



- b) **Current applications:** Mr. Shipp reported on the following application:

*09/01650/FUL – Proposed two no. roof dormers to front elevation and various external and internal alterations – 41 Coggeshall Road*

Members had no objections to this application.

Members also considered the following application:

*10/00037/FUL – Retention of hand car washing facility – Bird in Hand, Coggeshall Road*

Members had no objections to this application.

- c) **Earls Colne Airfield – Liaison Forum:** Members considered a letter received from Cllr. Spray concerning the future format of Airfield Liaison Meetings.

It was pointed out that the Minutes of the Liaison Meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2009 stated that it had been agreed that the resident representatives needed to be ratified/endorsed by the respective Parish Councils prior to the next meeting in March. Members of the Parish Council felt strongly that this would be the most democratic method of selecting the representatives and were concerned that a decision had been taken after the meeting to allow the representatives to form their own group and agree who would represent them. It was agreed that the Clerk should advise Cllr. Spray of members' views.

**7. MEMBERS' REPORTS:**

- a) **Halstead Area Traffic Liaison Committee:** Mr. Curtis advised that he would be attending the next meeting of this committee on 8<sup>th</sup> February and invited members to let him know of any matters they would like him to raise at the meeting.

**8. ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL**

- a) **To consider whether equipment should be purchased to assist with gritting footways during snow and icy conditions:** It was agreed that a Cruiser Turbocast 300 grit/salt spreader should be purchased at a cost of £988.50.
- b) **Parking Restrictions Park Lane:** The Clerk advised that the new parking restrictions in Park Lane were due to be implemented at the end of January/beginning of February but that the scheme was weather dependent.
- c) **Meeting re Shoppers Bus:** It was agreed that Mr. Curtis would attend a meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> January to discuss the operation of a shopper bus through Colne Engaine, Earls Colne, White Colne and possibly Greenstead Green. Mrs. Hall would also be asked if she would like to attend this meeting.

**9. BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

- a) **Budget Consultation 2010/11:** Members considered a letter received from Cllr. Butland requesting the Parish Council's views on the District Council's Budget proposals. Members wished to support the Community Warden service, urge the District Council to address the question of parity between the parished and unparished areas of the District, support the transfer of Community Halls to community groups, and express appreciation for support from the Museum service.

- b) **Public Car Park, Queens Road:** The Clerk advised that a response from the District Council was still awaited.
- c) **Refuse and Recycling collections over the Christmas/New Year Period:** It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the District Council expressing the Parish Council's appreciation for the way the refuse and recycling service had been operated in difficult circumstances during the prolonged period of bad weather.

**10. ALLOTMENTS**

Mr. Tracey advised that plots had been allocated and, provided that all those who had registered wished to proceed, all plots were now taken. A meeting of plot holders would take place on 29<sup>th</sup> January to elect officers of the Allotment Society and collect rents for 2010.

Mr. Curtis and other members of the Working Group would be meeting with the District Council's Landscape Officer to discuss the tree and hedge planting which was required as a condition of the planning permission.

Members considered quotations for erecting rabbit/deer fencing and fencing for the car parking area and gates. It was agreed to accept the lowest quotation for the sum of £6494.

**11. VILLAGE HALL**

- a) **Council Chamber:** Members considered a proposal to remove damaged plaster from part of one wall in the Council Chamber and replaster, and it was agreed that estimates for this work should be obtained.
- b) **Proposed Senior Citizens' Club:** The Clerk advised that following the closure of the Good Companions Club at the end of 2009, some of the former members were interested in holding a Senior Citizens' Club fortnightly in the Village Hall on Friday afternoons. It was unanimously agreed that the Club should be offered two free inaugural sessions and that, if the Club proved successful, they should be charged at half the normal hall hire charge.

**12. FINANCE:**

- a) **Payment of Accounts:** For schedule of payments see Appendix 1.
- b) **Internal Audit:** Members noted that an internal audit of the Council's accounts had been carried out on 12<sup>th</sup> January and that the accounts were found to be satisfactory with no matters requiring attention.
- c) **Donation to the Salvation Army:** It was agreed that a donation of £50 should be made to the Salvation Army in appreciation of their attending the Village Carol Service every year.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

Date .....

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CHAIRMAN