



WEST ACRE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES of the MEETING HELD on MONDAY AUGUST 5th 2013
at the VILLAGE HALL

A meeting of West Acre Parish Council was held on Monday August 5th 2013 at 7pm at the Village Hall.

Those present were Sally Bridle (chair) Henry Birkbeck, Jeremy Cameron, Colin Filer, Antonia Hanbury, Ralph Sliwa, (Councillors) and Sue Filer (Parish Clerk).

Also present were Toby Coke (County Councillor), Clive Hadfield (WAFL), Belinda Bush, Isobel Smith, Andrew Smith, Andy Naylor, Eoghan Shiels, Charlotte Howarth, Louisa Sliwa, Steve Hogg, Rev. Stuart Nairn and Sally-Anne Caleby.

Minute 1 To receive apologies - There were apologies from Borough Councillor Jim Moriarty and PCSO Deborah Pearson.

Minute 2 To accept the minutes of the previous two meetings - These were approved and signed. (Annual village meeting 29.04.2013 and Extraordinary PC Meeting 17.06.2013)

Minute 3 To welcome Antonia Hanbury to the Parish Council - Sally welcomed Antonia to the Parish Council saying that she felt sure that Antonia would be a very helpful addition to the Council.

Minute 4 To introduce our new County Councillor, Toby Coke - Toby introduced himself, giving the council an update on the Incinerator issue and the financial restraints facing the County Council. Colin asked about the contract that had been signed by the Borough Council with a company that wishes to make a material useful to the building trade out of black bin waste. Toby said that it sounds a great idea, making the incinerator

even less warranted but that it was only a provisional contract that had been signed as the company has yet to raise the finance for this project.

Minute 5 To invite Clive Hadfield, member of WAFL, to update the meeting on the progress to date with the theatre expansion

- Clive began by saying that progress was going well and that the handover of the new extension would be on Friday August 16th and the formal opening would be on Sunday September 1st. This would lead to many new opportunities for activities in the autumn. He then said that he gathered that some residents had concerns about the extension. Sally explained that several people had told her that the building resembled a Tesco Store and was not recognisable as the structure that was shown to the Parish Council and residents before Planning Permission was granted. Sally had been in contact with the Planning Department and had been told that the changes had taken place due to lack of funding. A lively discussion followed after Sally opened the meeting to the floor about "minor" changes and the total lack of communication between the theatre and the Parish Council and residents. Several technical matters were raised by a local resident who works in this field. He said that he felt that the theatre had been badly let down by their team advising them on this project.

Clive invited any resident to view the extension both inside and out. Sally drew the discussion to a conclusion by saying that the Parish Council would like to finish on a positive note. She said that first and foremost the village is supportive of the project but that the Parish Council felt that the theatre had been disrespectful to it by not telling the council of the changes. She felt that the theatre had also been arrogant and disrespectful of parishioners. She asked that they should communicate any changes in future as it was obviously too late, at this stage, for the Parish Council to make any comments.

Clive replied by saying he took the support of the council on board and that he enjoys such support. He apologised for the shortfall in communication and will try to ensure that it doesn't happen in future.

Minute 6 To discuss Matters Arising from the last meeting and the extraordinary meeting

- i) Speeding - Sally explained that the work to be done in the village regarding signage has a new reference number but that the man in charge of this is on holiday at present. She will contact him on his return.
- ii) Bench & Play Equipment - Sally thanked Lorraine, in her absence, for the work she had put in on this matter during her time as a Parish

Councillor. Antonia has taken over the running of the Youth Club but was unaware of the matter of play equipment for the Village Green. She asked about closing Sandy Lane between 5 and 7pm on Friday evenings during Youth Club and was told to contact the police for permission.

Action - Antonia to try to contact Lorraine about the group of local parents that she'd asked to suggest further equipment for the Village Green.

iii) New Bin and Waste Collection System. Colin explained that the bin on the common opposite Mill House had been crushed. Henry has replaced it and it is hoped that it will survive. The system for emptying the liner into a black wheelie bin from Mill House has ceased so Colin and Sue are crossing the common to do this now. The only alternative would be for the council to purchase a smaller bin and place it nearer the road so that the Borough refuse team would empty it. This would not hold the volume of refuse that is accumulating there at present, and was, therefore, not considered to be an option, particularly as it could be vandalised. Colin also explained that next year there will be a large increase in the household items that are recyclable

iv) Other Village Activities - table-tennis -Colin explained that there was a lack of and that it is not viable to start a table-tennis club in the village.

v) Village Footpaths and Map - Henry said that the map is only weeks away from publication.

Action - Henry to bring the map to the next PC meeting.

vi) Village Website - Ralph said that it should be up and running any day now. He asked whether the council thought it would be a good idea to include archive material.

vii) Village Emergency Plans - Jeremy said that he'd found no examples to draw on but that he'll try to write some specifically for the village.

Action - Jeremy to produce draft plans for discussion in November.

Minute 7 to discuss matters of Finance - Following comments from the internal auditor, Henry has produced draft copies of:

An Asset Register

A Financial Risk Assessment

A General Risk Assessment

that will be discussed at the next Parish Council Meeting.

Ralph produced an invoice for expenses for the Parish Council Website of £46.87 that was agreed by the council.

Colin enquired about the VAT on the bench. Henry said he'd had it returned.

Action - Henry to produce the draft copies at the November meeting for discussion.

Minute 8 To Discuss the Casual Vacancy on Parish Council -

This has arisen due to the resignation of Lorraine Copeman. Action - Sue to contact the Borough Council and advertise the vacancy.

Minute 9 To view correspondence - This was displayed at the back of the room.

Minute 10 To receive any other matters for discussion - Sue read out a letter from Caroline and Phillip Welham about a dangerous dog in the village and their concerns if it moves close to their property and pet dog.

Henry stated that he'd contacted Phillip and reassured him that he would ensure that a suitable fence was put around the property housing the dog. PCSO Sally-Anne Caleby stated that the dog is now always muzzled and on a lead when outside.

Minute 11 To confirm the date and time of the next meeting. -

This was confirmed as Monday 4th November 2013 at 7pm at the Village Hall.

Action - All matters for inclusion on the Agenda should reach Sue by Monday October 21st 2013