

**Minutes of the Long Melford Parish Council Meeting held in the Library, Hall Street, Long Melford ~  
Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2011 @ 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllr J Watts(Chair) Cllr's J Nunn, R Michette, P Turner, R Kemp (late), D Walters, T Coll, J Walton, C Michette, C Spraggon, J Frost, H Spear, Clerk Mrs L Goodban, 2 Members of Public, Michael Wood and film crew from Maya Vision.

**01/12/11 - Chairman's announcements** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and made the following announcements;

- Michael Wood and film crew from Maya Vision would like to film parts of the meeting to support a programme they are creating called the Great British Story and members will need to agree to filming before we proceed. It was resolved unanimously to allow filming, the clerk signed a 'contributor release' agreement on behalf of the council which was then given to Mr Wood
- The Chairman advised members he had been unable to attend several meetings with LMOS to consider options for the Picnic Area and Railway walk, however he has been keeping in touch with chairman of the group and several members of PC have attended each meeting. It is clear the PC will have a central role for funding and liaison with the group.
- The Chairman invited everyone present to join him and members of the council for festive drinks and mince pies after the meeting has finished.

**02/12/11 Apologies:** Cllr M Brabner

**03/12/11 To adopt minutes of meetings:**

Minutes of the **Full Council** meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2011 at the Library

**04/11/11 Declarations of interest or hospitality:** Cllr Kemp declared an interest on his arrival in item 13.12 as landlord of the premises and took no part in this item.

**05/11/11 Reports: Vice Chairman's report:** Cllr Nunn gave the following report to members;

- I would like to thank all friends and colleagues who donated to, or gave their time at our Historical display fundraising stall at the Long Melford Christmas Extravaganza on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, I am delighted to say that we raised the grand sum of £613 on the day. Furthermore the Long Melford Historical Society have also donated £100 to the fund. We have also had donated to the forthcoming exhibition many historical items belonging to the late Mr Sid Knott, our thanks to Mrs Knott for her generosity.

**District Council:** Cllr Nunn gave the following report;

Expected savings long term for the merging of services are up from £1.3m to £2m per annum, at least two years to that pay off period. Over the next two years loss of Government Grant to Babergh is 26% that amounts to £1.3m. The likely rise in Council Tax could be 3%. At this morning's meeting of the joint oversee & scrutiny committees, following a vote, short term parking charges in Sudbury and Hadleigh were rejected at present. Following representations from Richard Kemp and myself the divestment of the public toilets has been deferred for more detailed investigations into funding options.

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

- Budget savings were announced in November and subsequently scrutinised at the relevant committee towards the end of the month. The main points to budget are that the council needs to save £50m over two years with just over £25m planned in each financial year. Quarterly Budget report covers the period from April to October and updates council on the current financial shape of the organisation and whether it is meeting targets set at February budget.
- Cabinet meeting will discuss in December the future of the In-House bus and coach fleet (travel services), the council plans to create a joint venture company with Norse (Norfolk County Councils wholly owned company) to run Suffolk Travel Services, this is expected to last for 10 years.
- Procurement of Waste Transfer Stations and recycling facilities seek to create a joint approach marketing services for all of Suffolk Waste Partnership Authorities
- At the November cabinet meeting it was agreed that the council should look to create a new heritage organisation with its own archaeology and archive services at the Museum of East Anglian Life. The intention is that with one organisation there is greater opportunity to seek outside sources of funding. It is not clear yet what this paper means for future locations of the record offices in Suffolk.

**Police;** The following report was read to members: 4 crimes have been recorded within the parish, this compares to 31 for the same period last year;

A workshop was entered on Martyns rise and a motorcycle and tools taken; A shed was entered on Martyns rise and tools taken; a property in Olivers Close had their shed entered and a motorcycle taken, the motorcycle has since been recovered; A resident had a tyre deflated with wood and screws.

It was noted that we have now had our PCSO for a full year and that it would be good to have a report detailing how things have gone during this period. Cllr Kemp will be attending a police presentation at SCC later this week and will ask about the future of PCSO funding at the meeting.

The clerk will notify PCSO that non disabled drivers are using the disabled bays.

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

- Various dates of meetings were confirmed and amended.
- **Concert on the Green:** The Clerk and Cllr Brabner were scheduled to meet with J Ribbons from our insurers office to make statements regarding the claim, however Mr Ribbons had to cancel and this will now take place once he is able to provide further dates for a meeting.
- **SALC Annual membership:** SALC have confirmed membership fees for 2012/13 will be £794 for our parish
- **Grit Bins;** SCC have distributed grit heaps around the parish and filled all the bins. Two new smaller bins have been purchased and located at Swan Lane and the junction of the Limes with George Lane. Alan Sawyer has filled the two new bins.
- **Charity Distribution to the poor;** Cllr's Kemp and Coll will carry out the annual Charity Distribution to the poor on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2011, 10.30am till midday at the Council Office. Notices have been displayed.
- **Christmas Hours;** Members were given details of office opening hours during the Christmas period

**Street Fair:** Nothing to report

**Village Hall:** Cllr Spear reported that Hyde Parker Lawyers have now accepted new boundary measurements, New drawings have been accepted by all parties and Hewitsons will now sign after which we will receive a new Deed of Easement to sign. After January 2012 Cllr Spear will resign from the Village Hall committee.

**Matters raised by members of Public:**

Debbie Roots, Library Manager asked if the PC have heard anything further from SCC regarding the future of the Library. It was confirmed that there has been no communication in recent months from SCC. She informed members that it is understood SCC will ask the PC to become members of IPS (new management scheme for libraries), we will be expected to fund approx 5% of budget and to be involved in future management.

**06/12/11 Allocation of S106 Recreation Contributions:** It was confirmed that the planning application in support of the lighting scheme part of the Cordell Place scheme had been refused by BDC due to lack of information. Further lighting specifications and details are being obtained from Pearce & Kemp.

It was noted that EVER parish in Babergh District has had problems spending S106 funds as the perimeters are so tight. Red Row Homes who are developing Chilton Woods have been in touch and would like to discuss this development with the PC in order to ensure the parish receive their % of S106 from the development. Cllr Kemp and the Clerk will meet to discuss options, including provision of roundabout at Bull Lane junction of the bypass.

Cllr Turner has gone through the existing policy for funds in some detail and confirms it is 2 years old and very contradictive and that perhaps the council should look in more detail at the audit of open spaces. It was noted that the audit lists a lack of sports facilities in Long Melford and yet BDC consistently turn down proposals to develop a sports facility on the Hamilton land. It was resolved the Chief Executive of BDC be invited to attend the next Parish Council meeting.

**07/12/11 Public Toilets:** Deferred so officers at BDC can look into it and report more details to councils.

**08/12/11 Railway Walk/Picnic Area:** Following several meetings LMOS would ask the council to approve the closure of toilets at the Picnic Area in order to avoid TUPE regulations with current staff and also to keep current bike inhibitors in place in their current condition along the railway walk. It was **resolved** to support both recommendations and a letter be sent to Tim Yeo MP asking why public toilets have council tax applied to them.

**09/12/11 Newsletter:** The Chairman will provide a report for the Newsletter. First issue will be ready by end of January 2012, contents will include a village calendar, details of organisations, Editorials, Letters and extracts from Parish Council Minutes. It is hoped that production will run without loss. A local computer company has offered to buy and host a domain for the newsletter, Rosey Eade is managing advertising and funding and there appears to be lots of enthusiasm for the publication. Delivery will be done by volunteers.

**10/12/11 Environmental Committee:** It was noticed that a post on the Village Gateway sign at Rodbridge is in a rotten condition. Cllr Kemp will arrange for SCC to have this repaired. It was resolved that 'fly posting' be put on the Agenda for consideration at next meeting

**11/12/11 War Memorial:** The clerk confirmed that contact has been made with Bakers of Danbury and arrangements will be made for provision of quote for works and alternative stone masons will also be contacted.

**12/12/11 Benches:** Cllr Nunn and the Clerk have viewed various locations for benches and also looked at the condition of existing benches. Members were asked to consider purchasing up to 4 wooden benches and 1 iron circular seat to go around a tree on the green (subject to approval from Sir Richard Hyde Parker). Members were also advised that repairs to the existing benches at the front of Trinity Hospital would cost approx £70 - £80 per bench. It was **resolved** that formal quotes for the new seats be obtained and application for funding be made to BDC from S106 funds and that the repairs be funded by Parish Council.

**13/12/11 Historic Display:** A statement from Rob Simpson was read to members urging support for the Historic Centre and that the Council allow this to be located in the middle room of the Parish Council offices. Members discussed options and concerns in detail, it was agreed it is a good idea to have a Historic Centre/Museum however it may impinge on the clerks duties and performance if it is located at the office, there also appears to be concerns about space. It was suggested the centre could run on a trial, opening only at weekends (possibly 10 - 12 Saturdays and Sundays) and would be manned by volunteers. After much consideration it was **resolved** that Dean Pearce be asked to provide detailed plans for the proposals, members will also meet on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December, 7.30pm to view the rooms so that they can obtain a clear perception of how the rooms might work and that a formal decision be made at the next meeting. It was further **resolved** that further investigations into alternative options for the centre be made including Holy Trinity Church, St Catherine's Chapel and Working Mens Club.

**14/12/11 Railings around Village Green:** Members were advised that the railings around the Village Green have been heavily damaged near the conduit and in need of repair. It was **resolved** that quotes be obtained from Robert Clubb for consideration at next meeting.

**15/12/11 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
	British Gas	107.46
	SLCC membership	140.00
	Maple Additional fee for planning	366.60
	Village Hall Room Hire	14.00
		<b>1,407.11</b>

**Cheques issued 10/11/11 - 10/12/11**

17/11/11 RBL balloons	1790	206.20	17/11/11 A C Sawyer	1791	
17/11/11 Old Church Yard	1792	93.02	17/11/11 St Fair tax refund	1793	176.89
17/11/11 Xmas light licence	1794	65.00	21/11/11 St fair licence 2012	1795	100.00
22/11/11 Zen internet	1796	55.11	22/11/11 E.On mthly	1797	617.69
22/11/11 Green - car park wall	1798	245.00	22/11/11 PCSO 2 <sup>nd</sup> year	1799	7,368.50
22/11/11 Car Park rent	1800	25.00	24/11/11 Inland Revenue	1801	3,005.20
24/11/11 Tool Hire - xmas lights	1802	450.48	24/11/11 P & K monthly	1803	333.40
24/11/11 HSE report Rodbridge	1804	30.00	24/11/11 SALC cemetery	1805	96.00
24/11/11 Village Hall room hire	1806	14.00	24/11/11 URC room hire	1807	40.00
24/11/11 FOG heating	1808	3,010.20	24/11/11 office electric	1809	12.39
24/11/11 Extinguishers cemetery	1810	74.40	24/11/11 ACRO grit bins	1811	182.40

**16/12/11 Planning applications:**

**B/11/01066/FHA** 7 Southgate Street, Long Melford – Erection of single storey flat roofed rear extension (providing adapted shower room, lobby and corridor link)

**Resolved** to recommend approval

**B/11/01284/FUL** Glebe Land adjacent Old Church Yard, Holy Trinity Church, Long Melford – proposed change of use of Glebe Land to Cemetery

**Resolved** to recommend approval

**B/11/01396/FHA** The Gables, 227 Cordell Road, Long Melford – Erection of detached two bay cartlodge / workshop

**Resolved** to recommend approval

**Next Meetings:**

Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Jan 2012	7.30pm	Parish Council Office
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Jan 2012	7.30pm	Library

**Planning Meeting**  
**Full Council Meeting**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.15