

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

Prior to the start of the meeting members met with Superintendent O'Malley and Inspector Chapple of North Colchester Policing team. Matters discussed were anti-social behaviour problems in Wivenhoe; site of the proposed wheel facility on the King George V Playing Field; Crime and Disorder Act and the need for the Town Council to be involved in the consultation process and the call for a Wivenhoe 'problem-solving group' to be formed. It was also noted that a new PCSO would be commencing duties in Wivenhoe shortly.

Members thanked the officers for attending and contributing to a very useful liaison session.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr. P. Hill, 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 17 October 2005 be confirmed and signed as a correct record, subject to the inclusion of the name James Martin under Cllr. Ford's report on the Colchester Trafalgar Service 6.b).

**3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.**

4. Casual Vacancy: Following notification by the Returning Officer of Colchester Borough Council that co-option can now take place, two applications had been received and interviews were in the process of being set up.

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

In accordance with Standing Order 11. d) AGREED to vary the order of business so that agenda item 7.5 could be taken at this point due to the number of residents in attendance.

**7.5. Youth Facilities Working Party:** Cllr. Liddy put forward the following proposal:

"The Town Council's Youth Facilities Working Party recommend as follows:-

1. To site the skateboard park on KGV at a point mid-way on the Wood side, approximately 100 metres from the north and south boundaries, and thereby at a point furthest removed from residents living on the boundaries of this 16 acre recreation field. This location is consistent with the majority of views expressed in the public consultation exercise of Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> November 2004. This

recommendation is subject to satisfactory answers from proposals contained in section 2 below.

2. That the Working Party make further progress with a modest scheme drawn up with help by specialist skateboard consultants, Tribe and contractors GBH, comprising three ramps and two rails, and of limited height by:
  - a) submitting the skateboard park plan and site map to Colchester Borough Council Environmental Health Department for advice on whether the proposed facility is likely to constitute a statutory nuisance, given their experience with skateboard parks in the Colchester Borough area;
  - b) A legal determination be sought from Colchester Borough Council Planning Department that the proposal falls within the General Permitted Development Order 1995;
  - c) The plans and site map are submitted to the National Playing Field Association for comments;
  - d) That TRIBE and GBH be asked to supply references and details of similarly sized projects that will provide the general public with relevant comparisons.
3. To help meet the budgeted cost of £18,000, to seek further funding from the potential users and the business community.
4. The Working Party to continue to report progress to the full Council and at the earliest opportunity to seek a final determination for the scheme which the Working Party would like to call "*Concept One*. The Working Party intend to present a report to the Council, consolidating the results of the investigative research and considerable efforts made by the Working Party to provide an important play facility for Wivenhoe youngsters whilst being considerate to the concerns of local residents. This report will obviously be made publicly available through the Town Council's web site."

The above proposal was AGREED subject to the addition of item e) "to consult with Police"

Cllr. Roberts advised those residents present that the Town Council were moving forward very tentatively and that plans and dimensions would be available on the Town Council's website.

The majority of residents left at this point.

Order of business resumed.

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

**a) Essex County Council:** County Cllr. Julie Young had telephoned her apologies and emailed a report which was circulated to members. Points to note were that the provision of Day Care facilities had been put on hold due to budget pressures; due to traffic congestion, service changes had been made by 'First' to some routes in Colchester, mainly service 78 from Brightlingsea to the hospital, which will only go to Head Street and the change in service 61 which is being increased to every 20 minutes and will be re-routed to Wivenhoe railway station. Cllr. Young had raised concerns with the appropriate officers re the loss of the hospital link.

**b) Colchester Borough Council:**

Cllr. Steve Ford reported on the overspend on waste services and how 42 extra workers and 9 vehicles were needed to cope with the service. He also reported that an extraordinary meeting of CBC would be held the following day to determine whether there should be a referendum on the Visual Arts Facility.

## **7. COMMITTEE REPORTS.**

### **7.1 Planning**

a) Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 25 October and 15 November 2005 were received and noted. Cllr. Liddy reported on the very good meeting with planning officer Sue Jackson. Zoning issues and land allocation was one of the topics discussed and this was being looked into by the Planning Committee.

b) **Section 106:** To note that a meeting had been held on Tuesday 1 November between Town Councillors and James Moodie of Taylor Woodrow to discuss the start of work on Cook's Shipyard.

c) **Health Centre:** Cllr. Hill had sent a report advising that he was expecting to hear the results of the PCT's strategic review of Health Centre facilities in the area very soon.

d) **Town Plan Steering Group:** Cllr. Purdey reported that an open meeting had been arranged for Saturday 18 February 2006 at the William Loveless Hall between 10am and 2.00pm.

### **6.2 Personnel:**

a) Cllr. Purdey reported that a modernisation programme for staffing levels was being looked into.

### **6.3 Best Value Committee**

a) The notes of meeting held on Monday 14 November were received and noted.

## **7. WORKING PARTY REPORTS.**

### **7.1 William Loveless Hall Working Party:**

a) The notes of the meeting held on 2 November and a verbal report on the Users' Meeting held on 16 November 2005 were received.

### **7.2 General Amenities Working Party.**

a) The notes of the meeting held on 10 November were received. Approval was given for a mixed hedge to be planted at the top of the King George V Playing Field.

**7.3 Wivenhoe Wood Working Party:** Cllr. Richards said that, despite email requests, the management plan had still not been received and there was concern about two or three trees which had been felled on the railway side. Julia Cleeve also confirmed that these trees had been removed and that she had also asked Richard Moulson for the Action Plan. **AGREED** that the Town Council write direct to Paul Vickers of Colchester Borough Council to find out what is going on.

### **7.4. Minibus Working Group:**

Town Clerk reported that prices for seat belt extensions were still awaited.

**7. 6 Wivenhoe Engine Shed Trust.** Nothing to report.

**7.7 WRUG.** Nothing to report.

**7.8 Members' Individual Proposals or Reports:**

**a) Mayoral Activities:** Cllr. Roberts reported on attendances at the Wivenhoe Society open meeting in Wm Loveless Hall on 18 October, the agenda included policing, public transport and highways matters; 19 October, Open evening at Colne Community School; 21 October, Trafalgar Ball at the William Loveless Hall; 28 October, Colchester Oyster Feast; 29 October, welcome reception at Colchester Castle for new British Council-funded students; 18 November, first annual Town & Gown Dinner at Wivenhoe House. Other non-mayoral attendances at Passenger Transport Parish Reps meeting on 27 October; 2 November, Essex Communities Conference at Crondon Park Golf Club; 21 November, meeting with C-BUS and First Eastern National re new timetables for January 2006.

Concerning the proposals for the withdrawal of service 78 to Colchester Hospital a letter would be sent from the Town Council to the University drawing their attention to this and Cllr. Rogers would also raise it at a Students' Union meeting and report back.

**b) Community Safety and Police Matters:**

Cllr. Rogers had circulated a report and also spoke about problems with youths gathering outside the Co-op supermarket. CCTV had been suggested to the Co-op as a deterrent.

With reference to the Police Liaison meeting held earlier in the evening it was AGREED to write formally to Inspector Chappel of North Colchester Policing Team requesting that a Wivenhoe Problem-solving Group be set up.

**c) War Memorial:** Cllr Hill provided a written report about Wivenhoe's Remembrance Service and the War Memorial, advising that the refurbishment of the Memorial had been finished only days before the Service. He had written to Maurice Clary and Richard Gladwin of the Wivenhoe Branch of the Royal British Legion to thank them for initiating the project and all that they had done to manage it. £4,638 had been raised locally for the War Memorial Fund and he hoped costs could be kept just below £4,000, so that a good donation could be sent to Halsey House, the Legion care home at Cromer. Thanks were expressed for the contribution of the Town Council's two groundsmen, Jim Young and Andy Hearn who had done much work in laying kerbing around the Memorial. Cllr. Hill had also written to Lt Colonel David Hammond to express appreciation for the attendance by men from 7th Parachute Regiment and for the part they had played in helping to make this year's Act of Remembrance, the biggest ever with possibly around 400 people around the Memorial. He had written to the Ladies of the Wivenhoe branch of the Royal British Legion thanking them for providing the cups of tea at the Wm Loveless Hall after the Service, an innovation that he thought had worked well, and had written also to Carol Whymark who prepared the sandwich buffet.

**8. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT.**

**8.1** Burial Grants and approval of memorials.

No Burial Grants had been issued and two memorials had been approved since the last meeting. Two burials had taken place, one of which was the Town Council's former chargehand and grave digger, Arthur Illsley, aged 83.

**8.2 NALC Direct Information Service.** Issues No. 617 and 618 had been received and circulated electronically.

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

**8.4 Work Management.**

a) General: The Town Clerk reported that work on the War Memorial had been completed, including asphaltting and turfing. Problems had been experienced with rainwater coming through the outbuilding roof and this was being looked into. Work had started on clearing the grass in the Old Cemetery.

All footpaths had been cleared except Field Way. Graffiti had been removed from play equipment and the new bus shelter and the litter bin at Mede Way set alight. Preparation was in hand for the Christmas lights display.

A new memorial seat had been installed between the starting hut at the Sailing Club and the footpath gate. This bench had been installed in memory of Angela Brown, a resident of Wivenhoe, who was lost in India on 28th November 2003, and presumed dead, and also of Maurice Brown, of 'Charlie Browns' who died 13th May 2005. The bench was paid for by the family.

The number of visitors to the Council Offices for the month of October totalled 134.

Two estimates for the removal of the asbestos corrugated sheeting from the outbuildings had been received and it was AGREED that this be given priority and that the roof be mended before the onset of bad weather.

**9. FINANCE.**

**9.1 Current Financial Report**

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

**9.2** List of cheques numbered 502231 – 502254 drawn since the last Town Council Meeting was approved and signed.

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

**9.4** Motions Under Standing Orders Recommending Expenditure.

- a) Removal of asbestos and repair of outbuilding roof £4,160
- b) Hedging plants £474

**9.5** Appeals for Financial Support. None.

**10. NEW BUSINESS.**

**10.1 Correspondence.**

- a) **BT – Confirmation of removal of payphone at Harvey Road:** Members noted this.
- b) **CBC: Key Partners Consultation on Strategic Plan 2006-09:** Cllr. Roberts took the questionnaire to be completed.
- c) **CBC: Young People:** Members received the brochure about the involvement of children and young people in the development of parish and town plans. Cllr. Purdey took the document to study.

**10.2 Conferences/Seminars.** Members noted the following:

East Essex Area Forum – Tuesday 22 November at Harwich Community Centre.  
Cllr. Roberts would be attending this.

**10.3 Notices.** Members noted the following:

Mayor's Charity New Year's Eve Dance, William Loveless Hall, £10  
Tickets were now available for this event from the Town Council Offices.

**10.4 Licences.**

- a) Decision Notices for the Black Buoy and The Greyhound PH were noted.

**10.5 Highway Matters**

- a) **High Street Bridge Repairs:** Members received notification from John Tupper at ECC Highways on proposed temporary one-way working on the High Street railway bridge in the New Year. AGREED to write to ECC Highways asking that they urge Network Rail to expedite the strengthening of the bridge without delay; that two years of proposed one-way working was not good enough and to also ask how it is proposed to achieve the one-way traffic.
- b) **Queen Street, Colchester:** Noted that this will closed on 20 November and 27 November. Bus services affected were 78,74,76 and 77a, all of which would be diverted via Brook Street, Magdalen Street and Osborne Street.
- c) **Triangle of land at junction of Ernest Road, Belle Vue Road and High Street.** Members noted that this small triangle of grass had been fenced in by the owners. The matter would be placed on the agenda of the next Best Value meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

**CHAIRMAN**