

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ROXWELL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 10TH SETEMBER, 2008 AT 7.30PM IN ROXWELL SCHOOL**

PRESENT:- C. Pavitt, H. Hatcher, P.G.Evans, C. Philpot, M. Wallace, K. Brookes, M. Page and Mrs A. Gilkes.

IN ATTENDANCE:- Mrs L. Green (Clerk)
5 Parishioners
Essex County Cllr. John Aldridge
Chelmsford Borough Cllr. Mrs Nicolette Chambers

46. DEMOCRATIC 15 MINUTES

Mr and Mrs Barratt came to introduce themselves as they had just moved into Brick Leys Too, which had just been renamed Springwood.

A parishioner, Steve Webb, reported that during the morning and evening 'rush hours' 8.00 -9.30am and 4.00 – 6.00pm there are an increasing number of drivers that are using the the village as a 'Rat Run' between the A414 at the Fox & Goose and A1060 at Boyton Cross and who are speeding through the village. The route they are using is Cooksmill Green –Stonehill Road – Boyton Cross Lane.Mr Webb has seen many close encounters and vehicles driving up banks to avoid each other over recent weeks. Mr Webb reported that the gates at Dukes have been hit twice recently due to speeding traffic. The Chairman advised that he had written to Highways with regard to extending the 30mph speed limit out to Lightfoots. Highways are due to send out a letter in October regarding all outstanding highway matters. The Chairman advised that the Parish Council are always discussing speeding in the village and have asked the PCSO's to carry out speed checks regularly. Mr Webb reported that Doe's go to Fyfield via the village and that he had complained to the company as the vehicles are driving too fast in the village. The Chairman said that he would speak to the Police to carry out some spot checks. Residents had also been complaining about the speeding in Cooksmill Green. The Chairman advised that this was also on the highways list for a lower speed limit to be implemented. Cllr. Aldridge advised that the PCSO's are trained to use speed guns and should come and carry out speed checks when the Parish Council ask them to. The Chairman advised that the speed of vehicles is also a problem with the amount of horses that are now stabled around the village at Lightfoots, Dukes Farm and Stonehill Farm. Mr Webb asked the Parish Council to contact the Police and ask them to talk to the horse riders about the Highway Code. Mr Webb also suggested approaching the owner of the livery yard to talk to the horse riders. The Chairman suggested asking the Officers of the Mounted Unit to visit the stables. A parishioner, Roy Cumbers, endorsed what Mr Webb had said and stated that the speeding is appalling in the village. Glyn Eastman stated that the speeding problem is with a certain few people.

Cllr. Wallace reported the amount of children riding bikes without lights at night and asked the Chairman to report the matter to the Police as it was dangerous and could very well result in an accident between cyclist and motorist.

Cllr. Hatcher reported that the roof is leaking in the bus shelter in Green Lane. The Chairman advised that he would arrange for a quotation for this and other required repairs to the various wooden shelters in the Parish.

Cllr. Aldridge reminded the Parish Council about the free tree planting scheme that was being offered by Essex County Council. Cllr. Aldridge advised the Parish Council to report speeding problems to the Rural Commission and also suggested that they consider Speed Indicator Devices for the village. There are various funding options available via the Highways Bonanza and the Localism Fund and the Parish Council may well be able to have the cost of a device covered outright.

Cllr. Chambers advised that she was now involved with Citizens Advice Bureau who were aiming to bring their service out to villages next year.

A parishioner, Glyn Eastman, reported that the footpaths are looked after tremendously by the farmers and then Essex County Council cut them again but the more difficult ones, i.e. the footpath by the sewerage works the Council do not cut. The Chairman advised that Highways are responsible for the upkeep of footpaths but they have not got anyone to do the work at the moment. The Chairman agreed to report the footpath opposite the Church, which comes out by Boggis Farm, to Highways.

47. APOLOGIES:-

Cllr. Howlett did not attend the meeting.

48. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14TH MAY 2008

Cllr. Evans asked that the words 'in motion by', in the last sentence of Minute 31 (b), be replaced with 'on matters of Policy in'. These corrections were made and initialled by the Chairman.

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th July 2008 were taken as read and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

49. MATTERS ARISING:-

Nothing to report.

50. POLICE MATTERS

- a) **Speeding** - Minute 8, 28, 46, 66, 86,110, 9,30,49,68,85,108, 8, 24,43,64,82,104,8,26,44, 61,77,90, 8,24,36,49,63,77,1138,63,82,97,111,8 & 30.

The matter had been discussed under Democratic Time and the Chairman agreed to contact the Police regarding the matters raised.

- b) **Changing 30mph speed limit near Dukes Manor** – Minute 63,77,11,38,63,82,97,111,8 & 30.

The Chairman advised that the matter was on the Highways list and he would be receiving an updated list in October.

- c) **Any Other** – The Chairman advised that from 3rd November to 28th November there would be a temporary road closure in Skreens Park Road whilst a water main was renewed and diversions would be in place. Cllr. Philpot asked the Chairman to put the information into the Roxwell Recorder so that residents are aware of the matter.

51. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Payments:-

£

Evans Garden Maintenance	90.00	Grass Cutting Toddlers' Play Area
M.D. Landscapes	276.13	Grass Cutting Recreational Field
M.D. Landscapes	267.90	Grass Cutting Recreational Field
Roxwell Memorial Hall	52.50	Hire of Hall for Summer Playday
Evans Garden Maintenance	72.00	Toddlers Area
Mr.S.Pavitt	20.00	Maintenance Recreation Field
M.D.Landscapes	276.13	Grass Cutting Recreation Field
Mrs B.M. Pavitt	89.18	Cleaning Pavilion July to September 2008
Mrs L.J. Green	442.79	Salary 01.08.08 to 30.09.08 (£388.00) and Expenses From July to September Meeting (£54.79)

The above payments were approved by the Parish Council.

b) Transfer of Funds

11.07.08 Transfer £1,500.00 from Business Reserve Account to Business Premium Account
10.09.08 Transfer £700.00 from Business Premium Account to Current Account

c) Clerk's Salary From 1st April 2008 - The Chairman advised that negotiations were still being held.

d) Bank Balances.

The bank balances were as follows:-

Current Account - £1,649.18

Business Premium - £2,267.25

Business Reserve - £9,765.37

e) Audit of Accounts for 2007/08.

Nothing further to report.

f) Any Other – Cllr. Philpot asked the Chairman how the accounts were looking against the Budget. The Chairman advised that he would be preparing the figures for the November meeting.

52. PLANNING MATTERS & APPLICATIONS

a) STANSTED/M11 CORRIDOR STUDY – The Chairman advised that there was nothing to report on the airport expansion but that Stop Stansted Expansion were holding a Runway Ramble this weekend with Lord Hanningfield and anybody was welcome to attend.

b) IVYMUIR, COOKSMILL GREEN - Single storey rear extension and first floor infill rear extension. No Objections. **REFUSED.**

c) HILL FARM, BISHOPS STORTFORD ROAD – Brickwork boundary wall and entrance. No Objections. **REFUSED.**

d) 64 ST. MICHAELS DRIVE – Two storey rear extension with single storey front and side extension. No Objections. **WITHDRAWN.**

e) CHIGNAL HALL FARM, MASHBURY ROAD – Planning application proposes the construction and use of an irrigation reservoir on land at Chignall Hall Farm, with the extraction of the underlying sand and gravel. No Objections. No Decision Yet. Cllr. Philpot declared an interest and the Chairman asked him to leave the room.

On behalf of the Planning Sub Committee Cllr. Evans reported that prior to the closing date Roxwell Parish Council returned a 'No Comment' response to this application as from documents issued to the Parish Council we knew of no adverse elements relating to this application. The Council was advised of new information that required consideration. After discussion, the Chairman read out Chelmsford Borough Council's objections to the application which had only just been received by the Clerk. It was proposed by Cllr. Pavitt and seconded by Cllr. Brookes that Roxwell Parish Council deliver a post closure date objection to this application as a result of information now available. This was agreed by all Councillors present.

f) LAWNS, THE STREET – Single storey rear extension. No Objections. No Decision Yet.

g) TAORMINA, VICARAGE ROAD – Loft conversion to create first floor with dormer windows and single detached garage. No Objections. No Decision Yet.

53. RECREATION FIELD/TODDLER PLAYAREA

a) Safety Inspection of Play Equipment – Minute 47,93,11,27,39,52,66,80,14,41,66,85,100,114,11 & 33– The Chairman advised that all items of inspection had been dealt with for the Recreation Field. The slide in the Toddlers' Play Area needs a larger safety matting area at the bottom and the Chairman was organising the quotations. The Chairman was monitoring the wooden house which was showing signs of rotting.

- b) **Skateboard Park** – Minute 76,93,11,27,39,52,66,80,14,41,66,85,100,114,11 & 33. – The Chairman had not received any reports whether the event had been well attended. The Chairman asked the Clerk to find out from Chelmsford Borough Council whether the event had been successful so that he knew whether to book it again next year.
- c) **Ownership of land at the Recreation Field and Toddlers' Play Area** – Minute 76,93,11,27,39, 52, 66,80,14,41,66,85,100,114,11 & 33. – The Chairman had been in touch with the Land Registry. He advised that the process is easy if you have a post code for the land but unfortunately this is not the case in this instance. The Chairman advised that he hoped to have more information by the next meeting.
- d) **Best Kept Playing Field Competition** – Minute 41,66,85,100,114,11 & 33. – Nothing to report.
- e) **Any Other** – The Chairman and Vice-Chairman felt that a fence should be erected around the play equipment on the Recreation Field as dogs were fouling in the area. Chairman to get quotations for next meeting.

Cllr. Philpot showed the Chairman football pitch hire prices for other areas and advised that Roxwell's charges compared well.

Cllr. Gilkes asked what the rules were on bonfires on the Recreation Field. Cllr. Brookes said there are laws and he would look into the matter. Cllr. Gilkes reported that Nice n Stripy are dumping rubbish and burning it on land between Stonehill and Green Lane Farms. The Chairman said that he would check with David Webber whether they had permission to be burning rubbish.

54. FOOTPATHS

- a) **Footpaths in Village With Wheelchair Access** – Minute 115,12 & 34.

The Chairman advised that Essex County Council had agreed that the matter should be put forward as a possible scheme and would be added to the Highways list.

- b) **Any Other** - The Chairman advised that he had reported the poor surface condition of Footpath 48, that goes from Church Green through the Churchyard and The Street.

Cllr. Page reported that 4 x 4 vehicles are using the track again in Colleybridge Lane in Cooksmill Green and that the track is in an appalling state with major ruts. Chairman to report matter to Highways.

55. BULK LITTER CONTAINERS – Minute 97,116,18,35,52,66,82,95,13,29,41,54,68,82,12 & 43, 68,87,102,116,13 & 35.

The Chairman reported that residents had advised him that the container had not arrived in Green Lane on the 2nd August. Clerk to contact Refuse Department and ensure that the container due on the 25th October will be going ahead.

The last bulk litter container for 2008 is as follows:-

25TH OCTOBER 2008 – FROM 7.45AM TO 8.45AM.
Entrance to Colleybridge Lane on the Cooksmill Green Road.

56. SLOW HORSES SIGNAGE EITHER SIDE OF LIGHTFOOTS, SKREENS PARK ROAD – Minute 77,30,51,73,89,104,117,14 & 36.

The Chairman advised that the signs had been erected and the item could now be removed from the Agenda.

57. HIGHWAY DRAINAGE – Minute 77,107,120,15 & 37.

The Chairman had spoken to John Dobinson at Highways who was going to arrange for an engineer to visit and investigate the problems.

58. SUMMER PLAY DAY – Minute 17 & 38.

The Summer Play Day had been held on 14th August at the Memorial Hall. The Chairman asked the Clerk to get some feedback from Chelmsford Borough Council about the attendance.

59. ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL HIGHWAYS PROPOSED TRAFFIC SCHEMES – Minute 125,20 & 40.

The Chairman advised that an updated list would be sent from Highways in October.

60. BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION - Minute 23 & 41

The Chairman advised that the village was not among the winners in this years competition and that the item could be removed from the Agenda.

61. REQUEST FOR RAMP TO BE PUT IN ON FOOTPATH OUTSIDE GADES AVEN. – Minute 4 & 43.

The Chairman had informed Highways who thought it was a good idea and agreed to put the item on the list.

62. PARISH ALLOTMENTS. – Minute 44.

Cllr. Page was making enquiries into getting a water standpipe put into the allotments by the Toddlers' Play Area in St. Michaels Drive. Essex and Suffolk Water had quoted approximately £1,000.00 for a standpipe and Cllr. Page was still awaiting the trenching quotation.

63. REPLACEMENT OF PARISH COUNCIL NOTICEBOARD. – Minute 9 & 45

The Chairman advised that the order had been placed and that the noticeboard would be in position before the next meeting.

64. TREE PRESERVATION ORDER – HILL FARM, BISHOPS STORTFORD ROAD – TPO/2008/100.

The Chairman advised that a Tree Preservation Order had been placed on the two willow trees at the entrance to the property as they would be badly affected by the proposed boundary wall of the recent planning application.

65. BRICK LEYS TOO PROPOSED NAME CHANGE TO SPRINGWOOD.

The Chairman advised that Chelmsford Borough Council had sanctioned the name change yesterday and the property was now known as Springwood.

MEETING CLOSED 8.44pm

CHAIRMAN.

DATE

NEXT MEETING – WEDNESDAY 12TH NOVEMBER 2008 AT 7.30pm IN ROXWELL SCHOOL