

**Minutes of the Long Melford Parish Council Meeting held in the Library, Hall Street, Long Melford ~ Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2010 @ 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllr J Watts (Chair) Cllr's I Wotherspoon, R Michette, M Brabner, T Coll, J Nunn, C Spraggons, J Frost, J Walton, R Eade and Clerk Mrs L Goodban. Sgt L Ireland, PCSO L Chapman and two members of public present

**01/09/10 – Chairman's announcements** The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Chairman and members of the council recently attended a site visit at the Green with officers from SCC Highways to consider options for traffic safety in this area. SCC will look at options and forward any scheme to council for consideration in due course; The chairman confirmed that he had again consulted with all parish councillors regarding the pedestrian island at Little St Mary's following complaints from residents in that location and requests to delay work until complaints have been resolved. All members had confirmed they fully supported the scheme and that work should continue; The Chairman, vice chair and clerk met with Mal Garwood from Pearce & Kemp to consider a lighting scheme at Cordell Place play area. P & K have provided summary costs for consideration later in the meeting, however costs from EDF are only estimated as they have not yet provided detailed quotes; The Chairman recently stepped in at short notice to present prizes at the local Produce Show as Lady Hyde Parker was unwell;

The Chairman, vice chair and clerk met with Will Desborough from Playdale to consider options for a scheme to provide new equipment at Cordell Place play area. A scheme will be presented at a meeting due to take place on 5<sup>th</sup> October, 10am at the Parish Office.

Vice Chairman J Nunn informed members that the Hare have agreed to maintain the phone box outside the pub. Paint has been provided by the Council and the landlord will arrange for the box to be painted. The public phone box in Hall Street has been repaired and painted. Enquiries will be made to see if anyone would like to adopt responsibility for the upkeep of the phone box at Bridge Street.

**02/09/10 Apologies:** Cllr J Brand & Cllr R Kemp

**03/09/10 To adopt minutes of meetings:**

Minutes of the **full council** meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> August 2010 at the Library – amended and signed

Minutes of **Burial Ground** meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2010 at the Council Office

Minutes of **planning** meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2010 at the Council Office

It was **resolved** the minutes be signed as true records of the meetings.

**04/09/10 Declarations of interest or hospitality:** No declarations received

**05/09/10 Reports District Council:** Nothing to report

**County Council:** The following report was read to members;

- The decision on the contract for the incinerator in Suffolk will take place on the 7<sup>th</sup> September. The cabinet will decide whether to award the contract for the incinerator that will be built at Great Blakenham to the preferred bidder Stia UK Ltd who operates a number of different waste facilities across the UK. The contract will be awarded for a 25 year period with funding coming from PFI, totalling £102m.
- National Heritage Open days took place on weekend of 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> September offering an opportunity for everyone to visit a heritage site that would usually charge for free.
- Suffolk Fire & Rescue, Trading Standards, Age Concern and the Electrical Safety Council have again launched electric blanket testing in preparation for the upcoming winter months, to ensure that blankets used in people's homes are not faulty.

**Police;** Sgt Liz Ireland presented the following report to the meeting, the report covers the period 10<sup>th</sup> August to 12<sup>th</sup> September; During this time 12 crimes have been recorded within the parish, this compares to 29 crimes for the same period last year.

No burglary to dwelling or other buildings reported; A car was broken into in Hall Street and items stolen; Damage to a vehicle in Hall Street; A female in Hill Close was dealt with for causing an affray; A fixed penalty notice was issued to a male in Hall Street for harassment; A report of harassment in Cordell Place was made; A male is on police bail for offences of ABH and using violence to secure entry to property in St Catherine's Road; Lead was stolen from Holy Trinity Church; Tractor weights and tools were stolen from a farmyard in Mills Lane; A report of damage occurred (no publicity requested so no further information available); A wall at the Crown was damaged; A male has been spoken to after a report of Accosting was made in Station Road; A male has been reported for driving whilst disqualified in Hall Street; Detected assault of ABH reported.

Sgt Ireland stated that she believes the current increase in police presence in the community may have been a contributing factor to the marked decrease in crime this month. The police are currently undertaking a 'street a week' campaign which involves visiting residents in a street each week to carry out a short survey regarding anti social behaviour. To date they have done Woollards Gardens and Chadburn Road. They will now be looking to complete Cordell Road, Bull Lane and Old Court.

It was reported that a car for sale at the junction of Roman Way/Southgate Street is causing problems for vehicles turning into Roman Way; Motor bikes are once again using the railway walk.

**Clerk:** The following matters were reported by the Clerk and noted by members;

- A homeless person living in a wheelchair has returned to the village and is once again living next to the toilets by the Green. All relevant authorities have been informed including MIND and Social Services. The police confirmed that as he is not receiving any benefits it is not possible to track a pattern of his movements.
- F.O.G has written to advise members that they will be demolishing the hut in Smaley Meadow over the weekends of 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> September. It is expected work will start on the re-build in early October. The area will be fenced off to ensure public safety, however all paths/rights of way will be kept clear.
- Confirmation of application for the claimed right of way/diversion of path at Swan Lane has been received. The history recording of FP4 on the definitive map will be investigated as part of this application. Once investigations into the claim commence all parties will be consulted.
- A response has been received to the PC application to Sustrans to create a cycle route from Long Melford to Sudbury Upper School. Unfortunately the most direct route would be along Melford Road and this has already been the subject of a study some years ago. If the idea is to be pursued the first step would be to carry out a feasibility study to re-examine Melford Road, together with any possible alternative routes. This type of work is currently funded through 'Quality of Life' and locality budgets. Funds for construction would be subject to a successful bid to the LTP budget.
- There is a forthcoming consultation period on growth issues and scenarios and BDC have booked venues for workshops on this topic. Our local meeting will be Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2010, 7pm at Acton Village Hall. Parish Council may send up to 3 representatives to this workshop. Cllr Walton requested to attend and received the pack of information for this workshop.
- The parish council are looking to decorate the Parish Council office using volunteers for the painting. It is hoped this will take place on the weekend of 22/23/24<sup>th</sup> October 2010. It was also reported that the night storage heater gives off minimal heat and is very expensive to run. It has also not been tested in many years. The landlord will be asked to arrange for a testing. The clerk will obtain quotes from Gridley's for replacement and more cost effective heater.
- Members were advised that the annual meeting with BDC will take place on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2010, 6.30 for 7pm at Stoke by Nayland Club

**Street Fair:** It was reported that BDC have issued an additional charge for clearing of litter/rubbish after the event. The Street Fair Committee are disputing the charge as they do not feel there was excessive rubbish left and BDC provided only 5 wheelie bins instead of the 12 requested.

**Members of the Public** Lorna Athey, Suffolk Youth worker informed members that she is aware the youth club has ceased due to lack of interest from youths. She suggested that rather than disposing of the equipment purchased by the youth club, the Council allow it to be stored to see if there is any way of ensuring the youth club continues. She hopes to get the 13 – 19 group established again. A request was made that the remaining funds be used to give those children who did attend a 'day trip'. It was suggested that at this moment that would not be appropriate. Full details of funds currently left in the account should be made available before any decision on this matter is made. If the group remains closed the accounts will need to be fully audited and statements provided.

**06/09/10 Anti Social Behaviour:** A CCTV camera is now in place in Cordell Place. A public meeting has been arranged with the Police for Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2010 to consider progress in dealing with issues, in particular those from Cordell Place. No progress to date on curfew or alcohol ban as we are waiting for a feasibility study from Paul Little, BDC.

**07/09/10 Allocation of S106 Recreation Contributions:** BDC have confirmed that the S106 fund now stands at £79,105.36. Meetings have taken place with Pearce & Kemp and Playdale to obtain details on proposed schemes together with quotes. A further meeting with Playdale will take place on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2010, 10am at the council office. Once details of a scheme are available members of the community association will be invited to view and comment (it is intended the community association will adopt any new equipment once installed). Residents of Cordell Place will also need to be consulted before any scheme is submitted to BDC for approval.

**08/09/10 War Memorial:** A letter of thanks received from the Rector for works to the Church Drive was read to members. The Rector extended thanks to the workmen who were very sympathetic to the Church and its needs whilst carrying out the resurfacing works. No quote has yet been received from Neil Luxton despite several requests and reminders. It was **resolved** that alternative quotes be obtained from Hanchetts. The clerk will also ask War Memorials Trust if they can recommend any specialists who may be able to carry out the necessary survey and works.

**09/09/10 Crossing at Little St Mary's:** Members were informed that several complaints have been received from one or two residents of the area where the crossing is being located. One resident has been obstructive to the workmen and has threatened legal action against the Council. SALC have confirmed that he cannot sue individuals of the Council. SCC has informed the PC that they have received a formal complaint that consultation procedures have not been adhered to. Members were satisfied that they have carried out sufficient consultation with regards to the scheme following the

Parish Plan, public meetings and public attendance at parish meetings and that they felt it was the responsibility of SCC to carry out consultation regarding the location and details of the scheme.

**10/09/10 Toilets in Cordell Road:** The Chair, vice chair, police, English Landscapes, BDC and C Buckley met recently to consider the problems and condition of toilets at Cordell Road. It has been suggested that Cubitt Theobald may sponsor works to improve the condition of the toilets however they are owned by BDC and ultimately it is their decision on what works may take place. It was noted that cleaning should be done more effectively and smells should be minimised but to date there appears to be no improvement. It was reported that the light in the disabled toilet at the green does not work. This will be reported to Daniel Whymark, BDC.

**11/09/10 Replacement Mowers:** Members considered the condition of mowers. The clerk will obtain information regarding online purchase of mowers and what condition of use they might be in when delivered. It was noted that out of season deals may be available. The clerk will also check when new mowers were last purchased and obtain a more detailed report on condition of existing mowers. It was suggested that a sit and ride mower might be an option for cutting the larger open space areas. Quotes will be obtained.

**12/09/10 Tour of Britain Cycle Race:** The Tour of Britain cycle race came through Long Melford on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September and was very well supported by members of the public, community and local businesses. It was noted that a Bury Free Press supplement had stated there would be majorettes, live band and stalls on the Green however there had never been any intention for this. It is not known who made this report.

**13/09/10 Seating request outside Swan Inn:** A meeting will take place on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2010, 10am at the parish office to consider a request for seating outside the premises of the Swan Inn. SCC, BDC and Parish Council will be attending. They will also consider 'street furniture' and trade displays on the highway within Hall Street.

**14/09/10 Bus shelter at Station Road and Olivers Close:** Members were informed that Felix operators were not prepared to change the bus route at Olivers Close as this would mean that passengers using the service at the Limes and Laurel Drive would then have to stand in the road, with no means of shelter or footpath for safety and therefore it would create a hazard for those people. It was resolved that SCC be asked to liaise with BDC and have the shelter moved or removed. Maple Group has confirmed they are unable to assist with sponsorship of the bus shelter at Station Road at this time. It was **resolved** that quotes for the work are obtained and requests for sponsorship be offered to those offering quotes.

**15/09/10 Christmas Lights:** It was confirmed that the local fire service will once again take on the responsibility of installing Christmas lights in Hall Street/Little St Mary's. It was noted that the electrician who previously carried out work with the transformers will no longer be able to do so due to health problems, Bryants are unable to provide anyone else to do this work. Cllr Brabner confirmed that he has an electrical contractor who is prepared to do this work on behalf of the Council. The lights will be installed during the third weekend of November.

**16/09/10 Youth Club:** see public notes

**17/09/10 BDC Community Achievement Awards:** BDC invite the PC to submit nominations for community achievement awards. Nominations were received for category 1 (young person or group of young person's) category 2 (individuals over 18) and category 3 (voluntary or community group that improves the quality of life for the residents of our district). The clerk will obtain necessary information and submit nominations. Members will consider any further nominations and present at next meeting for approval of submission.

**18/09/10 Parish Council annual insurance renewal:** Members considered proposals for renewal of Annual Insurance. After consideration it was resolved to accept a 5yr plan. The clerk will ensure that payment is annually before accepting.

**19/09/10 Accounts** It was **resolved** to pay the outstanding accounts

<b>Accounts outstanding:</b>	P & K Monthly	262.56
	E.on Energy	501.18
	Zen internet	15.31
	C.O.S	26.64
	Suffolk local history council	7.50
	BDC bins – bus shelter	1.25
	BDC bins – grass cutting	<u>1,141.69</u>
		<b>1,956.13</b>

An account for PCSO funding for a full year has been received. It was understood at the time of accepting PCSO that funding would be split into 4 payments over 2 years. Further enquiries on this will be made before payment is made of this account.

**Cheques issued 11/08/10 – 15/09/10**

19/08/10	A C Sawyer	1576		19/08/10	Old Ch Yard	1577	85.72
18/08/10	BDO Stoy audit	1578	470.00	19/08/10	HHP insurance	1579	78.08
19/08/10	Mini waste bus stop	1580	81.72	19/08/10	Pest control	1581	45.00
19/08/10	C.O.S	1582	34.80	19/08/10	Zen	1583	17.99
23/08/10	Produce show	1584	150.00	23/08/10	A Smith	1585	3,368.25
23/08/10	Inland revenue	1586	3,756.37	27/08/10	Cycle ride tens	1587	21.00
03/09/10	L A Goodban	1588		03/09/10	Timberscape	1589	260.00
07/09/10	A Smith –drive	1590	3,365.25				

**20/09/10 Planning Applications** The following applications were considered by council;

**B/10/01001/FHA** 10 Old Court – Erection of rear conservatory  
**Resolved** to recommend approval

**B/10/01079/LBC** Land West of Red House, Hall Street – LBC alterations to listed building to create studio space shared between houses 2 & 3  
**Resolved** to recommend approval

**Next Meetings:**

- Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> Oct                      7.30pm              Library              **Public meeting with police**
- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> Oct                      7.30pm              Office              **Finance**
- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> Oct                      7.30pm              Office              **Planning**
- Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> Oct                      7.30pm              Library              **Council**
- There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.42pm