

Present: The Town Mayor, Cllr. T. Roberts (Chairman),
Cllrs: P. Kraft, F. Richards, D. Purdey, N. Lodge, C. Liddy, P.Hill,
S. Glozier-Green, B. Sinclair and K. Rogers.
Borough Cllr. S. Ford
Mrs. A Stinson (Town Clerk)
Press
Eight members of the public

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence had been received from Borough Cllrs. E. Kraft, A. Quarrie and County Cllr. J. Young.

2. MINUTES. RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 19 September 2005 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

Cllr. Rogers wished to add that his report had been circulated in time for the last Best Value meeting.

4. RESIGNATION OF CLLR. C.L.F. THOMPSON.

Members received notification of resignation from Cllr. Christopher Thompson and noted note that the official Notice of Vacancy has been posted by Colchester Borough Council with a closing date of 17 October, 2005. AGREED that when notification had been received from the Borough Council that co-option could take place and that advertisements be placed with a closing date of three weeks time, to coincide with the next Best Value meeting.

5. POINTS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

Mr.and Mrs. Taylor-Jones, Mr. and Mrs. B. Hignell, Mrs. H. Polom and three other residents attended to present their concerns about the Town Council's proposals for a wheel play facility on the King George V Playing Field. Mrs. Mary Hignell read out a detailed report to the meeting, and also circulated a map of the King George V Playing Field showing the sites under consideration on the Playing Field and their proximity to houses on the perimeter of the field. Reassurance was given that the letter and plan would be given consideration by the Town Council. Cllr. Roberts stated that the issue of the wheel play facility was under delegation to the Town Council's Youth Facilities Working Party who would be meeting in a couple of months' time. Residents would be kept informed of the Town Council's intentions.

Members thanked the residents for attending and took note of the concerns raised. Cllr. Roberts assured the residents that the Town Council was listening. The majority of the residents then left the meeting.

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

a) Essex County Council: County Cllr. Julie Young had telephoned her apologies and had nothing to report.

b) Colchester Borough Council:

Cllr. Steve Ford reported on matters concerning a referendum on the Visual Arts Facility; the Rose and Crown PH, which had not yet applied for an extension under the current licensing law; the Town Council's excellent Civic Service and the Battle of Trafalgar Service in Colchester.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS.

7.1 Planning

a) Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 4 October 2005 were received and noted. The Committee had expressed their concern about the decision on the Old Bakehouse, regretting the loss of another commercial facility.

b) Section 106. Cllr. Hill reported that Knight Environmental had been appointed sub-contractors by Taylor Woodrow for the site-preparation phase of Cook's Shipyard development, and traffic movements were expected to commence on 24 October. Some movement of heavy plant onto the site had already taken place and residents along the route had been warned in advance of this. Members noted that heavy equipment and materials would be brought in by barge from Rowhedge. A route for the majority of traffic movements had not been approved yet and a draft proposal using Park Road/Valley Road was circulated at the meeting. Members Agreed on the first plan and an alternative route was also suggested using Bowes Road/Bobbits Way. Cllr. Hill said he would contact Taylor Woodrow to advise of this alternative proposed route and to ensure that residents along the route are made aware, including those in Queens Road. It was also decided to invite James Moodie to the Town Council's next Planning Committee, along with representatives of the Anglesea Road Residents' Association and the Brook St/East St Residents' Association.

c) Health Centre. That morning, a letter had been received from Brendan Osborne, Chief Executive of the PCT, in reply to the one from the Town Council's letter agreed at the last meeting seeking for information on action. To summarise, the PCT were at the moment looking into the needs of the University, along with Wivenhoe and Elmstead. Cllr. Hill had spoken with Joan Clarke of Realise Health, the company set up by the PCT to manage Health Centre projects, who had said she had been asked to conduct the review and quickly.

d) Town Plan Steering Group: AGREED to purchase software costing £100 and provide free use of the William Loveless Hall for two or three evenings to assist the setting up of the Steering Group.

7.2 Personnel:

a) Noted date of next meeting 20 October 2005.

7.3 Best Value Committee

a) The notes of meeting held on Monday 10 October were received and noted.

8. WORKING PARTY REPORTS.

8.1 William Loveless Hall Working Party:

- a) The notes of the meeting held on 21 September 2005 were received.
- b) **Toilet for Disabled:** Following the Town Council's successful bid for funding from the Borough Council's Town and Parish Council's Grant Scheme, Cllr. Kraft reported that a second quotation for the works had now been received, but that a third contractor was not interested. AGREED to delegate to the Chairman of the Working Party to proceed with the lowest quotation, subject to satisfactory references being obtained.
- c) The request from St. Helena Hospice for reduction in cost of the hall hire for a charity fashion show on 29 October was noted, AGREED, the hire charge to be refunded subject to a maximum grant of £50 .

8.2 General Amenities Working Party.

- a) Cllr. Glozier-Green reported that notes of the meeting held on 13 October would be circulated shortly. She also reported on a toadstool seat, made out of safety surfacing material which the Town Clerk had bid for and won in a silent auction at the recent SLCC Clerk's Conference. AGREED to reimburse the cost of the toadstool, which was £50. The Working Party had decided to put the toadstool in the centre of the children's sand-pit.

8.3 Wivenhoe Wood Working Party: Cllr. Richards said that the management plan was not available yet.

8.4. Minibus Working Group:

Nothing to report.

8.5. Youth Facilities Working Party: Cllr. Liddy reported that a site meeting with the contractors had been scheduled for 25 October and another meeting of the Working Party would be held on 20 October at 6.45pm.

8. 6 Wivenhoe Engine Shed Trust. Nothing to report.

8.7 WRUG. Cllr. Hill reported on the installation of new visitor pontoons which had been successfully funded from the MAYA2 project and proposed that thanks be expressed to both Alex Midlen, Colne Estuary Project Officer for his efforts and to the Wivenhoe Sailing Club for their contribution in looking after the pontoons for the future as well as providing showers and free use of the pontoons to visiting yachtsmen. AGREED.

8.8 Members' Individual Proposals or Reports:

a) **Mayoral Activities:** Cllr. Roberts reported on attendances at the Colne Community School Awards Evening on 21 Sept; 24-25 Sept Wivenhoe Memories exhibition by John Stewart, which raised £291 for the Mayor's Charity; 9 Oct spent an hour helping the Wivenhoe Society's autumn clean-up, then to Brightlingsea for the Liberty Service; 16 Oct Wivenhoe Civic Service, where thanks were expressed to those involved with the catering and presentation, thanks were also expressed to Graham Wadley for the exceptional quality of music and singers at the service.
Cllr. Roberts also added that the Cabaret Evening last month had raised £435.

b) Community Safety and Police Matters:

Cllr. Rogers had circulated a report and also spoke about vandalism on the King George V Playing Field again. Cllr. Rogers reported that it was hoped more PCSOs could be

recruited as all five had now left. The new Chief Constable was looking into ways of improving the service and Cllr. Rogers would report back on this. Cllr. Rogers did remind members of the free-phone in front of the Wivenhoe Police Station, which was available at all times and connected callers to Colchester Police in Southway.

c) Letter from Inspector Dale on Community Policing: Members noted receipt of this. Cllr. Roberts would draft a response. AGREED to invite Inspector Dale to a Town Council meeting.

d) **The Quay:** Cllr Hill proposed that the Town Council adopt a paper entitled 'Wivenhoe Town Council's Strategy and Policy for the Quay' dated October 2005 which updated an earlier and similar document dated April 2001. AGREED that the paper be adopted. Cllr. Liddy would investigate the legal situation.

9. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT.

9.1 Burial Grants and approval of memorials.

Two Burial Grants had been issued and two memorials had been approved since the last meeting. Three burials and one interment of ashes had taken place.

9.2 NALC Direct Information Service. Issues No. 615 and 616 had been received and circulated electronically.

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

9.4 Work Management.

a) General: The Town Clerk reported that the new seat at the top of the KGV Playing Field had been installed and the new fencing around the play area was almost complete. Grass was still being cut in all areas. Tubs and boats were being planted up with winter pansies and work was commencing on the War Memorial. The number of visitors to the Council Offices for the month of September totalled 153.

b) SLCC Conference: Members noted the Clerk's report on the Conference.

10. FINANCE.

10.1 Current Financial Report

a) The September spending and income Report was received and noted.

b) Agreed that the pre-budget meeting would be held on 12 December, in tandem with a Best Value meeting.

10.2 List of cheques numbered 502208 – 502230 drawn since the last Town Council Meeting was approved and signed.

10.3 List of Payments made from the Imprest Account since the last Town Council Meeting was approved.

10.4 Motions Under Standing Orders Recommending Expenditure.

a) Toadstool £50

10.5 Appeals for Financial Support.

- a) Queen's Jubilee Youth Trust: AGREED to a donation of £100 towards staging the Trafalgar Ball in the William Loveless Hall.
- b) Remembrance Service: AGREED to a donation of £50 towards the cost of refreshments in the William Loveless Hall following the Royal British Legion Service of Remembrance on Sunday 13 November 2005.
- c) Grant of up to £50 to St Helena Hospice towards hire cost of Wm Loveless Hall for a charity fund-raising event

11. NEW BUSINESS.

11.1 Correspondence.

- a) **NHS Essex Ambulance Service: Annual Report for 2004-05**
 - b) **NHS Informal consultation on Proposals for Reconfiguration of Cancer Services in Essex**
 - c) **ECC Essex Children and Young People's Plan 2006**
- All the above were in current circulation to members and noted.

11.2 Conferences/Seminars. Members noted the following:

Annual Meeting for Parish Council Emergency Planning Officers, Grand Jury Room, Town Hall, Colchester at 1800 on Thursday 17 November.
Village Halls conference, Gt. Saling, 22 October – Cllrs. Kraft and Lodge would be attending.

11.3 Notices. Members noted the following:

Mayor's Charity Trip to France – Saturday 19 November £15.00

11.4 Licences.

- a) Members noted the Decision Notice on the hearing for Rose and Crown PH, at which the licence was renewed in accordance with the previous terms and hours.
- b) Licensing Fee Structure. Noted.

11.5 Highway Matters

- a) **ECC Improvements to Bus Stops:** Members received and noted a letter from Area Highway Manager on proposals for improvements to bus stops. The level of improvement will be raising kerbs and adjustment of the level of the footway to accommodate new buses fitted with 'kneeling' suspension, giving level entry from the new bus stop kerbs. Town Clerk had already submitted an enquiry about new bus shelters.

The meeting closed at 9.08 p.m.

CHAIRMAN