

OFFTON AND WILLISHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 2nd March 2009
at 7.30 pm in Offton and Willisham Village hall.

Present	Cllr. M Bolton (Chairman)	Cllr. A Rumsey
	Cllr. C Storey	Cllr. A Cox
	Cllr. N Coleman	Cllr. K Earl
	Cllr. D Tingley	P Sands Clerk

County Cllr J Truelove attended
Mr and Mrs J Hitchcock and Mr M Holtom were present

- Apologies for absence
Apologies from Cllrs Pinson Roxburgh, Cattermole and Seddon were accepted.
- Declaration of Interests, with respect to items on the agenda
None were declared
- Public Participation Session with regard to items on the agenda
No matters brought up.
- Minutes of the previous meeting.
The minutes had been circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman
- Matters arising from the minutes
None
- Correspondence.
MSDC Village of the Year competition. The entry criteria were noted. Cllr. Bolton holds details.
MSDC. Parish Liaison meeting. Cllr Bolton and the clerk will attend the evening session on 30th March
SCC. Traffic Order. Now in operation, aiming to restrict heavy lorry traffic through Needham Market.
NATS. Stansted aircraft stacking. Advises further consultation to be undertaken, incorporating parishes but reaffirms the "status quo" cannot prevail.
SCC. Transport Newsletter and questionnaire. Cllr. Rumsey will respond
Claydon High School. Update on developments
SCC. Boundary Committee matters. Recommendations to the Sec. of State now delayed until 15th July to permit a final consultation period. Parish Councils urged to respond to any new proposals, previous submissions may not count.

LS/AC

clerk

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| 7. | <u>Planning</u> | 3833/08 Castle lane (10 houses) Withdrawn.
3033/07 Ladyfield. Grant has now expired 22 February. Clerk to request MSDC to enforce Condition ! requiring removal of the caravan and restoration of the ground surface | clerk |
| 8. | <u>Footpaths</u> | Cllr Storey presented two documents to be submitted to Hitchcock Farms Ltd for their agreement. One related to the continuing retention of the Council owned seat on Hitchcock land at the end of Tye Lane and the second licensing to the Council the use of the short strip of land containing the seat and extending beyond to the hedge corner. The documents were signed by Cllr Bolton and the clerk, signatures witnessed and then given to Mr J Hitchcock for completion by Hitchcock Farms Ltd. It is now open for the Council to give its assent to the diversion proposals jointly negotiated with Hitchcock Farms and MSDC, noting particularly the classification of the concrete track between Tye Farm and Holly Road as a bridleway and the deletion of crossfield path 2
The Chairman, wholly supported by his fellow Councillors, was fulsome in his thanks to Cllr. Storey for the painstaking work he had undertaken to achieve these benefits for parishioners. | clerk |
| 9. | <u>Parish Property</u> | Cllr. Cox will seek a price for the repainting of the Village Sign posts.
Offton phone kiosk. It was agreed a) the kiosk needs cleaning inside and out - and a working party proposed, b) it is not necessary for the internal light to function, c) Cllr Cox will discuss with Barking Forge the provision of an attachment to enable the door to be padlocked, d) the clerk will endeavour to obtain details of the paint used by BT and the box's history. | AC

AC
clerk |
| 10 | <u>Highways</u> | Nothing to report | |
| 11 | <u>Village Hall</u> | It was agreed the Council would allow itself to be identified as the applicant for the new hall planning application, thereby ensuring a halved fee. Proposed by Cllr Cox, seconded by Cllr Coleman, the cost would be met by the Council indicative of its appreciation of the Committee's endeavours. Council had received assurances that it would not be held responsible for any subsequent financial penalties associated with the application. A formal request is to be received from the Committee.
Cllr Truelove gave the name of Ian Cuthbertson at SCC for grant aid resources. | |
| 12 | <u>Parish website</u> | The links between the Carpet Bowls club (D Schofield's letter), One Suffolk, and the Council's website were being followed through by Cllr.Pinson-Roxburgh and Silke | CPR |
| 13 | <u>Representative's reports</u> | Cllr. Truelove spoke to her written report, referencing Post office consultations, County Council 2010 tax (some 2.5%), and GP Out of Hours service. Action had been taken to remedy the problem of mud on the Lt Blakenham / Somersham road. Some money was available for village development, suggestions from Councillors | |

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| <p>would be welcomed.</p> <p>. PCSO Sian Uttley had sent a report, noting only one reported crime namely an arson attempt at the new house built behind the village hall.</p> | <p>Clrs</p> |
| <p>15 <u>Community</u></p> <p>. Parish Plan. Cllr Colman reported that the scheduled ACRE meeting on 15th February had been cancelled due to lack of support. (post meeting comment, now rescheduled for 30 / 31 March). Cllr Bolton urged Cllr Coleman to arrange a meeting of the volunteer committee to move the project forward.</p> <p>Allotments. The anticipated reply from the enquirer Mrs Tappenden had not been received and the matter would not be incorporated in future agendas</p> <p>Parish walk. Cllr. Cattermole was not present but it was known that he was progressing the idea. It was agreed (proposed Cllr Storey, seconded Cllr Coleman) that £50 could be made available to use as Cllr Cattermole thinks appropriate to promote the walk eg quiz prize, costs and publicity.</p> <p>Verge cleaning. Both parishes were proposing to spring clean.</p> | <p>NC</p> <p>DC</p> |
| <p>16 <u>Finance</u></p> <p>. Balances. Cheque £223.00 Community £5705.31 Deposit £15700.64 Petty cash £6.89</p> <p>Approval of 2008 accounts. These were tabled to date but a final small interest payment was due before the year end on March 31st. Council agreed that the Chairman be permitted to sign off the completed accounts without further presentation to Council in the knowledge that our internal auditor would ensure propriety before submission to the external auditor.</p> <p>Risk Assessment review. The security of the insurance, bank deposit and cheque signing procedures were considered and deemed adequate.</p> <p>Internal Audit review. The regular reporting of balances was considered an adequate safeguard when measured against an agreed budget.</p> | <p>MB</p> |
| <p>17 <u>Freedom Of Information Act 2000</u></p> <p>. The template mailed to Councillors for approval was sanctioned for addition to the Council's website. Clerk to place appropriate notices.</p> | <p>clerk</p> |
| <p>18 <u>Dates for next meeting.</u></p> <p>. To be held on 11th May preceded by the Annual Parish meeting</p> | |