

## DANBURY PARISH COUNCIL

*A Quality Council*



## ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

### **Minutes of the meeting of the held on 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2009 at the Parish Office**

Present: Councillors A Keeler (Chairman), D Bolwell, S. Berlyn S. Freeman, J Langley, J Thomson, D Whiteing, M. Wood

In attendance: Clerk and Cllr Allen

#### **88 Speaker from Essex County Council**

Speaker from Essex County Council gave apologies as she was ill.

#### **89 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Mrs J. Wells.

#### **90 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 declared similarly at the appropriate time.

None were declared.

#### **91 Public Question Time Limited to 15 Minutes**

One Member of the Public was present who was considering becoming a Councillor.

#### **92 Minutes of Environment Committee held on 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2009**

Minute 76 should read 40 mph and Garland Farm.

RESOLVED: that a) the minutes of the meeting of Environment Committee held on 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2009, subject to the above amendment be approved and signed as a correct record.

#### **93 Footpaths**

##### **93.1 Parish Paths Partnership**

A discussion took place regarding the process for projects from the P3 Partnership coming before committee.

Concerns were raised regarding the statutory obligations of the Essex County Council and repairs to definitive footpaths. Members had previously decided that in principle road planings should not be used in the repair of definitive footpaths. Minute 77.1 i) Minutes of 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2009 refers. Discussion continued regarding responsibility for the definitive footpaths.

Cllr S Freeman proposed that pea shingle should be used to repair the footpath behind the church. Cllr M Wood seconded this proposal. A vote was taken 5 members were for and 3 against. Therefore the proposal was carried.

Agreement was given to spend £98.00 inclusive of VAT to purchase the pea shingle which would be reclaimed from the Essex County Council through the P3 grant.

Additionally it was agreed to send the survey of works for the 2009/2010 year.

Members wished a request be made to Essex County Council for a representative to come and speak at the next Environment Committee to explain points raised regarding the definitive paths so that all members would know the position.

The Chairman of the Council moved that there was no further discussion regarding footpaths this was seconded by Cllr Whiteing and was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED: that a) the works to the footpath behind the church were completed  
b) £98.00 inclusive of VAT was agreed to be spent on pea shingle and to be reclaimed from the Essex County Council through the Parish Paths Grant.  
c) it was further agreed to send to the Essex County Council the survey of works for 2009/2010

The Chairman of the Council then moved to item 7 on the Agenda Highways matters.

Items regarding Road Planings, New Footpaths Officer, works to footpath 25 and the overgrown hedging were not discussed.

## **94 Highways Matters**

### **94.1 List of Roads for Repair**

#### **i) Little Baddow Road including Eves Corner (2008 – 2009 Budget)**

A letter had been received from a member of the public which the clerk had replied to stating that this area was still on the list. No funding had been achieved as yet. Members reported that green markings had been placed on the road which were subsequently wash away.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk keeps writing to press the Essex County Council for action.

#### **ii) Gay Bowers Lane/Mill Lane**

Lack of yellow lines at end of pavement.

The Clerk had written to CBC regarding the yellow lines but had not received a reply as yet.

RESOLVED: that the information be noted and that the Clerk writes again.

#### **iii Hyde Lane/Maldon Road**

The levels and wet weather slime by pillar box. The matter was being investigated by Essex County Council. A new works supervisor had been taken to Hyde Lane and was billing for the work regarding the rattling ironwork in this road which will be undertaken in the new financial year.

RESOLVED: that the information be noted.

#### **iv) Complaints had been passed to Essex County Council re rattling ironwork on A414**

Complaints had been passed to Essex County Council for action. The Clerk commented that she had witnessed some work being completed.

RESOLVED: that the information be noted.

#### **v) Woodhill Road**

A road closure was in place for this road in March.

RESOLVED: that the information be noted.

#### **vi) Sign and Posts outside public conveniences – allocated to an engineer**

RESOLVED: that this item be noted.

#### **vii) Danbury Palace sign – allocated to an engineer.**

RESOLVED: that this item be noted.

Added to the list was outside Maldon Road a water inspection chamber the tarmac had disintegrated and also outside 71 Maldon Road the same thing.

#### **94.2 Runsell Green and Runsell Lane Speed Limit**

The Committee received replies from the Casualty Reduction Officer and the Essex County Highways who stated that the project was not put forward by the Parish Council in their list of projects for September and could not be added at the present time. The Correspondence did not state when the item could be added.

Members requested the Clerk to ascertain when the project could be added.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk contact Essex County Highways and ascertain when the project can be added.

#### **94.3 Well Lane**

The parking position is being monitored by Chelmsford Borough Council, but were concerned that if parking order applied it would only move cars into The Heights.

RESOLVED: that that the information be noted.

#### **95 Quarries**

##### **95.1 St Cleres Hall**

Correspondence had been sent to Essex County Council Planners regarding the condition of the road with gravel and stones. No reply has been received.

RESOLVED: that the information be noted.

##### **95.2 Royal Oak Quarry**

A liaison meeting was held between the Parish Council and different parties. The Essex County Council had been asked to reinstate the meetings with the owner. The Essex County Council had agreed to this course of action which will include St Clere's. It was also requested that the proposed site at Tyndale's Farm be included as an agenda item for the Environment Committee.

Members appointed The Chairman of the Environment Committee as the representative to attend these meetings.

RESOLVED: that a) the proposed site at Tyndale's Farm be included on the Environment Agenda.  
b) The Chairman of the Environment Committee be appointed to attend the Quarry meetings arranged by the Essex County Council.

### **95.3 Sandon Quarry**

Nothing further to report.

### **96 Parishes Transportation Group Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2009**

Minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2009 were circulated together with a financial statement. Mention was made of the new proposed power station at Bradwell and concerns for the increased traffic along the A414 and from Maldon to Bradwell. The next meeting to be held was at the Blue Boar on 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2009.

RESOLVED: that the information be noted.

### **97 Bus Shelters**

#### **97.1 Bus shelter opposite The Avenue (Maldon side)**

No progress as yet.

#### **97.2 Bus Shelter near the Avenue (Chelmsford Side)**

No progress as yet, although not urgent need to keep up pressure to be done.

RESOLVED: that the information be noted.

### **98 Neighbourhood Action Panel and Policing**

Cllr Whiteing had attended the NAP meeting prior to the Environment Meeting. Mainly reports regarding neighbourhood watch were on the agenda. There had been no one to speak to regarding the plaque for the youth shelter. The Community Police would try to ascertain information. Next meetings 6<sup>th</sup> May and 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2009.

RESOLVED: that the information be noted

#### **98.1 Report from Police Speed Gun Results**

The Police had provided Speed Gun Results for Little Baddow Road. Members wished to know more information such as which direction the readings had been taken.

Correspondence had been received from St Johns Church of England School regarding the introduction of a speed warning sign. The Clerk was asked to explain that the Environment Committee were reviewing the situation in Little Baddow Road. Unfortunately, the Council had no funding for a speeding device in the current financial year or the next financial year. The Council would be willing to consider any suggestions or proposals that the school would like to put forward together with any funding ideas.

RESOLVED: that a) the Police are requested to attend next meeting to explain the results.

b) the clerk write back to the St Johns Church of England School explaining the situation as above.

*Cllr Berlyn left the meeting.*

### **99 Climate Change**

The Sports and Social Centre had been able to complete works to the lighting at the Centre through a grant from the Carbon Trust.

No further items were brought forward.

RESOLVED: that the information be noted.

### **100 Danbury Times**

Help was requested for delivery of the Danbury Times which is hoped will be ready for the March Parish Council Meeting.

Several members of the committee volunteered to help. Article had been written regarding the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting regarding the Minerals document.

RESOLVED: that the information be noted.

### **101 Best Kept Village Competition**

Members decided to enter the competition again this year.

RESOLVED: that the Parish Council enter this competition again this year.

### **102 Green Village Competition**

Members wished that information regarding the Green Competition be circulated so that it could be investigated for a future year. Members decided not to enter the competition this year.

RESOLVED: that a) the Clerk circulates the information for this year  
b) that the Council does not enter the Green Village Competition this year.

### **103 Annual Just Bin It Campaign 2009**

The Annual Litter Pick has been arranged for Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2009, 9.00 a.m. – 1 p.m. meeting at Robins Nest. Teas and Coffees will be served at the Parish Office. Caroline Lambert will be organising the morning together with the Clerk.

RESOLVED: that the information is noted.

### **104 National Trust**

Correspondence had been received from the National Trust requesting a letter of support for a Biffa Grant to complete a Reptile and Amphibian survey across Danbury Common. Members agreed that this letter should be sent.

RESOLVED: that the letter in support of the Reptile and Amphibian survey be sent to the National Trust.

**105 Matters for Report only**

- a) Footpaths debated
- b) A tree had fallen in Pedlars Path – the Groundsman was dealing with this.
- c) Concerns raised regarding dog walkers cleaning up on definitive paths

**106 Dates in 2009**

10<sup>th</sup> June, 9<sup>th</sup> September, 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.

Cllr A Keeler, Chairman

.....  
Signed

.....  
Date