

Meeting of Birchanger Parish Council Held in the Church Hall
Birchanger on Tuesday, November 8th, 2011
At 7:45pm in the Village Hall

PRESENT: **M. Davy – Chairman**
 J. Peachey – Clerk
 M. Crossley
 A. Driscoll,
 E. Godwin
 L. Pocklington
 A. Stewart
 R. Gooding

APOLOGIES: **J. Devine, K. Wheatley**

<p><u>81) TIME FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL</u> No matters were raised.</p>	
<p><u>82) DECLARATION OF INTEREST</u> There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
<p><u>83) MINUTES</u> The minutes of the meeting held on October 4th 2011 were agreed as a true and accurate record. Proposed by LP and seconded by AD. The minutes were then signed by the chairman.</p>	
<p><u>84) MATTERS ARISING – For information only</u> There were no outstanding matters to report.</p>	
<p><u>85) PLANNING</u></p> <p>A.) <i>Gypsy Census – nothing to report</i></p> <p>B.) <i>UTT/1960/11/FUL – Phase H Foresthall Park Forest Hall Road Stansted. Proposal: No Four bedroom detached houses with paths, drives and garages – Phase H Foresthall Park, Forest Hall Road, Stansted.</i></p> <p><i>Objection submitted as follows: Birchanger Parish Council object to this planning application for several reasons, one of their objections is based on the fact no decision for the Health Centre has yet been finalized. This application which was not on the existing plan could impinge quite significantly on the layout of the health centre and associated traffic. It was noted, as an overdevelopment of the site, especially in light of the associated traffic of the Health Centre.</i></p> <p><i>It was suggested that the building of these houses would mean the access of the health</i></p>	

<p>centre would have to be close to the junction on Walson Way. This minimizes choices for layout, if it is decided the Health Centre will be built in this development.</p> <p>It was also noted as an overdevelopment of the existing site for the following reasons:-</p> <p>The houses are all detached and larger than the others and although those proposed come with garages – it was clear that due to the road layout visitors were likely for convenience sake, to park in Walson Way and walk direct to the houses, rather than use the much longer way round, via the subsidiary roads to the parking outside. This will further exacerbate parking issues.</p> <p>There are already detrimental parking and speeding problems reported down Walson Way as recently relayed by residents and our PCSO.</p> <p>Furthermore, the proposed primary school is adjacent to the health centre, the access issues for the latter need to be considered carefully in order to minimise safety risks to young children walking to school. Approving the application now; may limit the highway access options for the health centre.</p> <p>c) UTT/2000/11/FUL - 42A High View Birchanger – Two Storey Side Extension.</p> <p>There were no noted objections.</p> <p>D) UTT/2026/11/FUL - Retrospective application for conservatory and decking - 1 Hillside Cottages Birchanger</p> <p>No noted objections.</p> <p>E) UTT/2006/11/FUL – Erection of 14 No. photovoltaic panels – Duckend Farmhouse Birchanger</p> <p>Situated in the curtilage of a listed building, the parish council suggested that an archaeological site survey may be necessary. Questions were raised around the siting, whether it requires a permanent base and what groundworks need to be done?</p>	<p>JAP ✓</p> <p>JAP</p>												
<p>86) FINANCE</p> <p><u>Standing Orders for November 2011</u></p> <table data-bbox="188 1742 1098 1854"> <tr> <td>E-on electricity – street lighting energy</td> <td>£31.41</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A. J. Lighting</td> <td>£39.17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerks monthly salary</td> <td>£436.19</td> </tr> </table> <p><u>Cheques For Signing At November 2011</u></p> <table data-bbox="188 1937 1098 2033"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Cheque ref</th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Ace of Spades – grass cutting Sept.</td> <td>2175</td> <td>£84.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	E-on electricity – street lighting energy	£31.41	A. J. Lighting	£39.17	Clerks monthly salary	£436.19		Cheque ref		Ace of Spades – grass cutting Sept.	2175	£84.00	
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<p>Office Rental 2176 £30.00 CPRE - subscription 2177 £29.00 Clerks Car users Allowance 2178 £619.50 St. Mary's Church Hall (April –Sept) 2179 £90.00 The Royal British Legion 2180 £25.00</p> <p>Copy of the EALC car users allowance have been forwarded to MD, MC & EG</p> <p>It was resolved it was in order for the above cheques to be signed.</p> <p>Clerk to address and post out.</p> <p>NEW BANK ACCOUNT – FORM TO SIGN.</p> <p>The Chair and Clerk have filled in one mandate to get the new HSBC bank account open. There is a second mandate for further signatures which was completed at the meeting by all councillors except AD and KW who were not present at the time. Prospective new signatories were advised they need to make sure they will be able to get down to the HSBC in Bishops Stortford, North Street – in the next month as this second mandate will not become valid until <u>everyone</u> on it has been to HSBC and provided appropriate identification.</p> <p><u>87) FINANCE MEETING</u></p> <p>The Finance meeting was set for Wednesday 7:30pm on 16th November 2011, Weds at Moorswood (330 Birchanger Lane). Clerk/RFO to update figures for budget and circulate ready for meeting.</p>	<p>JAP ✓</p> <p>JAP ✓</p>
<p><u>88) OPEN SPACES</u></p> <p><u>A) Highways and Streetlighting – A. Driscoll</u></p> <p>The clerk has had confirmation that the builders have straightened the street light outside Churton. A. J. Lighting was called last week to come out and fix the rest of it.</p> <p>The light by Bradley Common needs to be reported as it is not working. A further light by the water pumping station also requires checking.</p> <p><u>(B) Trees</u></p> <p>There were no issues to report</p> <p><u>(C) Footpaths - Task member report – L. Pocklington</u></p> <p>Footpaths have been reported as being in good condition. The one by the</p>	<p>JAP</p>

<p>barn is the best it has ever been.</p> <p>(D) Enforcement</p> <p>Churton footpath has come up under enforcement as being in breach of planning permission. The roof lights on houses in Churton have also come up as enforcement issues. The large signs at Thremhall Park are also being dealt with by the enforcement team.</p>	
<p>89.) RECREATION GROUND AND ALLOTMENTS – GLEBELAND</p> <p>A quote from Terra Firma has been received for the basket ball hoop, safety surfacing and levelling. This broke down to £5405 for the basket ball hoop/surface and £2,295 for levelling 9m² of the field. Total £7,700</p> <p>Clerk will look at the three quotes she has obtained earlier, so it can be ascertained who is offering the best value.</p> <p>A quote has also been obtained for levelling of a potential football pitch of 25m x 40m of £20,000.</p> <p>It was agreed that we should also obtain a quote for some gym equipment for the recreation ground.</p> <p>It was also agreed that the recreation ground, Club field and village green should be noted in the Parish Plan as Open Spaces. It was noted that we could be forced to put everything back to its original state as part of the lease.</p> <p>Clerk to write to Strutt & Parker advising that a new basket ball is proposed.</p>	<p>JAP ✓</p> <p>MC</p> <p>EG/MD</p> <p>JAP</p>
<p>90.) PUBLIC SAFETY – Alex Stewart</p> <p>AS has been convinced by PCSO to become the new Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator. AS has also carried out another survey between 6-7; he recorded 130 cars went through the village in an hour. He is also doing another survey between the hours of 7:30 am -8:30 am to get a better picture of commuter movements as opposed to those on the school run.</p> <p>Speeding – Kelly our police community support officer has been out with her speed gun</p>	

<p>91.) BIRCHANGER WOOD TRUST– L. Pocklington, K, Wheatley</p> <p>It was noted that fund raising is going well. Plans for the proposed compound are in progress.</p>	
<p>92.) TRANSPORT – K. Wheatley</p> <p>There was nothing to report</p>	
<p>93.) STANSTED AIRPORT – K. Wheatley</p> <p>EG reported that she has been to the Fuel Farm and that she was shown that there was very little chance of fuel escaping. AS suggested that the reported odours could be vent fuel gas (mixture of air and fuel) which is left off when aeroplanes reach a certain height and variations to the driving controls occurring.</p> <p>EG suggested we should look to get odour cards printed and incorporated for the Annual Parish Meeting.</p>	
<p>94.) S106 AGREEMENTS</p> <p>Dr. Susan Humphries of Stansted Surgery is now joint chair of the new PCT. It is hoped, that her input will resolve decision making problems.</p> <p>RG reported about the Highways schemes in Stansted that were being looked at first as some relate to the provision of footpaths which will make school journeys safer.</p> <p>For Birchanger, the main proposals being considered by Highways relate to the traffic issues resulting from the new development. These include Tot Lane, HGV prohibition and signage orders. Entrance gates both ends of the village. Traffic survey and bus shelter.</p> <p>There are s106 community fund monies available as a result of the Rochford development. Community groups can apply for this funding which is intended to provide facilities for use by the whole community and, in particular, the residents on the new development. A number of Birchanger community groups including the church, Social Club, Birchanger Buddies, nursery and school are known to have put in an application.</p> <p>The Parish Council will apply for funding for two potential projects. The first is to build an extension to the village hall, refurbish the existing</p>	

<p>building and enlarge the car park. The second is to level part of the recreation ground as there is a lack of pitches for football and other games in the area and demand is increasing; provision of a basketball hoop (for which a partial grant has already been received) and gym will also be proposed. Provisional estimates have been obtained.</p> <p>The clerk suggested that before the quote was obtained it should be clarified with the church, that they were also in agreement with what was being suggested.</p> <p>MD is preparing a letter ref: the application and this will be posted out by the Clerk.</p>	
<p><u>CORRESPONDENCE/ANY OTHER BUSINESS.</u></p> <p>95.) Waste Management (as per circulated e-mail). This referred to garden waste skip services which residents would be paying an extra charge for. It was decided the parish council did not wish to go on the list for this service.</p>	
<p><u>96.) CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESS RELEASES</u></p> <p>There being no other matters to discuss the meeting concluded at 10:00 pm. The next monthly parish council meeting will be held on Tuesday 6th December, 2011 at 7:45pm in the Village Church Hall.</p>	