

**MEETING OF BIRCHANGER PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE
CHURCH HALL BIRCHANGER ON Tuesday 7th April, 2009
AT 7:45 pm**

Present: P. Hoy, - Chairman
J. Peachey - Clerk
M. Davy
E. Godwin
D. Holder
A. Kent
L. Pocklington
R. Gooding – County Councillor
Mr. Pocklington – Member of the public.
K. Roberts - PCO

Apologies: J. Devine,
P. Lee
K. Wheatley

<p><u>280 MEMBER OF PUBLIC ADDRESSES COUNCIL</u></p> <p>Mr. Pocklington as a member of the public was given time to address the council about his concerns. It was noted that since the last meeting that the noise disturbance in the field on the Stansted road has subsided a little– however the amount of dumping of soil on the land that has taken place could make it a planning matter – EG said she would speak to somebody at Uttlesford.</p>	<p>EG ✓</p>
<p><u>281 MINUTES</u></p> <p>The minutes of 3rd March were reviewed and the first line of 276 was deleted. There being no other amendments the minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record and were signed accordingly.</p>	
<p><u>282 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</u></p> <p>AK and EG declared their interest as members of Stop Stansted Expansion</p>	

<p><u>83 MATTERS ARISING</u> There were no matters arising.</p>																									
<p><u>284 PLANNING</u></p> <p>A) Gypsy Census – there were none to report.</p> <p>B) UTT/0273/09/FUL - Installation of demountable office building and extension to car parking area. Essex Ambulance Station Birchanger Lane Birchanger - East of England Ambulance NHS Trust. There were no objections.</p> <p>C) UTT/0300/09/FUL – 7 Birchwood – two storey side and rear extension. There were no objections.</p> <p>D) UTT//0312/09/FUL - Plot 80 Former Rochford Nurseries Stansted – Erection of new dwelling. There were no objections.</p>																									
<p><u>285 FINANCE</u></p> <p>The Clerk’s salary was reviewed and it was formally agreed that in accordance with EALC guidelines the clerk’s salary should increase to £259.75. The pay increase should have come into effect last year at 1st April, so it was agreed it was in order for back pay to be paid to take this into account. The changed direct debit was signed by P. Hoy and E. Godwin.</p> <p><u>Direct Debits and Standing Orders For April 2009</u></p> <table data-bbox="289 1182 1201 1283"> <tr> <td>Powergen/e-on energy – Street lighting</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£31.41</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Direct Debit – J. Peachey (Clerks salary)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£259.75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Direct Debit for A. J. Lighting</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£33.38</td> </tr> </table> <p><u>Cheques to be signed in April 2009</u></p> <table data-bbox="289 1388 1201 1732"> <tr> <td>Three Valleys Water</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£22.25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk’s back pay from April 08 in accordance with EALC guide</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£243.36</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A. J. Lighting repairs (os 88 Birchanger Lane & opp 62 Birchanger Lane)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£325.39</td> </tr> <tr> <td>UALC subscription</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£25.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Petty cash</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£40.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ace of Spades – cutting of hedge</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£300.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Club Vat money on last years photocopying</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£7.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Broadband and office rental</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£45.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Essex Assoc of Local Councils subscription (£38.09 of this subscription is payable to NALC)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£222.29</td> </tr> </table> <p>It was noted the three valleys water cheque was signed just after the last meeting. It was resolved that it was in order for the remaining cheques to be signed. Clerk to post off.</p>	Powergen/e-on energy – Street lighting	£31.41	Direct Debit – J. Peachey (Clerks salary)	£259.75	Direct Debit for A. J. Lighting	£33.38	Three Valleys Water	£22.25	Clerk’s back pay from April 08 in accordance with EALC guide	£243.36	A. J. Lighting repairs (os 88 Birchanger Lane & opp 62 Birchanger Lane)	£325.39	UALC subscription	£25.00	Petty cash	£40.00	Ace of Spades – cutting of hedge	£300.00	Club Vat money on last years photocopying	£7.50	Broadband and office rental	£45.00	Essex Assoc of Local Councils subscription (£38.09 of this subscription is payable to NALC)	£222.29	<p style="text-align: right;">JAP ✓</p>
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Clerk confirmed vat received on 5 th March was £885.39	
<u>286 OPEN SPACES</u>	
<u>Highways and Trees</u>	
The crater pot-hole on the access road to Birchwood was highlighted. This is the one that is next to the village hall and is not marked. Clerk will report to Highways.	JAP ✓
The general state of the whole lane was also highlighted. Clerk did write last month but Ray Gooding suggested writing directly to Norman Hume, Cabinet member of Highways and Transportation as road is in an appalling state and we have been promised that we are on a list for complete road resurfacing – but to date have not had the work undertaken. Clerk to write and cc Ray Gooding.	JAP ✓
It has also been noted and reported that the road has sunk to below the level on the drainage culverts and rain water frequently builds up before it can drain away. Clerk to inform highways.	JAP ✓
<u>Footpaths</u>	
Kelly Roberts reported on the problems that were arising now that the gates had been stolen. Problems included security issues to do with the airport and anti-social behaviour of cars using the area to park in late at night, as well as more obvious problems such as fly-tipping. The gates were initially installed by Essex County Council as they have their way-markers on them – but they were agreed upon as an extenuating circumstance as it is not customary to have gates on a footpath. Robin Wallbank is not aware of previous meetings that have taken place, so clerk will contact him again. Philip Hoy said he would formally report the gates missing. It was noted they went missing on the 13 th December 2008. Last time the gates were installed the parish council paid for them and it is likely this will happen this time too.	JAP ✓ PH
It was noted that the footpath along the B1383 from Birchanger to Stansted is getting impassable in places. Clerk will notify Highways.	JAP ✓
<u>Street Lighting</u>	
There were no faulty street lights to report.	
<u>287 RECREATION GROUND AND ALLOTMENTS – GLEBELAND</u>	
The allotments are looking lovely at the moment and are being well utilised. DH reported that he had mended the cradle swing and it is currently usable. Clerk to reimburse out of petty cash for labour etc.	JAP ✓

<p><u>288 PUBLIC SAFETY - A. Kent</u></p> <p>The yellow lines have now been put in place at both ends of the village. Clerk to contact UDC about getting the yellow lines monitored.</p>	JAP ✓
<p><u>289 YOUTH COUNCIL – M Davy & J. Devine</u></p> <p>There was nothing to report.</p>	
<p><u>290 HEALTH</u></p> <p>There was nothing to report.</p>	
<p><u>291 TRANSPORT</u></p> <p>AK reported that she has not heard back from Essex County Council with regard the latest consultation on buses that was held round her house. The next UCD passenger transport representatives’ meeting is being held on Tuesday 12th May 09</p>	
<p><u>292 STANSTED AIRPORT</u></p> <p>The competition commission is ordering BAA to sell three airports including Stansted and Gatwick; Stansted will be difficult to sell because bidders are wary of doing business with Michael O’Leary, chief executive of Ryanair. The low-cost carrier accounts for 60 per cent of flights from the airport. Mr O’Leary is notoriously combative in negotiations with airports over their charges. If the airport were sold, it is more likely it would be sold with planning permission for the second runway anyway.</p>	
<p><u>293 CORRESPONDENCE</u></p> <p>Parking Standards – Design and Good Practice Consultation. This was passed to Ann Kent to look at.</p>	
<p><u>294 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESS RELEASES.</u></p> <p>The next meeting will be the AGM on 15th April which will be held in the church hall at 8.00pm. PH said he would be there from 7.15 pm to set up. Clerk will distribute agenda and last years minutes for this.</p> <p>The next monthly council meeting will be held on Tuesday 5th May at 7.45pm in the church hall. There being no other business the meeting concluded at 9.30pm.</p>	