

**Minutes of a meeting of the
GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held on
Monday, 8th September 2008
in the Committee Room, Freight House, Bradley Way, Rochford**

Committee Members Present: Chairman Cllr Mrs H Glynn, Vice Chairman Cllr A James, Cllrs Mrs C Cunningham, Mrs J Fern, V Leach, R Patient, D Weir & Mrs M Weir.

Also Present: Mrs E Chippette.

1) Apologies for non-attendance at meeting:

Cllrs J Dickson (another meeting), Mrs J Fern (bereavement), Mrs A Heath (holiday) and K Holmes (holiday). Members noted and accepted the apologies tendered.

2) Declarations of interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

3) Minutes of the meeting of 14th July 2008:

The minutes of the meeting of 14th July 2008 were approved and signed by the Vice Chairman.

4) Actions List Update:

- **Village Plan Project:** The Chairman asked the Clerk to ensure that the original signatories to the Constitution were contacted by letter to try to identify volunteers to restart the project.
- **CCTV Camera for Hawkwell Shops:** Cllr James proposed a price be sought for a single camera. Cllr Mrs Weir seconded. All Members agreed.
- **Seats:** Ongoing.
- **Graffiti initiative in Magnolia:** Project completed on 25th July 2008. The Chairman said that many members of the public had commented that the project looked incomplete and asked Members if they would like the blank panels painted at the other end. She went on to say she had already made contact with PCSO A Hill to ask for a quote which he gave verbally of £1,555. Cllr Mrs Weir asked the Clerk to clarify the budget which he did. Cllr Leach told Members the High Sheriff had made complimentary comments about the work and felt if it was to be extended it would make a reasonable half term project. Cllr Patient thought the end result was fantastic, he had not received any adverse comments but he also felt it looked unfinished. He proposed 'That the Committee commission PCSO Hill and his team to paint the blank panels during the October half term and seek a small donation from the High Sheriff and RDC'. The Chairman seconded this from the Chair and asked for a show of hands. Members showed 3 in favour and 3 against. The Chairman therefore exercised her casting vote in favour and confirmed that the works would go ahead once a firm quote had been received between now and October.
- **Youth Project:** The Clerk informed Members that he had been unable to contact the contractor as yet but would continue to phone him.
- **Bus shelters:** Completed.
- **Christmas Lighting review:** See Agenda item 6.
- **Parish Identity Group:** Written report after meeting on 22nd September 2008.
- **Village Fayre:** The Chairman thanked everyone involved.
- **Web Site:** See Agenda item 11.

5) Financial Report:

Members noted and accepted the financial report.

6) Christmas lights – proposals for new equipment:

The Chairman asked Members to look at the selection of decorative lights available for the British Legion and Golden Cross. Cllr James pointed out there were no prices given. The Clerk responded he was seeking prices. Cllr Mrs Weir asked if the lights were for lampposts and the Chairman confirmed all the designs could be adapted to sit flat on a wall. Cllr James recommended Members select designs with LED lighting. The Clerk informed Members the Committee would need to seek approval from the Finance Committee to fund the project by vire from other budgets or for additional funding from reserves.

British Legion: Cllr Mrs Weir suggested that the British Legion had plastic cladding on the walls and felt decorative lighting would be better placed on the roof. Cllr Patient proposed Members select item 200688. Cllrs Mrs Fern and Mrs Cunningham seconded. The motion was carried.

Golden Cross: Cllr James proposed Members select item 200892 x 4 (2 each end). Cllr Patient seconded. The Chairman asked for a show of hands, 4 hands were shown and the motion was carried.

7) Litter Bin for Churchyard:

Cllr Mrs Weir queried the size of a bin being big enough to fit wreaths. Cllr Mrs Glynn informed Members there was a large wire bin at Hall Road Cemetery that would be of adequate size to fit wreaths etc. Cllr Mrs Glynn proposed from the Chair that the Clerk contact RDC to source a price for this type of bin, seek agreement from the Church and report back to the Committee. Cllr Mrs Weir seconded and the motion was carried.

8) Summer Fayre – draft account:

The Chairman reminded Members that a considerable amount of the equipment purchased for the event was being stored in the workshop which could be used again for other occasions. This included the ramp, the Scouts were happy for the Council to remove this and re-use. Cllr Mrs Weir felt that the costs should include salary costs of the staff involved, the Clerk said if that was the case he would need clarification of how far it was proposed to extract such indirect costs. Cllr Patient proposed Members accept the draft account as presented. Cllr Mrs Fern seconded. The Chairman asked for a show of hands, 3 showed and the motion was carried.

9) Petition for New Zebra Crossing (Main Road between Poplars Ave & Thorpe Road):

Cllr Mrs Glynn moved from the Chair that Cllr Mrs Weir as, Parish Representative, take the petition to the Central Area Committee Meeting being held at King Edmund School on 10th September 2008 and speak on behalf of the residents. Cllr Mrs Weir agreed to report back at the next meeting.

10) BT removal of pay phones, options for retention:

The Chairman asked Members for their opinions and a discussion took place. The Chairman asked Members if they wished to sponsor or adopt a telephone kiosk, it was noted that none of the kiosks in Hawkwell were the traditional red kiosks and were therefore of no historic interest. It was agreed that when BT came to a conclusion as to which phone boxes to remove they would make contact with the Parish. The Chairman asked for a show of hands on the proposal that the Parish neither adopt nor sponsor a kiosk. 5 Members showed hands and the motion was carried.

11) Web Site update (verbal report):

The Clerk updated that the website was fully functional and that Cllr James had been spending time keeping it up to date. He informed a formal review was needed to ensure it was in line with the Parish identity. The Chairman thanked everyone involved and Cllr Leach thanked Cllr James for the work he had undertaken.

12) Summary of actions/decisions:

- **Village Plan Project:** Clerk to write to original signatories to constitution.
- **CCTV Camera for Hawkwell Shops:** The Clerk to source price for a single camera.
- **Graffiti initiative in Magnolia:** Seek firm quote from PCSO A Hill and his team to spray paint blank panels at other end during the October half term and seek donation from the High Sheriff and RDC.
- **Christmas Lighting Review:** Item 200688 selected for the British Legion and 4x item 200892 for Golden Cross. Approval to be sought from Finance Committee for vires of funds.
- **Litter Bin for Churchyard:** The Clerk to contact RDC to source price for large wire bin, seek agreement from the Church and report back.
- **Petition for New Zebra Crossing (Main Road between Poplars Ave & Thorpe Road):** Cllr Mrs Weir to take petition to meeting being held at King Edmund School on 10th September 2008 and report back at the next meeting.
- **BT removal of pay phones, options for retention:** Members voted against adopting or sponsoring a kiosk.

The Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 8.40pm.

Chairman