

Herongate and Ingrave Parish Council



Clerk to the Council:
Mrs. Theresa Grainger
34a Common Road
Ingrave
Brentwood
Essex CM13 3QL
Tel: 07548 743248
Email: clerk@herongateandingravepc.org.uk
NEW WEBSITE: www.herongateandingravepc.org.uk



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at St. Andrews Methodist Church Hall, Herongate on Wednesday, 26th September 2012 at 7.15pm

In the Chair: Cllr A. Marsh

Present: Cllr A. Bayless, Cllr D. Harman (Vice Chair), Cllr S. Murphy and Cllr S. Theobald,

Officers: Mrs. T. Grainger (Parish Clerk)

Members of the public: Cllr John Roberts (ECC), Cllr Roger Hirst and five member of the public

12/13.068 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest Cllr Roger Hirst

- Cllr Roberts introduced Cllr Roger Hirst (Deputy Leader of Council Ward Hutton South and prospective candidate in May 2012)
- Cllr Roberts went on to talk about highways issues and gave out a document highlighting and explaining each of the point which included the Local Highways Panel, South Essex Parking Partnership and Potholes.
- A resident posed a question about measures to protect property by the deterrent of warning signs and a pet dog to which the Council was unable to respond. Cllr Marsh explained that we have been trying to build a relationship with the local Police Authority to no avail. Another resident spoke about the recent thefts from the Middle Road allotments to which he feels he has not had a satisfactory response.
- It was mentioned that there are a number of advertising A-frame boards outside the hairdressers which looked untidy. Cllr Marsh said he would address this matter.
- Alan Kingsford advised that he had bought the books to commemorate both the 50th and 60th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II. He hopes to complete this task during the winter months. He also mentioned that his neighbor would like to sponsor a commemorative bench on the Golden Jubilee Orchard site. Cllr Marsh advised that this would be part of the winter restoration of Button Common and he has identified a site at the Orchard end of Button Common that would be suitable. Cllr Marsh asked about the maintenance day idea and Alan Kingsford thought this might be possible at the end of October providing he gets a response to his emails requesting support.

12/13.069 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr K. Pegram who is on maternity leave and Cllr R. Watkins who was on holiday. Cllr A. Marsh also gave apologies for Cllr. K. Marsh who was unable to attend due to work commitments. He also stated that Cllr K. Marsh would be handing in her resignation as

due to her work commitments she is no longer able to devote time to the Parish Council.

Apologies were accepted.

Proposed: Cllr A Marsh

Seconded: Cllr D. Harman

All agreed

12/13.070 Minutes

It was agreed that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 24th July 2012 be accepted as a true record and signed by Cllr A. Marsh, Chairman.

Proposed: Cllr A. Bayless

Seconded: Cllr S. Murphy

All agreed

12/13.071 Progress Report from the Clerk

- 12/13.056 First Aid/Essex Air Ambulance
As agreed, a cheque for £500.00 was sent to Essex Air Ambulance on 23rd August 2012. We have since received a thank you letter which is in the Correspondence.
- 12/13.065 Reports from Councillors
As requested, a letter was sent to Rt. Hon. Eric Pickles MP on 23rd August 2012 regarding the Parish Council's views on the new Declaration of Interests. We have since received a reply which was emailed to all Members.

12/13.072 To receive Members' declarations of interest in items on the agenda

There were no declarations of interest.

12/13.073 FINANCE

(a) Cheques signed since the last meeting:

Payee	Cheque No,	Amount
Dominic Property Services (Museum Roof)	634	£342.41
E.ON (Museum Electricity)	635	£11.54
Essex Air Ambulance	636	£500.00
Administration	637	£607.47
Administration	638	£435.85
Essex Pension Fund	639	£211.23
HMRC	640	£72.36

(b) Cheques signed at this meeting:

Audit Commission	641	£342.00
Helena Penkul (Website photography)	642	£100.00
Alan Kingsford (Commemorative books)	643	£180.51
Administration	644	£632.92
Administration	645	£322.20
Essex Pension Fund	646	£186.10
HMRC	647	£66.31
Cut Above	648	£2,370.00
David Harman (Website domain)	649	£26.29

(c) Bank Reconciliation as at 25.09.12

Current Account	£7,341
30 Day Investment Account	£3,843
Investment Account 1.55%	
Investment Account 1.70%	£15,000
Investment Account 2.44%	£25,000
Investment Account 1.80%	£20,000

Proposed: Cllr S. Murphy

Seconded: Cllr A. Bayless

All Agreed

12/13.074 New Code of Conduct and Declaration of Interests

- (a) Code of Conduct - This item was deferred until the next meeting.
- (b) Declaration of Interests - This item was deferred until the next meeting

12/13.075 First Aid Taster Session

Cllr A. Marsh explained how the idea of the First Aid Taster Session evolved for the benefit of the public. Saturday, 3rd November has been suggested and the Clerk is looking for a suitable venue and mannequin for demonstration purposes.

12/13.076 Councillor Responsibilities/Budget Allocations

Cllr A. Marsh explained the Working Groups table to the public, highlighting that it will enable non-Councillors to sit on the panels. This table gives individual Councillors certain responsibilities with each Councillor being able to Chair a panel. Members thought this was a very good idea and felt that more would be achieved as a result.

Proposed: Cllr A. Marsh

Seconded: Cllr D. Harman

All agreed

12/13.077 Crime and Disorder

This subject was discussed during the Open Forum. Cllr A. Marsh mentioned that he had recently discovered a camp in woodland near his home where it was apparent people had been taking drugs and there was also a camp fire. He called the police and fire services but unfortunately they were unable to locate the site without Cllr Marsh driving up to Common Road to meet them. Cllr S. Murphy also recounted an incident near The Olde Dog public house where the police took 21 days to respond. Cllr Marsh advised that the Parish Council had four networked walkie-talkies which had been bought for the Olympic Event. He offered these for loan to any local organisations holding village events. He suggested a deposit should be taken to cover loss/damage. Interested parties should contact the Clerk.

12/13.078 Herongate Village Hall

Cllr Marsh advised that there has been significant progress in this matter. There has been a meeting with the Hall's Representatives and the Borough's Legal Department where it was resolved to have the building made safe initially, however this could still result in demolition. The Building Control Inspector will take a look and give a report. Cllr Marsh put forward a proposal that it may be possible for the Parish Council to take over the hall if the Borough wants to get rid of it. As the building is too small it could not be used as a Village Hall but as smaller rooms for outreach facilities, home for the Museum, diner clubs, etc. Cllr S. Murphy also attended the meeting and felt that our residents should decide the fate of the hall by means of a consensus in the Newsletter, notices and website. The Parish Council is now represented as a Trustee of the Village Hall

12/13.079 Billericay Road

There was nothing to report.

12/13.080 Bus Services

Sunday Bus Service

Cllr S. Murphy gave out a report on the usage figures for the Sunday Bus Service. She reported that there had been a good start but subsequent figures were disappointing with most of the usage being from Brentwood to Doddinghurst and back. She felt that the service needs to be better promoted, however the timetable is on the website, on notice boards and has been printed in the last Newsletter. A couple of residents said they use it regularly. If West Horndon joins the project then passengers may increase. Cllr Murphy will be attending a Bus Transport meeting to discuss this matter and will report back at the next Meeting.

Shenfield Bus Service

This matter will be reviewed once the viability of the Sunday Bus Service is resolved.

12/13.081 Website

Cllr D. Harman gave out notes regarding the Parish Council's website email addresses for Councillors. He explained the different possibilities and asked that Members respond to him with their preference.

12/13.082 Garden Land

Cllr A. Marsh spoke of a recent letter from Brentwood Borough Council regarding the intention to sell off odd bits of Council land adjacent to private properties. This was principally aimed at highway verges.

12/13.083 Village Signs

Cllr A. Marsh reported that the village signs were in a poor state of repair. He also mentioned that the Ingrave sign, which is hidden in a hedge by the Alms Houses, could be moved to a more prominent place – possible the verge opposite Pittman Close. Cllr S. Murphy added that the sign in Herongate Tye had been 'tagged' with graffiti. It was felt that the Parish Council should make enquiries with the Borough as details of the tile company could still be with them. Cllr S. Murphy will take up this matter.

12/13.084 Planning

(a) The appeal on 9 Donovans Gardens was upheld despite fierce opposition from the Parish Council. A professional and definitive report from the Parish Council was put forward to the appeal objecting to the retrospective planning application but this was not mentioned in the decision notes and we are not sure if it was actually taken into account when the decision to uphold was made."

(b) A list of applications received and determined during August and September was received and agreed.

Proposed: Cllr S. Murphy Seconded: Cllr A. Bayless All agreed

12/13.085 Correspondence

A list of correspondence, having been previously circulated, was noted.

12/13.086 Reports from Councillors

- Cllr D. Harman reported that there is no warning sign for the zebra crossing just by St. Nicholas Church, Brentwood bound. It was felt that this could have been on the post which was knocked down.
- Cllr S. Murphy reported that the Museum roof had been repaired and the rooms were now drier. Many of the artifacts had been moved to storage at St. Andrews Church Hall.
- Cllr D. Harman spoke about his campaign to increase broadband width in the Herongate, Ingrave and West Horndon villages.
- Cllr A. Bayless reported that a resident in St. Nicholas Grove had erected a fence outside of his boundary perimeter on highways land. He had been in touch with Highways and the matter was in hand.
- Cllr S. Theobald reported that the hedge opposite The Olde Dog Public House was overgrown, dangerous and encroaching onto the road.
- Cllr A. Bayless spoke about a recent noise abatement issue where a local Ingrave resident held a very noisy party until 4.00am the following morning with no regard for neighbours. Cllr J. Roberts suggested aggrieved residents could register a complaint with Ashley Calverwell, Environmental Health Department.

12/13.087 Councillor Training Days

Members did not want to attend any training on the list.

12/13.088 Items from Councillors to be added to the next Agenda

Lighting of the Christmas Tree Lights.

12/13.067 The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 23rd October 2012 at St. Nicholas Church Hall, Ingrave

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

Signed:..... Chairman

Date:.....