendment to the list of those present: After the word 'Sosin' the ')' to be removed.

537/09 Co-option Procedure

It was agreed that the Co-option Procedure recommended by the Finance and General Purposes Committee should be accepted, with the following amendment to line 1 of paragraph 11: the words 'to make every effort' to be added after 'expected'. Proposed by Cllr Mrs C Shaw and seconded by Cllr A Sosin.

538/09 Site Allocations Development Plan Document

Draft comments to be made in response to Chelmsford Borough Council's Site Allocations Development Plan Document were circulated prior to the meeting. These were discussed and some alterations were made.

Additional comments were also circulated at the meeting from Cllr K Ronaldson and it was agreed to incorporate some of these into the response. It was also agreed to include a general comment regarding site allocations for cemeteries, allotments, BMX and noisy sports. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs C Shaw and seconded by Cllr K Ronaldson that the comments should now be forwarded to Chelmsford Borough Council with the agreed amendments.

539/09 Precept

Cllr A Sosin proposed that the precept for 2010/11 should be set at £321,000, representing an increase of 4.9% on the 2009/10 figure. This was seconded by Cllr T Miller. A vote of thanks was given to Cllr A Sosin and to the Clerk for their work on preparing the budget.

540/09 Matters for Information

- Cllr Mrs D Ronaldson and Cllr K Ronaldson indicated that they wish to attend councillor training days offered by EALC. The Clerk will contact EALC to enquire about the possibility of in-house Councillor training at Great Baddow, and asked for any other councillors with training requirements to contact the office.
- Cllr K Ronaldson referred to an article in the Chelmsford Borough Council Life magazine, requesting that volunteers wishing to become part of a local community emergency planning team should contact their local parish council. The Clerk agreed to seek clarification.
- Cllr Mrs M Miller reported that she had placed a written question concerning the proposed cycleway under the new Chelmer viaduct, as this was not shown on the plan.
- Cllr Mrs C Shaw reported that the posters for the next Essex on Tour production were now available and would be displayed after Christmas. The tickets had been printed incorrectly and new ones will be issued. Following enquires at the office, Cllr Mrs C Shaw agreed to contact EOT with regard to booklets detailing the productions for the second half of the season.

It was resolved under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to close the meeting to the public and press for the following item

541/09 Bell Centre

It was agreed that a meeting should be arranged to discuss the various issues relating to the Bell Centre lease, the condition of the building, and the retaining wall, before any approach is made to Essex County Council. Provisional dates of 7th or 14th January 2010 were proposed for a meeting at the Bell Centre.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 9.40 pm.

Signed.....Chairman.....Dated