

**Minutes of a meeting of the
GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held on
Monday, 14th July 2008
In the Committee Room, Freight House, Bradley Way, Rochford**

Committee Members Present: Vice Chairman Cllr A James, Cllrs Mrs C Cunningham, Mrs A Heath, V Leach, R Mitchell, R Patient, D Weir & Mrs M Weir.
Also present: Cllr Mrs Barney, Cllr Holmes.

1) Election of a Chairman:

Cllr James as Vice Chairman was appointed to Chair the meeting.

2) Apologies for non-attendance at meeting:

Mrs H Glynn (another meeting). Mrs Fern (another meeting) Members noted and accepted the apologies tendered.

3) Declarations of interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

4) Minutes of the meeting of 19th May 2008:

The minutes of the meeting of 19th May 2008 were accepted

5) Actions List Update:

The Clerk updated Members on the Actions List and advised Members many actions remained outstanding due to the heavy workload of late.

- **Village Plan:** Decision taken at Full Council to restart in September 2008.
- **CCTV Camera for Hawkwell Shops:** Ongoing.
- **Seats:** Ongoing.
- **Graffiti initiative in Magnolia:** Work to commence on week ending 25th July 2008.
- **Youth Project:** CDRP approved £5K to the project, now have £10K in grants. Awaiting costs.
- **Bus shelters:** Ongoing.
- **Christmas Lighting review:** Meeting dated fixed for Monday, 4th August 2008 at 2.30pm in the Parish Office. The Clerk to advise Members on the Working Party of the date and time.
- **Parish Identity Group:** It was agreed to meet in August.
- **Village Fayre:** See Item 6.
- **Web Site:** Cllr James notified Members he had placed an advertisement on the web site for the Village Fayre and had since updated the website with photographs of the event. The Clerk informed Members he received an email from a resident who had asked why the June and July Minutes were not yet available on the web site. The Clerk to reply stating the Minutes have to be approved by Council prior to publication. Web site meeting still to be fixed.

6) Financial Report – 1st Quarter 2008/09:

The Clerk reported he would be researching Cost Centre 202 Account 1077 but was content everything else in the 1st Quarter was running according to plan. Members noted and accepted the financial report.

7) Village Fete (Preliminary Review):

Cllr Leach gave a verbal account of the Village Fete.

- Cllr Leach announced the only negative part of the day involved young men throwing water about and the Police were called and they dealt with the incident swiftly.
- He had not received any negative feedback from attendees or pitch holders.
- The arena events were well attended.
- There were lessons to learn but overall it was a satisfactory day.
- All budgets could be acknowledged, instructions so far were that takings were £800 to £900 on the day.
- Need a formal review to acknowledge the lessons.
- Cllr Leach asked the Clerk to consider an appropriate acknowledgement for the incredible work the groundsman and his son had done, working 7am to dusk on Friday and still there after 6pm on Saturday clearing up.
- He summarised it was as an excellent community event.
- Cllr Mitchell reported The Farm Shop did not turn up. He telephoned the Farm Shop to enquire why they were not in attendance and no reason was given.
- Cllr Mitchell reported The Birds of Prey did not turn up and after he enquired as to why, he was informed they had been involved in an accident the day before the event. They apologised, said they would be writing a letter of explanation and offered to provide their services for half price next year.
- Cllr Mitchell reported 8 out of 10 Classic Cars did not turn out due to a weather report of rain.
- Cllr Patient understood there were in excess of 500 people at the event.
- Cllr Patient was asked on the day 'what is the Parish Council going to do with the monies raised'.
- Cllr Patient felt that the events that did not turn up should not be invited to return.
- Cllr Patient congratulated the work of the groundsmen as 'fantastic' and was glad the Clerk had been asked to consider an appropriate acknowledgement.
- Cllr Patient suggested the Council write a letter of thanks to all of the volunteers for their hard work.
- Cllr Mrs Heath reported how people had expressed how much they enjoyed the event as they were leaving.
- Cllr Mrs Heath suggested the Council thank everyone for their help and hard work in the Newsletter.
- Cllr Mrs Weir requested that '**a vote of thanks to Cllr Mrs Glynn for all her hard work**' be minuted all Members were in full agreement.
- Cllr Mrs Cunningham was asked by a member of the public to pass on her thanks to the Council for providing excellent toilets.
- Cllr James suggested providing more modern music or hiring a professional DJ in future.
- Cllr Leach felt the music was for background.

8) Bus Lay-By (Ashingdon Hill top):

Members felt lay-bys were an issue for highways and asked the Clerk to refer the correspondence to County Council. The Chairman asked if all Members were in agreement, they were and the motion was carried.

9) Summary of actions/decisions:

- **Christmas Lighting Review:** Meeting dated fixed for Monday, 4th August 2008 at 2.30pm in the Parish Office. The Clerk to advise Members on the Working Party of the date and time.
- **Web Site:** The Clerk to respond to a resident's email stating that the Minutes have to be approved by Council prior to publication.
- **Financial Report – 1st Quarter 2008/09:** The Clerk to research cost centre 202.
- **Bus Lay-By (Ashington Hill top):** The Clerk to refer correspondence to County Council.

The Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Chairman