

# Radwinter Parish Council

## Minutes of 9th June 2008

### **Present:**

Cllrs K Moore (Ch); H Brown; E Duck; S Graves ; M Halls (late), with the Clerk, R A Jones in attendance and D/Cllr S Schneider and PCSO O'Donnell-Smith

### **Public Session:**

PCSO Mike O'Donnell-Smith spoke on the low level of crime in the area. A request was made for a police speed check, and he confirmed that this is to be carried out. The regular patrol covers the Rec car-park. The Thaxted office is to re-open shortly. The discontinuance of Neighbourhood Watch is to be reported. The new police non-emergency number 0300-333-4444 was noted.

### **Report of the District Cllr:**

Cllr Schneider reported that the finances of UDC are improving. The structure of the consultative bodies has been reorganized and replaced with Area Forums including outside bodies eg police & NHS. That for north area is being held on 12 June. Three Valleys Water Co have launched a development plan. She will contact them regarding leaks. She will investigate the expenditure of the Pig Market Charity and report back findings.

### **1. Apologies for absence:**

Cllr J Harling; Cllr Jarvis was not present.

### **2. Minutes of previous meeting of 19 May:**

Having been previously circulated their adoption was proposed by Cllr Duck, seconded Cllr Graves and signed by the Chairman.

### **3. Acceptance of Office:**

Cllr Dr Helen Brown accepted the Office of Vice-Chairman and signed the Declaration. At this stage the Clerk drew attention to some members not having a current Electoral Roll; he circulated an application form for all those who required one.

### **4. Finance –**

#### **(a) Statement:**

current account £12453; reserve £47185; total funds £59638.

The accounts for y/e 31 March 2008 have been submitted to the external auditor.

The Bank of Ireland has drawn our attention to the Mandate being out of date; all Councillors are to sign a new Mandate form which was circulated.

#### **(b) Current expenditure:**

Income Bofl £205 (interest)

Expenditure: C W Low £418.89 (verge cut); K Moore £60.00 (Chairman's phone etc); AMBO £20 (subn); Viking Direct £46.47 + £45.81 (stationery); R A Jones £66.28 (Clerk's exp); CVSU £10 (M'ship); RCCE £40 (Mem'ship). A fee of £10 has been paid for our current account being low.

**(c) Other financial matters:**

An acknowledgement has been received from SSE for joining

## **5. Planning:**

The use of the stables at Jenkinhog Farm for livery is currently being investigated by UDC

No further news on occupation of annexe at Stackyards Maple Lane . A copy of a letter from S Sutherland to UDC regarding Gt Brockholds Farm was noted, and comment from David Haylock re Sellands Farm.

## **6. Reports**

**(a) Traffic:**

Report from Chris Stonham of Hways noted that the Water Lane survey was defective and would need repeating. He was unable to offer any suggestions to improve visibility at Water Lane/Walden Road junction. Water leaks and potholes are to be raised with Mike Felgate, the sign at Church Hill and overgrown footway at Bridgefoot. A complaint has been made regarding the condition of the footpaths. Clerk to ascertain if funds are available from PPP.

The Clerk has spoken to Laura Martin the organizer of Speedwatch who states it is operating but needs more members. A speed gun is shared with Wimbish.

**(b) Affordable Housing & Community Plan:**

Sarah Nicholas of UDC planning has sent a letter requesting information on land availability called Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment. Radwinter was not included despite contact with Bidwells. Clerk has written to SN and received a dismissive reply. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to all members of the Development Control Committee with copy to Sir Alan Haselhurst objecting to the proposed 4 year moratorium on village development after several years work ascertaining the need.

**(c) Recreation Ground:**

The gates to the rec were closed on Tuesday 27 May for 24 hours to establish that there is no public right of way. Our authority to do this has been challenged by Lady Suzanne Walker. To prove our authority and legal right to do so will require inspection of the Deeds which are lodged with a solicitor. It was agreed that this procedure should continue on a suitable date (eg Christmas Day) until it is shown that there is no need after examination of the Deeds. Three Cllrs remembered the gates being locked on previous occasions.

The minutes of the Rec AGM have been received but no statement of income and expenditure. Clerk to discuss matters with Stephen Hargreaves the new Chairman.

A report has been received from Suzanne Walker requesting payment of the agreed subvention of £3350. After discussion it was agreed to pay £1700 immediately, the balance after discussion with Stephen Hargreaves.

**(c) Village Hall Complex:**

An informal meeting has been held to discuss our response to the Charity Commission, with final comment by 13 June. The VHMC has proposed a meeting with them and the Almshouse Trustees on either 11th or 18th July; these dates were not suitable; Clerk to reply suggesting meeting after summer holidays.

We have been informed by FDPM that an 'Energy performance certificate' is required for all letting properties wef 1st October. It was agreed to instruct FDPM to proceed at a cost of £60 + £25 for floor plan. FDPM are to be asked to get tenants to cut and tidy garden.

It was noted that the broken window has been repaired.

**(d) Bus shelter:**

Funds from ECC are still awaited despite assurances that they are being sent.

**(e) Street lighting:**

a further letter has been sent to Cartledge regarding outstanding charges but no reply has been received. Clerk to continue to find alternative

**(f) Post Office:**

The Clerk is meeting a POC representative to check removal of PO equipment.

**(g) Environment:**

The Clerk was asked to activate work on the Village Sign.

The Clerk prepared 250 sets of papers regarding the over-flying of the village which were distributed by Councillors. He has also sent a PC response. Clerk was thanked for his speedy work.

A circular has been received regarding Stansted runway 2 expansion and this is to be circulated; the deadline for responses has been extended. No decision regarding any response was made.

Letters regarding the Eco-towns in Elsenham and Hinxton has been received. Closing date for comment is 30 June.

## **7. Correspondence:**

**(a) Meetings**

12 Jun - UDC North Community Forum – SW/C Offices – 7.30

19 Jun – UALC AGM Stansted 7.30

24 Jun – EALC advanced Cllr Trg day 1 – Dunmow £52

**(b) Other:**

A notice has been received stating that Neighbourhood Action Panels are being set up.

A bill has been received from SW Weekly News requesting £32.50 payment for an ad for a Boot Sale on the Rec 27/5/07 placed by Mrs G Simmonds. Clerk has denied liability.

### **8. Other matters.**

Cllr Graves confirmed that the village web-site is now being run by Dave Mann and that Graham Schneider has no further involvement.

Cllr Graves reported on his attending a police liaison meeting at which Robert Chambers spoke.

Cllr Jarvis is to be reminded about clips for 'children playing' signs

### **9. Next Meeting:**

Already arranged for Monday 14th July at 7.30pm.