

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 29TH
AUGUST 2006 AT THE PARISH CENTRE.

Present: Chairman, Councillor J. Roper and Councillors J. Blackburn, S. Butler, C. Hukin, P. Neville, C. Passmore, M. Rowland. I. Skidmore and I. Wheeler,

2006/84 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: R. Findlay (Clerk) (Illness) and Councillor Benson (Illness).

Due to the Clerk being absent from the meeting the Minutes were recorded by Councillor Skidmore.

2006/85 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON JULY 25TH2006.

The minutes were approved as an accurate and correct record and were duly signed by the Chairman.

2006/86 MATTERS ARISING.

PCSO's - It was resolved that this should be an agenda item for the next Full Council meeting. It was noted that the Chief Constable of Hertfordshire had circulated a letter on joint funding for PCSO's. It was further noted that two Parish Councils had canvassed their residents on the need for PCSO's.

Civic Centre: The Fire alarm system in the Civic Centre was in the process of being installed.

Councillor's Hukin, Blackburn, Roper and Butler would be visiting the Frythe, Dr Ober's name should also be added to the list. *(Action Councillor Skidmore).*

2006/87 PROPOSED RESCHEDULING OF FINANCE AND FULL COUNCIL MEETINGS.

It was noted that the main driver for this change was the need for Councillors on both Finance Committee and Full Council to have time to study the accounts for the previous month at least a week in advance of their meetings. There was general agreement with this proposal although details would need to be worked out and a clear understanding gained of what would be addressed at a Full Council meeting in the middle of the month, would it be all Committee activity since the previous meeting of Committee activity from the previous month ? The Clerk had advised that any change of this type ought to be introduced at the start of the Council year, i.e. at the Annual Parish Meeting.

2006/88 LOCAL DEMOCRACY CAMPAIGN.

Council noted the paper from NALC and approved its objectives. However, Local Democracy Week was only 6 weeks away and there was little time for practical action. Councillors were unsure what was going on locally it was suggested that the Chairman contact Michael Freeman for information.

2006/89 LOCAL AUTHORITY RESOLUTION.

As not all councillors appeared to have received the earlier documentation on the Sustainable Communities Bill the Clerk was asked to resend the document to all members of the Council *(Action, the Clerk)*

Councillor Blackburn reported on the meeting he and the Chairman attended in regard to the above and recommended the Council should sign the draft resolution. This would be an agenda item for the next Full Council Meeting.

2006/90 WELWYN AS A CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE.

Councillors agreed that a letter of support should be sent to Mr Longmead asking that he keep us informed of progress. The general feeling was that this was a very ambitious project that would need careful planning and staging and that funding would be a major issue. *(Action, the Clerk)*

2006/91 CLEANER VILLAGE WEEK.

This would be an agenda item for the September meeting. Council agreed that the exercise had been successful and that an early start in planning for 2007 would ensure further success. Objectives would be to expand the operation into the wider Parish and for this the recruitment of a wider volunteer group would be essential.

Initial.....

2006/92 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND WORKING PARTIES.

a). Planning and Licensing.

The minutes of the meeting of 1st August were presented by Councillor Hukin for information.

b). Leisure Facilities and Open Spaces Committee. The minutes of the meeting of 8th August were presented by Councillor Blackburn for information.

c). Allotments, Cemetery and Churchyard Committee. The Minutes of the meeting of 15th August were presented by Councillor Blackburn for information.

d). Youth Working Party. The Chairman reported on the Youth Working Party meeting of 17th August. Minutes of this meeting will be circulated to Councillors.

(Action, the Clerk)

Input from both the original Working Party and the Youth Survey of the Parish Plan Group were used. Priority targets were:

- A. Youth centre
- B. (small) Skate Park
- C. Cycle tracks to improve access through the Parish.

On the last item the working party should liaise with the Traffic working party of the Parish plan to ensure that a single outcome is achieved.

e) Civic Centre Working Party.

Terms of reference will be sent to all Councillors. The working party met on 24th August and was briefed by Darren Greene from WHBC on options for changing the Licence on the Civic Centre. A report has been prepared and will be circulated to Councillors.

(Action, the Clerk)

Councillor Skidmore summarised the presentation. It was agreed that a variation in license would be sort, that we would put in motion the training of a designated premises supervisor and that we would inspect and alter as necessary our regulations for the Civic Centre and our Contract of Hire.

Changes to the legislation currently being discussed at Westminster may, if adopted, lead to the need for further modifications of our regulations and Contract of Hire.

f). Finance Committee. The recommendation of the Committee that the Chairman of the Council and the Vice-Chairman of Finance should approve the Accounts for August was accepted.

2006/93. BUDGET 2007/8

Councillors were reminded to have all requests available before the October Finance Meeting.

2006/94. WRITTEN REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES.

None received.

2006/95 COUNCILLORS WRITTEN REPORTS.

None received

2006/96. EXEMPT BUSINESS. Staff Issue. In the absence of the Clerk this was not discussed.

2006/97 CLOSE OF MEETING: The meeting was closed by the Chairman at 9.35pm.

Signed.....Chairman of the Council

Date.....2006