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**Minutes of the Meeting of the Great Burstead and South Green Village Council,
held at South Green Memorial Hall, Southend Road, Billericay,
on Wednesday, 6 May 2009, starting at 7.40pm.**

Present: Councillor Aly Khan (Chair)

Councillors Kelly, Cundy, John Dear, Marie Dear, McConnell, Saunderson and Wakelin.

In Attendance: Mrs. Kim Barford, Clerk to the Council
4 Members of the public

9/19 Apologies

There were no apologies.

9/20 Election of Chair

Cllr. Aly Khan was proposed by Cllr. Cundy, seconded by Cllr. M. Dear and it was unanimously agreed that Councillor Aly Khan be appointed Chair for the year 2009/2010, in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 and he completed and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

In the Chair Councillor Aly Khan.

9/21 Election of Vice Chair

Councillor Cundy was proposed by Cllr. M. Dear, seconded by Cllr. McConnell and it was agreed by a majority vote, (Cllr. Kelly abstained from the vote) that Councillor Cundy be appointed Vice Chair for the year 2009/2010, in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.

9/22 Committees or Working Parties/Membership and Representation.

Members considered requirements for committees / Working Parties, and the representation of the Council on other organisational bodies for the year 2009/2010. It was agreed that:

Planning Committee - Cllr's. Wakelin, Cundy, M. Dear and Kelly to continue as members.

Personnel & Finance Working Party - Cllr. Cundy proposed a Working Party with 4 members, with a quorum of 3. Debate ensued regarding the powers of such a working party, it was advised that the working party would meet on an ad hoc basis for discussion but the working party would propose items and defer to the Full Council for decisions. The terms of reference to be produced at a pro tem meeting. Cllr's Cundy, M. Dear, McConnell and Wakelin were appointed as members, the Working Party to meet prior to the June meeting of the Village Council.

Media Working Party - Cllr. Aly Khan proposed a Media Working Party to further assist Cllr. J. Dear and the clerk. Cllr. Kelly suggested community representation in such a Working Party. Cllr's J. Dear and McConnell and the clerk were appointed members.

Internal Auditor - Cllr. M. Dear agreed to continue in her role of Internal Auditor to the Council.

9/23 Chair's Allowance

Cllr. Cundy proposed the Chair receive a Chairman's allowance. Discussion ensued. The Chair stated he would rather continue to just be re-imbursed when expense was incurred.

9/24 Village Council meeting dates for 2009/2010

Members considered and agreed meetings for the forthcoming year be held on the first Wednesday of each month, with the exception of August, at 7.30pm and to continue being held at South Green Memorial Hall. Cllr. Kelly requested improved disabled access at the Hall.

9/25 Minutes

Members received the Minutes of the Council Meeting of 7 April 2009 and approved them as a true record.

9/26 Committee Minutes

Members received for information the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 7 April 2009.

9/27 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

9/28 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters which are of mutual interest.

No requirement was forthcoming.

9/29 Improvement to Public Access to Barleylands

Members received an update from the clerk on correspondence with the Directors of Barleylands. Messrs Philpot were in agreement to a meeting, Cllr's Cundy and Wakelin were appointed as Village Council representatives, the clerk to liaise with members of the Local Access Forum and arrange a suitable meeting date.

9/30 Clerk and members report

South Green Shopping Area - Members received a note of the meeting that took place on 28 April 2009 with Cllr's Twitchen and Hedley, Mr. Peter Wright, Highways Manager, Essex County Council, Village Cllr's Aly Khan and Saunderson and Traders regarding the parking area. The only Trader who attended the meeting said he felt the new parking restrictions to be a great success, but he did enquire about the possibility of further car parking spaces being created, behind the existing bays, leading onto the shops service road. Peter Wright said he would assess the feasibility, after the meeting. The dilapidated state of the bollards on South Green and a request to replace stolen bollards was also conveyed as well as a request for a cycle stand at the shops.

The clerk updated members on progress regarding shop owner-ship enquiries. The District Council actually own the freehold of 12, Grange Road, maps were circulated which also detailed ownership of the parking areas behind the shops. Members asked the clerk to still submit one land registry search for ownership of a neighbouring property at the shopping area, prior to the next meeting.

Community Worker - Members were updated on progress regarding the CRB check, which is still awaited. Miss Hutchinson to be advised of a commencement date once it is received.

9/31 Development of Billericay School Farm Site

No reply received as yet to the letter sent to the Head Teacher, the clerk will send a reminder, if no reply forthcoming within a month from the original date.

9/32 Accounts

a. Members approved the following accounts:

Essex County Council - Structural & Electrical check of lamp columns at South Green £50
EDF Energy - Electricity, Christmas lights £58.89 (members requested a letter to go Essex County Council to advise them of the sum paid direct by the Village Council to ensure reduction on their account)

Basildon District Council - Additional grass cutting of closed churchyard £1529.81 (members reiterated a request that an approach be made to the reparation team to see if they can assist with completion of future grass cutting or alternatively alternative quotes

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obtained, for discussion at future meetings. Cllr. Marie Dear requested that she be informed when future additional cuts are scheduled in order that an officer of the Council may attend)

L. Johnson (Decorator) - Re-painting of Youth Shelter £194

South Green Memorial Hall - April meeting plus meeting re parking restrictions £29.25

S.L.C.C. - 2009 subscription £117

A. Aly Khan - Mileage expenses re Essex Local Councils conference £21.20

E.A.L.C. - Affiliation to the Essex Association of Local Councils £700.44

b. Members received the accounts for the year to 31 March 2009 and considered Cllr. Cundy's proposal to formally approve the additional cost of printing of the newsletter in the year or make provision in the current year but foregoing one issue this year. Discussion ensued, the Chair suggested the matter be deferred for further discussion by the Finance & Personnel / Media working parties, which members were in agreement with.

9/33 Training

E.A.L.C. Health & Safety 22 May 2009, members agreed the clerk to attend the training day. Cllr's Aly Khan, Cundy and the clerk to attend the training session 'Data Protection and the Freedom of Information' at Basildon Council, 20 May 2009 at 7.30pm.

9/34 Basildon District Council Correspondence

Members noted the following correspondence:

Cabinet Agenda 1 April 2009

Cabinet Agenda 21 April 2009

Cabinet Minutes 1 April 2009

Council Agenda 22 April 2009

Council Minutes 19 February 2009

Development Control and Traffic Management Agenda 21 April 2009

Environment & Regeneration Overview & Scrutiny Co Agenda 31 March 2009

Environment & Regeneration Overview & Scrutiny Co Agenda 17 February 2009

9/35 Other Correspondence

Members noted the following correspondence:

Basildon Association of Town and Parish Councils Minutes 12 March 2009

Equality & Human Rights Commission - Public Sector Equality Duties (all information available at www.equalityhumanrights.com/publicsectorduties)

Essex Association of Local Councils - April 2009 County update

Making the Links - April 2009

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Signed.....

Date.....