

MINUTES of the Meeting of Wivenhoe Town Council held in the Council Chamber on Monday 15 November 2004.

Present: The Town Mayor, Cllr. P Hill (Chairman),
Cllrs: P Kraft, C Thompson, T Roberts, F Richards, C Liddy, D Purdey,
Borough Cllrs: S Ford, E Kraft.
County Cllr. J Young
PC Steve May
Press: Evening Gazette
Mrs. A Stinson (Town Clerk)
Mrs. M Goodchild (Notes)

Before the start of the Meeting PC Steve May presented a police liaison report:

Calls to the police 1013. Last year 900.

Burglaries. - dwellings	16
Burglaries. – non-dwellings	12
Violent crime	13
Vehicle crime	39
Criminal damage	70 includes a spate of car damage during one month.
Theft including bicycles	98

Total crimes 248 of which 40% at the University.

Crime figures are down on last year.

During the Drink/Driving campaign in October 160 breath tests were carried out. Only 3 tested positive but only two were charged , presumably because the third case proved borderline at the police station .

Speed loops – Traffic Management have been in liaison with the Road Policing Unit. Decided there will be a couple of locations that will have the enforcement cameras. This should reduce the speeds on some of the roads where issues have been raised.

More Security Support Officers to be recruited soon – a good chance one will be allocated at Wivenhoe if the application is successful. Cllr. Hill commented that the Town Council would be very pleased.

Suggested that in May 2005 at the Town Council Meeting a promotional event be organised with the police. PC May would look into this possibility with colleagues.

Police Station is opened once a fortnight. Mobile police unit behind Co-op and in Vine Drive. Cllr. P Kraft enquired as to whether Wivenhoe events could be taken into account when deciding the dates.

PC May will request the Crime Reduction Officer come into the Council Offices and talk to Cllr. Purdey and staff about security.

Youth – PC May has had to enforce 2 Anti Social Behaviour Contracts recently.

The Council Meeting then commenced at 7.30 p.m. PC Steve May left the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs. K. Rogers, G. Primrose, S. Glozier-Green and M. Davies; Borough Cllrs. D. Adams, A. Quarrie

2. MINUTES. RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 11th October 2004 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES. None.

4. POINTS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC. None.

5. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILS.

a) Essex County Council:

Cllr. Young tabled details concerning the winter service highway arrangements for 2004/05. She advised that orders for salt should be put in early.

Concerning the Cancer Urology Service, it looked as if support would be given to the Ipswich bid rather than Colchester. Decision should be concluded this week. With regard to social care, a recent investigation by the Commission for Social Care had revealed that Essex has a poor record for social care.

Cllr. E Kraft asked Cllr. Young if there has been any further movement on the proposed Health Centre in Wivenhoe. Cllr. Young replied that she had no further information to offer to date. Cllr. Thompson forwarded some questions on the Transportation Strategy for Cllr. Young to look into.

b) Borough Council

Cllr. Ford reported that he had been in touch with Supt. David Murthwaite and had reminded him about police support in Wivenhoe. Hopefully this will happen. He had not yet arranged the meeting involving representatives of Essex County Council, Colchester Borough Council, Tendring District Council and the University of Essex, but will chase up.

Cllr. E Kraft said he was involved in the walkabout on 11th November, along with the Town Clerk, Cllrs. Roberts and Purdey and Julie Young. (Cllr. Richards had just missed them). Two areas mentioned were Mede Way play area and Richard Avenue – flowers planted on the verges had been pulled out again. An address was known, but no name. He will follow this up. Plans for little ‘gardens’ in the greensward in Britannia Crescent: hopefully will be developed this winter.

There was no progress on landscaping the patch of grass near the cashpoint machine at Londis Supermarket, but Cllr. Kraft will keep chasing this.

Public Conveniences – no progress. A Supa-Loo could be put into existing shell but was considered too costly. Cllr. Hill suggested that the Town Council obtain quotations on the refurbishment of the conveniences, (new tiles, etc) and that these be forwarded to the Borough Council. This was Agreed.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS.

6.1 Planning

a) The Minutes of the meeting on 26th October 2004 were received and noted.

At the next meeting, which would be on 16th November, Cllr. Roberts gave notice that the letter from Mr Short already circulated to members would be considered.

b) **Section 106 Working Party:** Cllr. Hill reported that all parties had signed the Section 106 and the Clerk confirmed an endorsed copy had been received.

c) **Health Centre:** Cllr Hill reported he had spoken with Mr Tilford of Mill Group responsible to the PCT for building the new Health Centre. Earlier fears about the project being jeopardized by people leaving were unfounded. MP Bernard Jenkin will be visiting the Surgery for a briefing by the Practice Manager. It was AGREED Cllr Hill ask him to write to the Chief Executive of the PCT to get confirmation that the new Health Centre was a current priority. .

d) **Colne Estuary Partnership:** Cllrs. Hill and Roberts had attended a meeting with The Colne Estuary Partnership, chaired by Alex Midlen. It had been agreed at that meeting to look at the river byelaws, which were confusing as, in particular, different speed limits applied in different parts of the river and estuary, although Cllr. Hill was of the opinion they would not affect Wivenhoe's part of the river.

6.2 Personnel:

Minutes of the meeting on 9th November will be circulated in due course.

Cllr. Purdey reported that all policy documents had now been cleared and all areas of Town Clerk's work programme had been covered.

PC May was dealing with the security issue. Cllr. Hill commented that the front doors of the Town Council offices were not DDA compliant, and that there was also only one access route to the first floor. Cllr. Purdey responded saying these items were being considered in sequence by the Personnel Committee along with an implementation programme.

6.3 Best Value Committee

Notes of the meeting held on 8th November had been circulated. Cllr. Thompson's alternative Strategic Plan document had been received by the Committee. Members considered the document very good and would consider final amendments at the next meeting.

7. WORKING PARTY REPORTS.

7.1 William Loveless Hall Working Party:

a) Minutes of meeting held on 20th October have been circulated. Cllr. Kraft reported that the groundsmen were looking into the cost of re-boarding the walls at the back of the stage area as an alternative to the costly use of hessian. The issue of the lights was still ongoing. Cllr. Kraft also produced an estimate and new plan for a toilet for the disabled and it was Agreed that there would be a consultation process with frequent users of the Hall as it would restrict use of the Lobby, that could particularly affect performing groups. The opinion of the

local Fire Brigade should also be sought. Cllr. Kraft would provide wording of a letter to be sent to principal users of the hall. The date of the next meeting was 30th November 2004.

b) Draft Licensing Policy – Consultation Document on New Licencing Regulations:

Cllrs. Ford and E Kraft announced they are both on the Borough Council's Licensing Committee and have been on a one-day training course. This is a very involved and difficult subject and everyone is on a steep learning curve. They will however do everything they can to keep the Town Council updated and informed on this subject. Cllr. Ford circulated relevant information and drew members' attention to the Colchester Borough Council Policy Document, which explains the objectives of the new Law. Cllr. Kraft then addressed members as to some of the main points as they would affect the Town Council. Cllr. Liddy, P Kraft, Roberts and Purdey volunteered to read the relevant part of the Policy document and respond to consultation questionnaire by 30th November. Cllrs. Ford & E Kraft offered their assistance in this task if required. The Four licensing objectives are:

- Prevention of crime and disorder
- Public safety
- Prevention of public nuisance
- Protection of children from harm

The Town Clerk would write to Simon Harvey, Licensing Manager at CBC registering the Town Council's objections to the proposals which would greatly affect the William Loveless Hall and also to write a letter of protest to the Essex Association of Local Councils and the National Association of Local Councils.

c) A letter had been received from Mr B O'Dell requesting an extension for a birthday party on 18th December to 12.45 a.m. This was AGREED.

d) A letter received from Mr. Lucas requesting an extension for a birthday party on 11th December to 12.30 a.m. was AGREED.

7.2 General Amenities Working Party.

a) The Minutes of the meeting held on 4th November were received and noted. Cllrs. Glozier-Green and Roberts had visited the cemetery chapel along with the groundsmen to inspect a crack in the chapel wall that was causing concern.. A photograph of this was shown to members and a careful watch would be kept on the wall. A glass tell-tail had been put over the crack to monitor any more movement.

b) An estimate from Play Safe concerning inspections would be taken to the next meeting.

7.3 Wivenhoe Wood Working Party. Nothing to report.

7.4. Minibus Working Group:

Cllr. Kraft reported that delivery of the new mini bus would be soon but a date was not yet certain; Cllr. P Kraft will chase this up. The next meeting would be on Thursday 25th November 7.30 pm.

7.5. Youth Facilities Working Party:

a) Cllr.Purdey reported that approximately 200 people attended the Consultation Day in the William Loveless Hall and about 80 youngsters used the equipment. It was a very successful consultation exercise. Questionnaires were available in Council Offices until the end of

November. People had been asked to record their views on six sites (two possible locations at Lower Lodge, two possible locations on King George V Playing Field, open space opposite Millfields School and land beyond Henrietta Close. It is hoped that the report from TRIBE will be received in December, be in the hands of the Working Party in January and then progress to Best Value and WTC. Cllr. Purdey expressed thanks to everyone who had helped out on the day.

7.6 Communications Working Group: Nothing to report.

7.7 Engine Shed Working Group

Cllr. Hill had attended a meeting with CBC to present draft business plans. They are very supportive and encouraging, but cannot help directly with funding. The Project Team had been joined by local resident Fiona Waite who has had direct experience of raising large sums from the Arts Council and other bodies.

7.8 WRUG: Nothing to report.

7.9 Members' Individual Proposals or Reports:

a) **Mayoral Activities** Attendances at West Mersea's Civic Service, the Colchester Oyster Feast and the Wivenhoe Service of Remembrance.

b) **Community Safety and Police Matters**

Cllr. Hill will write to PC Steve May to thank him for his attendance at this meeting.

c) **Annual Service of Remembrance** – Cllr. Hill thanked everyone for attending. He noted the move to invite people from all the Wivenhoe organizations as well as residents in general had generated a big response.

8. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT.

8.1 The Town Clerk reported that no Burial Grants had been issued and one memorial had been approved since the last meeting.

8.2 NALC Direct Information Service. Issue No. 588 had been circulated.

8.3 Tenancy Allocations/Changes from Colchester Borough Council. None.

8.4 Work Management.

a) General: The Town Clerk reported that the final round of grass cutting had been continuing during dry weather, including the verge alongside Watsham Place. Grass cutting in the Old Cemetery had been finished and all the grass cleared away. Pansies had been planted in some of the tubs and the boats in front of the William Loveless Hall and all the flower beds cut back and weeded. The number of visitors to the Council Offices for the month of October totalled 85. Members noted the report.

9. FINANCE.

9.1

a) The October spending and income Report was noted.

b) **Outbuildings:** Members noted the response from Keith Durrant of CBC on the lease for the outbuildings. The Town Clerk reported that the cost of materials to repair the roof of the outbuildings would be approximately £200 and it was AGREED to go ahead with the repairs.

9.2 List of cheques numbered 501983 – 501998 drawn since the last Town Council Meeting.

9.3 List of Payments made from the Imprest Account since the last Town Council Meeting.

9.4. Motions Under Standing Orders Recommending Expenditure - None.

9.5 Appeals for Financial Support.

a) Sponsorship of advert in Wivenhoe Ferry Leaflet. AGREED to pay £50 for a full page advert.

b) **Wivenhoe Youth Club** – The request for financial help towards purchase of basketball backboards was considered. AGREED that either the Town Council would match pound for pound whatever is raised by the members of the Youth Club, or the Town Council's groundsmen will have a look into replacing the backboards, which the Town Council would finance.

10. NEW BUSINESS.

10.1 Correspondence.

a) **ECC – Scrutiny Review on Travel in Essex – questionnaire**

Deadline for questionnaires 6 December 2004. Cllrs. Roberts, Thompson and Richards volunteered to fill in questionnaires; deadline 6 December 2004.

b) **Colchester Network:** Members noted the details of new service provider.

c) **Essex Stragglers Orienteering Society:** The request for permission to hold an event on 10 July in Wivenhoe Woods was AGREED provided the area is left as it was found.

d) **CoRWM – Committee on Radioactive Waste Management:** Consultation document – comments due by 21 January 2005. Noted.

10.2 Conferences/Seminars. Members noted the following:

- CBC – Celebration of Rec-Create Project and to release information on 2nd phase - Tuesday 30 November at Charles Gray Room, Colchester Castle 2.00pm Noted.
- Regional One Day Conference for Quality Parishes on 'Funding' Huntingdon, Friday 10 December £30. Town Clerk to request a set of notes.

10.3 Notices. None.

10.4 Licences.

Transfer of Licence for Sq.3 University of Essex to Mrs. E Doorish and Mr. T Beckett. Noted.

10.5 Highway Matters:

a) **B1028** – Response from CBC concerning WTC's desire to see double white lines in Colchester Road at the point where the speed limit becomes 30mph. Town Clerk to reply and draw attention to the death of a young mother at the spot in question in recent years as well as reports from residents about near-misses in an attempt to get something done.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

CHAIRMAN