

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Great Burstead and South Green Village Council,
held at South Green Memorial Hall, Southend Road, Billericay,
on Wednesday, 2 September 2009 7.30pm**

Present: Councillor Aly Khan (Chair)
Councillors Cundy, Marie Dear, McConnell and Saunderson.

In Attendance: Mrs. Kim Barford, Clerk to the Council
1 member of the public

9/71 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr's. John Dear, Lynda Kelly and Martin Wakelin.

9/72 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

The meeting was adjourned for public participation.

9/73 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matter which are of mutual interest.

A member of the public present at the meeting advised members of his concern regarding parking at school times in the vicinity of 'St. Peter's Primary School' and the speed at which vehicles were being driven along the lane in the de-regulated zone. The clerk and Cllr Saunderson to visit the area and provide an assessment for member's and Essex CC Highway's Dept. information.

The meeting re-convened.

9/74 Minutes

Members received the Minutes of the Council Meeting of 1 July 2009 and approved them as a true record.

9/75 Committee Minutes

Members received for information the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings of 20 July, 4 August 2009 and draft minutes of 25 August 2009 meetings meeting. Cllr. Cundy updated members on the applications considered at the 25 August meeting.

9/76 Finance & personnel working party

The following item was deferred to the October meeting.

- a. Clerk / Village Council telephone line.

9/77 Media working party

Members received an update from Cllr. McConnell regarding:

'The Mole': The content for the Christmas issue currently being put together, a draft copy to be available at the October meeting.

Website development: A possible new site provider is investigated by Cllr. McConnell, various photos of locations within the Parish were requested for inclusion. Cllr.'s Marie Dear and Cundy commented upon the content and format of the current website and asked the clerk that information be input differently and the site brought more current.

Logo: Various designs considered, the clerk submitted a drawing of a tree with foliage that echoes the shape of the Parish. All members present were in agreement to such a design, the clerk suggested a sharper more contemporary design been drawn which she would arrange and then circulate to members for their final approval. The logo to then be submitted to the County Council for approval for inclusion on the village gateway signs (refer item 9/81).

9/78 South Green shopping area

The clerk updated members on the recent meeting with Cllr. Twitchen and Essex CC Highways Dept. officers, regarding general improvements. Various possibilities were discussed including the extending of the parking area to include the shrub area or chevron parking on the edge of the Village Green or in the lay-by outside of the shops, at Grange Parade.

Cllr. Twitchen advised that she felt the extension of the parking area not viable and on the question of chevron parking it was left that the Highways Manager would investigate actual ownership of the strip of land on the edge of the green bordering Grange Road before further consideration of that suggestion. The Highways Officer stated that chevron parking in the shopping lay-by is not possible because the width of Grange Road would be reduced so as not to allow two way traffic.

Regarding the exit route from the parking bay area it was suggested that bell bollards be installed either side and a tree planted on the triangular area that was heavily rutted to improve the look of the area.

It was therefore Cllr. Twitchen's suggestion (refer item 9/80) that the Village Council submit an application to the Community Initiatives Fund (Highways) 2009/2010 which would entail the lifting of the kerbs, re-landscaping of the paths and improving disabled access hopefully with the collaboration of the shop owners and the surgery, to improve their forecourts too. A master plan document produced by Cllr. Twitchen was received to members, Cllr Marie Dear proposed a motion that the Village Council agree to and approve the projects identified, to which all members present were in agreement with.

The clerk advised she is to meet with an approved Essex contractor who although he could not quote directly to the Village Council had offered to meet to discuss possibilities and measure the site. The chair suggested that Cllr. Saunderson, shopping area representative also attend, members to be updated at the October meeting.

9/79 Community Initiatives Fund 2009/2010

Members discussed possible projects for submission of applications to CIF, the clerk to liaise with local clubs and groups for the CIF and CIF (Highways), see the above item..

9/80 Clerk and members report

The clerk advised members the chair had received a formal letter of resignation from the Community Worker Miss Amy Hutchinson, due to ill health, with effect from 31 July 2009. Cllr. Marie Dear asked that the clerk notify the Village Council's insurers and request a proportionate refund.

Village gateways - The clerk updated members on progress regarding the installation at 6 no. sites, plus selection of types of gateway with reference to the drawings provided by Highways Dept. The Town Council had opposed a suggestion by Highways Dept. for a site north of Mill Meadows, so the original plans stand with installations both sides of the road at the following locations with the exception of the sign at the top of Bell Hill which be just one side:

Noak Hill Road (north of Blackmore Farmhouse)
 Noak Hill Road (by the River Crouch)
 Southend Road (Bell Hill south of Mill Meadows boundary)
 Southend Road (north of reservoir)
 Barleylands Road (south of the Council Depot)
 Greens Farm Lane (by Scout Hut)

Planning - Members noted the response from the Principal Planning Officer, Basildon District Council regarding 'hard surfacing within the curtilage of a dwelling house' and agreed with his suggestion, that an article appear in an issue of 'The Mole'. The clerk to contact and thank him for his offer to assist with such an article.

9/81 Financial Report

a. Members approved the following payments:

Billericay Nurseries - Installation and June maintenance cost £419.52

Phoenix Striders - Donation re 1st weeks participants £10

R C C E - Village Hall questionnaire £12

3.

Essex CC - Superannuation August 2009

Clerk - adj. July salary standing order, amendment not processed by bank £46.37

Clerk - Expenses - telephone calls, copying, travel and stationery £70.26

Basildon Association of Town and Parish Councils Annual subscription £10

b. Members received a copy of the Bank accounts reconciliation to 31 August 2009.

9/82 Training

Members received information regarding forthcoming training events by:

a. Essex Training Partnership - various

b. Rural Community Council of Essex - various

c. Essex CC, Disclosure unit - Independent safeguarding Authority / Vetting Barring scheme, (which will replace the CRB check procedure) presentation 9 September 2009
£15 per participant.

9/83 Forthcoming events / meetings

Members considered the following notifications / invitations:

a. EALC / Making the links Annual partnership event 23 September 2009 - The clerk to attend.

b. South West Essex NHS Annual general meeting 30 September 2009 - Cllr. Marie Dear to attend and asked members to notify her of any questions they would like her to raise at the meeting.

c. South Essex Forum 2009/2010 meetings various dates

9/84 Consultations

Members noted the returns recently submitted by the clerk.

a. Sheltered housing and land availability assessment

b. Registrars service

Members also considered the consultation request from Essex CC regarding 101 bus service, which is under threat of being withdrawn. Cllr. Saunderson proposed that the Village Council opposed the withdrawal, all members present were in agreement.

9/85 Public notice orders

Members noted the following:

a. The Essex County Council (Barleylands Road, Billericay) (Temporary 30mph speed limit) Order 2009

b. The Essex County Council (Kings Way, Billericay) (Temporary Prohibition of Traffic) Order 2009

9/86 Basildon District Council Correspondence

Members noted the following correspondence.

Cabinet Agenda 28 July 2009

Cabinet Minutes 24 June 2009

Council Agenda 29 July 2009

Development Control & Traffic Mgt. Committee Agenda 11 August 2009

Development Control & Traffic Mgt. Committee Minutes 21 July 2009

Licensing Act Sub-Committee Agenda 3 August 2009

Overview & Scrutiny Annual Report 2008-2009

9/87 Other correspondence

Members noted the following correspondence.

Essex Association of Local Councils - August 2009 County update

Making the Links - July and August 2009

Essex Works - August / September

Bus passenger news July / August 2009

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Signed.....

Date.....