



# MINUTES OF ALTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 16<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2009

**Present:**

Councillors P Davies (Chairman), B Noye, Mrs M Davies, Mrs S Winter, P Burgess and I Drinkwater

**In Attendance:**

Michelle Cheatle (Clerk), District Councillor T Cussen, 3 members of the Public

**09/269 Apologies for Absence**

None

**09/270 Minutes of Meetings**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2009, having been previously circulated were agreed. *Proposed by Cllr Mrs M Davies and seconded by Cllr B Noye, all in favour.* The minutes of the Extra Ordinary Parish Council meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2009, having been previously circulated were agreed. *Proposed by Cllr B Noye and seconded by Cllr I Drinkwater.* The Chairman signed them as a true record.

**09/271 Declaration of Interests**

None

**09/272 Public Forum with respect to items on the Agenda**

None

**09/273 Transport Report**

09/273.01

The Community Bus is targeted to commence 16<sup>th</sup> February 2010, anyone wishing to use the service must have a membership card which will be available, on application, from the Clerk once the forms have been received. The service will be from Althorne on Tuesdays at 09.30 and on Fridays at 10.30 to Maldon, full details of stops and timings will be available in the New Year. The service will run to a published timetable and will only hold 15 people so there be a problem with availability.

09/273.02

Mrs Benjafield gave a detailed report, including the following: concerns have been expressed that drivers are not sounding at some crossings and there is no emergency phone, the 31X is now running to its revised route although discussions are continuing, the Post Office hold copies of the timetables for residents and it was agreed that the Clerk would write a letter of thank.

**09/274 Clerks Report**

The office will be open on Tuesdays 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> December, the Clerk will be taking 10hours holiday over Christmas

**09/275 Finance**

09/275.01

To advise members of receipts, approve payments and receive Finance Report			
101784	£285.41	Mrs M Cheatle – Clerk wages to 16 <sup>th</sup> December	
101785	£21.69	Mrs M Cheatle – postage	
101786	£20.96	Mrs M Davies – mince pies and wine for meeting	
101787	£57.50	S Jeffery – repairs to Pavilion toilet	
101788	207.000	MDL (Grass cutting Sept +weed spraying)	

Finance Report was approved. *Proposed by Cllr P Davies and seconded by Cllr I Drinkwater, all in favour*

**09/276 District Councillors Report**

There have been several seminars held for members, including one regarding the budget. Cllr P Davies queried the proposed charging system for the Splash Park at Promenade Park. D Cllr T Cussen advised that car park charges were to be debated and would present the Parish Council views regarding 'double taxation'. Cllr P Davies queried the recent private meeting between MDC and Maldon Town Council. D Cllr T Cussen reported on the meeting at Bushgrove Farm and gave details on the public speaking at the SE planning meeting starting 11<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

**09/277 Health Report**

Cllr Mrs M Davies attended the Mid Essex NHS meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> December and will give a report at next meeting

**09/278 Highways and Paths**

7<sup>th</sup> March 2010 temporary level crossing closure (00.01 to 07.00); Footpath 3 has been cleared, there have been positive comments from the public regarding the Speed Indicator Device, once information has been downloaded from device it could be turned to face up Summerhill

December 2009

Signed by 

**09/279 Planning**

09/279.01 Applications advised by Maldon District Council  
Week Ending 20th November 2009

FUL/MAL/09/00957 – Use of land and outbuilding for purposes incidental to the residential use of Viking Cottage (retrospective), Viking Cottage, Station Road, Althorne

09/279.02 Decisions advised by Maldon District Council

Week Ending 20th November 2009

FUL/MAL/09/00776 – Change of use of farm buildings to carpentry workshops with external generator, Buttons Hill Farm, Southminster Road, Althorne - APPROVE

09/279.03 Responses made by Althorne Parish Council

FUL/MAL/09/00957 – Use of land and outbuilding for purposes incidental to the residential use of Viking Cottage (retrospective), Viking Cottage, Station Road, Althorne

Althorne Parish Council objects to the above application for the following reasons:

The application is contrary to the MDC Local Plan Policies CC23 (Garden Extensions in the Countryside), CC7 (Special Landscape Areas) and CC11 (The Coastal Zone)

09/279.04 Applications requiring response from Althorne Parish Council - None

09/279.05 The Enforcement Officer reported that the skips stored at Violet Cottage were a temporary measure, Cllr Mrs M Davies queried whether the external generator at Buttons Hill Farm which requires an environmental report would be kept under review at MDC, District Councillor Cussen advised once report accepted any breaches would need to be reported as Environmental Health do not check

**09/280 Recreation Ground**

Waiting quotes re slide repair, Cllr Mrs M Davies completed Risk Assessment on Pavilion and will report next meeting

**09/281 Reports from Meetings and Events Attended.**

Cllr I Drinkwater attended LCLC meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> December

Cllrs Mrs M Davies and P Davies attended Mid Essex NHS meeting 7<sup>th</sup> December

**09/282 Public Forum with respect to matters of mutual interest**

There was some discussion regarding the timing programme for the core strategy, there was concern expressed over the practicality of the grab bag recommended by the district emergency planners, a parishioner asked if part of the Recreation Ground could be sold for affordable housing development and the monies spent on better hall/facilities – the council would have to make a decision if approached by the developers and the next stage was for the housing association to approach landowners, there was some discussion regarding declaration of personal and prejudicial interests and concerns expressed over circumstances in which a councillor should declare – the Code of Conduct and procedures were explained.

**09/283 Any Other Business/Information Exchange**

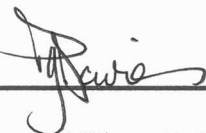
None

**09/284 Date of Next Meeting**

January 27<sup>th</sup> 2010 – items for the Agenda to be notified to Clerk by 18<sup>th</sup> January 2010

**09/285 Closure**

The Chairman closed the meeting was closed at 9.00pm

X 

Chairman of Althorne Parish Council