

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Monday 23 August 2010 in the Village Hall, Shrublands Road, Mistley commencing at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs M Rayner (Chair), F Fairhall (Vice Chair), G Carter, A Forrester, A Norman, R Horlock, I Peacock, I Rose and K Worsley; District Cllr G Guglielmi; Press representative; 17 Members of the Public; R Ling (Clerk to the Council).

56.10 Apologies: Cllrs Kilmartin and Toller. D/Cllr M Dew.

57.10 Declarations of Interest. Cllr Carter declared an interest in items 8(a) and 12(c) of the agenda, Cllrs Peacock and Horlock declared an interest in item 8(a) and Cllr Forrester declared an interest in item 13(c).

58.10 Co-option of Councillor. It was proposed by Cllr Horlock and seconded by Cllr Rose that Mr Andrew Norman be co-opted as a Councillor. Agreed unanimously.

59.10 Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 July 2010. These were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed Cllr Peacock.

60.10 Matters arising

a. Water supply to the Swan Basin. D/C Guglielmi explained that the District Council was prepared to fund a water supply to the basin and also install a pump to ensure that water once again flowed through the swan's beak. The District Council was also prepared to pay a commuted sum of £1500 to the Parish Council to cover the cost of water over the next 10 years. The Parish Council would hereafter be responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the water supply. This was accepted. Proposed Cllr Rose.

b. Charity Event at Furze Hill Recreation Ground. The Council considered a request from Mrs D Flynn to use the Recreation Ground on 25 and 26 of September for a charity event in aid of Help The Heroes. Concern was expressed that, despite adverts going out, few details of the event were available for the Council to make an informed decision. Loud music at night was a worry as there were complaints last time a similar event took place. It was agreed that permission would be granted, free of charge, provided the conditions set out in the Clerk's letter to Mrs Flynn, dated 6 July, were met. Proposed Cllr Rose.

c. Parking in California Road. The Clerk reported that District Council Offices and the Police had visited the area and spoken to some residents. D/C Guglielmi offered to arrange for the Portfolio Holder to meet residents on site to discuss parking problems if they so wished. It was agreed that no further action could be taken.

d. Loss of blue setts in California Road. The Clerk reported that the County Council was adamant that no blue setts had been destroyed during the recent re-surfacing of the road despite residents' claims that they were. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the County Council, with a copy to the County Councillor, setting out the defects in the road

following the works and that a photo record be made to record the position of the remaining setts.

e. PCSOs contract with Essex Police. Mr Alan Coley, the liaison officer for Mistley, Lawford and Manningtree Councils, explained that negotiations were nearly complete on the new contract and it was with the police legal department to produce the final draft. This was noted.

f. Land in High Street. The Council's request to be allowed to maintain the area of land opposite Mistley House had still not received any response from the owners.

61.10 Public Voice. The meeting was adjourned between 7.50pm and 8.30pm to allow the District Councillor and members of the public to speak. Matters raised were (1) planning application for Pre School at Mistley Norman School (2) consultation on the new Local Development Framework (3) missing commemorative plaque outside the Railway Station (4) request for grant to Mistley Cricket Club (5) speed of traffic in Clacton Road and its use by HGVs (6) expression of thanks to Ms Kerry King for her work in repainting street name plates (7) expression of thanks to the Community Service workers for their work in clearing undergrowth from the allotments and from the entrance to Furze Hill and (8) expression of thanks to Swanwatch for completing another length of the river wall.

62.10 Action under items raised in Public Voice. With regard to (3) it was agreed to fund a replacement (4) was referred to the Finance Committee and (5) the Clerk will ask the County Council when the promised VAS sign is going to be installed.

63.10 Meetings attended by Councillors

a. A meeting with representatives of the owners of the Secret Bunker had been held when proposals to preserve the bunker were discussed. The proposals included building 28 terraced houses along with converting the bunker into three apartments. Councillors attending the meeting decided to await a planning application before making comments.

b. A meeting with the Architects representing Tesco's had also taken place when alternative designs for the proposed Tesco Store in Manningtree/Lawford were displayed.

c. A meeting to discuss the possibility of having a mobile CCTV unit to cover the Mistley/Lawford/Manningtree area had had to be postponed because of the non appearance of the demonstrator.

64.10 Village Hall

1a. Due to unforeseen expenditure the Village Hall Management Committee had requested a loan of £1,000 from the Council and the Chairman and Vice Chairman had authorised this as a matter of urgency. The loan will be repaid in monthly instalments by the end of the financial year. The Chairman's action was approved. Proposed Cllr Rose

1b. A request had been received to place a sign on the car park warning the public that the area was covered by CCTV cameras. This was agreed.

65.10 The Pound, Harwich Road. The Clerk reported that a planning application had been submitted for the rebuilding of the Pound and a decision was likely to be made in October.

66.10 Litter bin. A request had been received for a litter bin to be placed in Harwich Road adjacent to Hiskey's Cut. The Clerk was asked to obtain a quotation from Tendring DC.

67.10 Planning.

a. Recent planning decisions had been circulated and were noted.

b. An amended application for work at No 4 New Road had been received and it was agreed to continue the Council's objection to this because it entailed removing a fine beech tree.

c. It was reported that the revised application to build a Pre School at Mistley Norman School would now be determined by Officers of TDC and not by the Planning Committee.

d. The Chairman reported that he had been approached by a Consultant who would be prepared to offer training to Councillors on planning procedures. This was accepted.

68.10 Finance.

a. The following Standing Orders were noted: £720 (salaries); £81.99 (hire of photocopier).

b. The following payments made since the last meeting were noted: Village Hall Management Committee £1,000 (loan); Tendring DC £85 (planning fee)

c. The following payments were approved: B Forrester £284.20; A and J Lighting £2180.98; R Ling £48.97; Bruce Landscapes £240.88; A and J Lighting £298.10; Status Office Services £28.02; G King £6.02 P Liverton £1240.20; Audit Commission £470. Proposed Cllr Carter.

d. A Finance Committee meeting was fixed for the evening of 9 September.

e. The Clerk reported that the audit of the 2009/10 accounts had been completed with no comments from the Audit Commission. The Chairman congratulated the Clerk on his work.

69.10 Correspondence. The Clerk reported recent correspondence and the following decisions were made:

Planning Inspectorate: decisions on applications to add public footpaths to the definitive map. Noted and Mr Robert Horlock thanked for his work in this respect.

TDC: Invitation to attend a meeting to discuss work of the Standards Committee. Accepted.

Mr P French and Miss M Kenny: affordable housing. Noted and the Clerk to reply.

70.10 Dates of next meetings

Finance Committee 9 September 7.30pm at 25 New Road.

Cemetery Committee 23 September 7.30pm at Elm House, Trinity Road

Council 11 October 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm.