

DANBURY PARISH COUNCIL

A Quality Council



ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the held on 4th June, 2008 at the Parish Office

Present: Councillors A Keeler (Chairman), S. Berlyn, D Bolwell, J Thomson,
D Whiteing, Mrs J Wells and M Wood (ex officio)

In attendance: Clerk to the Council

1 Election of Chairman

Cllr A Keeler was nominated by Cllr Berlyn and seconded by Cllr Bolwell and was unanimously elected to be Chairman of the Environment Committee for the Municipal Year 2008 – 2009.

2 Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr Mrs J Wells was nominated by Cllr Berlyn and seconded by Cllr Whiteing and was unanimously elected to be Vice Chairman of the Environment Committee for the Municipal Year 2008 – 2009.

3 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs J. Langley, A. Wells, M Wood and John Bowen.

4 Declarations of Interest

Members are required to declare any personal or prejudicial interest they know they have in items of business on the meeting's agenda. They are reminded that they will need to repeat their declaration at the appropriate point in the meeting and to leave the room if the interest is a prejudicial one. Unforeseen interests must be cleared similarly at the appropriate time.

5 Public Question Time Limited to 15 Minutes

No Members of the Public were present.

6 Minutes

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of Environment Committee held on 16th April, 2008 be approved and signed as a correct record with the alteration to the date of the Meeting of the Environment to be held in June from 11th to 4th June.

7 Footpaths

7.1 Parish Paths Partnership

Cllr Bowell, Cllr Freeman and Cllr Thomson had completed installing the posts at Lingwood Common. Thanks were relayed to all involved.

Cllr Bolwell further stated that further post would be installed on Footpath 1 at Old Hare Woods. The owner of the land had been ascertained and was approached to install the post. A request was made to complete the works with help from Councillors.

RESOLVED: that a) Cllrs Bolwell, Freeman and Thomson are formally thanked for their work
b) that a further post is installed on Footpath 1 at Old Hare Woods.

7.2 Footpath 18 The Heights to Beaumont Park

Money had been found for this project from the Local Transport Plan and the works must be completed during the financial year 2008 – 2009. (This was a verbal report at the present time).

RESOLVED: that the Clerk would pursue this matter.

8 Highways

8.1 Community Speed Watch

Two people had come forward at the Annual Parish Meeting. This made four volunteers. A minimum of six for this project was required.

RESOLVED: that a) the volunteers are thanked for their kind offer.
b) the matter be left on the Agenda for the next meeting in September to make a final decision to see if any further volunteers come forward

8.2 List of Roads for Repair

i) Junction of Southview Road and Woodhill Road. Essex County Council had included this in the list for 2008/2009 to date the Essex County Council had not been advised whether this bid has been successful. The manhole cover and frame have been replaced.

ii) Woodhill Road

The works were due to be undertaken in the next six weeks and a road closure was being sought.

iii) Little Baddow Road including Eves Corner (2008 – 2009 Budget)

This is now on the reserve list for 2008/2009. Until Essex County Council were made aware of what had been given approval from the main list it is unable to be known if the job can be promoted from the reserve list. This would normally happen if a scheme needed to be removed if other work (e.g. statutory undertakers planned work) was programmed causing it to be deferred to the next financial year. If additional funding were made available during the course of the year the reserve list would be where the money would generally be targeted.

Members were disappointed that this road was on the reserve list.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk write to Essex County Highways and express the Councils disappointment at this scheme being placed on the reserve list.

iv) Gay Bowers Lane/Mill Lane

There was a lack of yellow lines at the end of the pavement. This was supposed to be completed now. Cllr Whiteing had taken a photograph and the lack of yellow lines was still the same. The photograph was taken on 2nd June, 2008.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk write to Essex County Council Highways including the photograph stating the work had not been completed.

v) Elm Green Lane

This was on a long list of future sites, a general inspection would be completed and essential safety repairs would be completed.

vi) Riffhams Lane

The Inspector had tried to contact the owner of the land both where the water emanates and in order to discharge the flow underground to the low side of the road so that it can enter the ditch. Without the landowners consent ECC cannot solve the water problem. If the consent can be obtained, that section of the carriageway will be repaired with a new culvert under the road surface. It is hoped that this work will commence through the summer to ensure the area is dry in the autumn.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk write to Essex County Council with the name of the landowners.

vii) Hyde Lane/Maldon road – levels and wet-weather slime by pillar box.
An Inspector was checking this item.

viii) Complaints had been passed to Essex County Council re rattling ironwork on A414

The works to Well Lane junction were completed. At least one cover had been replaced by Anglian Water near the Bakers Arms. It is the intention of the Inspector to walk the length of the works to ascertain other pieces of ironwork that required works.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk writes to Essex County Council and point out places outside the Spinney, Western end near Cherry Garden Lane.

Members remarked that Gay Bowers Road had been completely resurfaced.

viii) B 1418

A member of the public had brought to the attention that he had been writing to Essex County Council and not receiving a reply. The clerk had forwarded his letter and the Essex County Council were now investigating the matter for him.

- a) a mound of earth which caused mothers with prams to walk in the road
- b) the speed limit on the B1418

Members discussed the speed limit and agreed to write to the Essex County Council supporting a 40 mph limit from Oak corner to the 30 mph limit at Bicknacre.

RESOLVED: that a) the Clerk writes to Essex County Council supporting a 40 mph limit from Oak Corner to Bicknacre on the B1418
b) that the documentation is forwarded to Woodham Ferrers and Bicknacre Parish Council and Woodham Mortimer Parish Council as the road passes through all three parishes.

8.3 Data Recorder Request for Danbury

The Clerk had written to Essex County Council Highways again a further response was waited as the request for the recorder was to be taken from the Locally Determined Plan.

RESOLVED: that the information be noted.

9 Quarries

9.1 St Cleres Hall

The Clerk had written to Essex County Council regarding this matter. No reply had been received at the time of the meeting.

RESOLVED: that the information be noted.

9.2 Royal Oak Quarry Nothing further to report.

9.3 Sandon Quarry Nothing further to report.

10 Parishes Transportation Group/ A 12 Inquiry

10.1 Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th March, 2008 and Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th May, 2008

10.2 Report from Meeting on 6th May, 2008

10.3 Letter to Prime Minister from Parishes Transportation Group

10.4 Report from Parishes to the Inquiry

All the parishes points had been raised to the A.12 Inquiry

RESOLVED: that the information be noted.

11 Bus Shelters

11.1. Bus shelter opposite The Avenue (Maldon side)

A letter had been forwarded to the objectors.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk write to ascertain information regarding the objectors.

11.2 Bus Shelter near the Avenue (Chelmsford Side)

An order had been placed with Carteledge to connect the supply to the bus shelter.

RESOLVED: that the information be noted.

12 Neighbourhood Action Panel and Policing

Dates of the next meetings are: 10th September, 2008, 26th November, 2008 and 21st January, 2009.

The Youth who had placed the grant for the Youth Shelter had been informed that there was now different paperwork to complete but grants were available for this financial year.

RESOLVED: that the information be noted.

13 Climate Change

Notes from the Meeting held on 24th April, 2008 were circulated. Discussion took place regarding information on the Cycle Path. This was being investigated by Cllr Bolwell and would be taken to the next meeting of the Working Party which was to be held on Wednesday 18th June, 2008 at 2.30 p.m.

RESOLVED: that the information be noted.

14 Danbury Times

14.1 Nothing to report at the current time.

14.2 Correspondence

Members agreed the format of the reply to the correspondence received.

RESOLVED; that the Clerk reply to the correspondence.

15 Danbury Medical Centre

The Chairman of the Council requested that the Doctors be approached to hold a meeting with a small group of councillors.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk write to the Doctors from the Medical Centre and request a meeting.

16 SMC Media Limited

Members discussed the information received from the above Company. The Company were offering to complete a Parish Guide which would be sponsored by advertisements from the village. Members voted on whether to proceed or not.

Cllrs Mrs Wells proposed that the Parish Guide not be taken any further. This was seconded by Cllr Bolwell. 3 members voted for the proposal not to proceed 2 voted for the proposal to proceed and 1 member abstained.

RESOLVED: that the Parish Guide proposal not be taken any further.

17 Venues for Parish Passenger Transport Representatives Meetings

A list of meetings was circulated. All the meetings had already taken place. It was suggested that Cllr Freeman be put in touch with Colin Budgey who had previously represented the Council on this matter.

RESOLVED: that contact information be passed to Cllr Freeman.

18 Essex Saver

The Essex Network Saver Ticketing Scheme was formally made on 28th March, 2008 and would be introduced on 1st July, 2008. The conditions of the scheme were circulated to Members.

RESOLVED: that the information be noted.

19 Matters for Report

Cllr Whiteing report that travellers had moved onto a site in Sandon.

Cllr Keeler reported on the recent meeting held at the Parish Office of the Danbury Park Lakes Forum. The meeting had stated that they were hoping to increase the number of visitors to the Lakes from 50,000 to 150,000 to help pay for the cost of running the facility. Hoping to introduce more child centred activities. It had been put forward that it was suggested that these items should be of a wooden construction so that it did not impinge on the area. The next meeting was to be held on 27th May, 2009.

20 Dates of Meetings in 2008

3rd September, 15th October, 3rd December

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.47 p.m.

Cllr A Keeler, Chairman

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Signed

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Date