

**Minutes of a Meeting of Earls Colne Parish Council held in the Council Chamber
on Wednesday 17th February 2010**

PRESENT:

Mrs. M. Barrett, Mr. J. Bendall (Chairman), Mr. R. Curtis, Mrs. R. Hall, Mr. C. Hazell,
Mrs. D. Howorth, Mr. K. Shipp, Mr. I. Sparks, Mr. M. Tracey, Mr. R. van Dulken and Mr. F. Williams.

Mrs. P. Herbert was present in her capacity as Clerk.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None received.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

No members of the public were present.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:

The Minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 13th January 2010 and 3rd February 2010 were approved and signed.

5. CLERK'S REPORT

There was nothing to report.

6. PLANNING:

a) **Decisions reached:** None reported

b) **Current applications:** Mr. Hazell reported on the following applications:

*10/00149/LBC – Repair of existing bread oven and renovation/repair of existing extension –
1 Burrows Road*

Members had no objections to this application.

*10/00165/REM – Erection of B1 business units including access road (following outline
approval 09/00934/OUT – Riverside Business Park, Station Road*

Members had no objections to this application.

c) **Earls Colne Airfield – Liaison Committee:** Members noted the contents of an e-mail received from Cllr. Spray concerning the membership of this Committee. Members suggested that the contact details of the resident representatives should be published so that residents from their areas could easily contact them if there was a problem. It was suggested that their contact details be put on the District Council and Airfield websites.

7. MEMBERS' REPORTS:

a) **Transport – Report on Meeting re Shoppers' Bus:** Mr. Curtis and Mrs. Hall reported on a meeting they had attended on 28th January. It was proposed that the service, if viable, would commence in April and that the bus would travel on Wednesday morning

between White Colne Village Hall and Braintree via Greenstead Green, Burtons Green and Halstead, and would stay in Braintree for two hours.

- a) **Halstead Area Traffic Liaison Committee:** Mr. Curtis reported on this meeting which he had attended on 8th February. It was agreed that Mr. Curtis would attend a Snow Summit to be held on 24th March at Stansted.

8. ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

- a) **Disabled Parking Bays – High Street:** Members discussed the two disabled parking bays outside The Drum Public house which had been the subject of correspondence between Cllr. Siddall and Highways. It was the view of members that the situation needed to be regularised and that if there were no orders in place to cover the bays then they should be removed. Members also requested that the County Council should satisfy themselves, before taking this action, that the remaining parking facilities for disabled people available in the village were sufficient and met current recommendations.
- b) **Gravel driveways:** Mrs. Barrett raised concerns that gravel spreading from people's drives onto the footway was dangerous for pedestrians. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Highways to confirm that it was the householder's responsibility to ensure that gravel did not spread onto the footway.
- c) **Pudding Stone at the entrance to Colne Priory:** Mr. Hazell reported that a member of the public had advised that a Pudding Stone at the entrance to Colne Priory had disappeared during the works to the entranceway. Members had not been aware of the existence of this stone and the Clerk was asked to contact the owner of Colne Priory to find out whether he had been aware of the stone and whether it had been preserved.
- d) **Disabled Parking Bay – De Vere Road:** A letter had been received from Highways advising that this disabled bay was no longer required and it was their intention to remove it. Members had no objections to this proposal.
- e) **Headwall to Culvert – Church Hill:** Members noted that Highways were liaising with the Bridges Department with regard to this structure.
- f) **Vehicle Activated Sign:** Highways had confirmed that it was possible for the pole of the sign to be painted black, but pointed out that the remaining galvanised signs in the area were not painted and that it would be an ongoing maintenance issue. Members confirmed that they would like the pole painted as the sign was in a sensitive area close to the War Memorial.

9. BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL

- a) **Public Car Park, Queens Road:** The Clerk advised that a response from the District Council was still awaited.

10. ALLOTMENTS

Mr. Tracey advised the new committee of the Allotment Society had met and that some rents had been collected. Eight or nine plots were still available and there was a lot of enthusiasm amongst the plotholders.

The Chairman advised that documents to discharge the planning conditions had been sent to the District Council.

11. VILLAGE HALL

- a) **Council Chamber:** The replastering work had been completed and the painting would be carried out in the next few weeks.

- b) **Hygiene Inspection:** Mr. Williams advised that Braintree District Council had carried out an inspection of the kitchen and that everything had been found to be satisfactory.

12. FINANCE:

- a) **Payment of Accounts:** For schedule of payments see Appendix 1.
- b) **CIF Grant:** The Clerk advised that a grant of £2475 had been awarded to the Parish Council towards the cost of replacing the swings and safety surfacing in the play area adjacent to the Recreation Club. The total grant funding received for this project was £10750 which was approximately £3000 short of the preferred quotation. The Clerk would contact the company concerned to see whether a discount could be achieved.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

Date

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CHAIRMAN