
**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF TOPPESFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 4 JANUARY 2010 AT 20.00.
AT THE VILLAGE HALL, TOPPESFIELD**

1 MEMBERSHIP, ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

1.1. The following Councillors were in attendance:

Steve Amerio
Andrew Bull
Frazer Croft
Fran Laskowski
John Levick
Peter Moore

Also in attendance:

Steve Marshall Clerk to the Parish Council
David Finch
5 members of the public

Apologies were received from:

Shaun Sheldrake

1.2. There were no Councillors declarations of interest.

2 OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC / PRESS TO ADDRESS THE MEETING

The meeting closed for the five members of the public present to raise issues and question the Council.

Note: This is an optional agenda item. Decisions cannot be made on matters raised unless they are covered in the forthcoming agenda items.

The following matters were raised:

2.1. Mervyn Stutter

Andrew Colley gave a progress report. He will apply for an Alcohol Licence. Publicity material is being printed by Paul Clark Printing. AR to liaise with AC regarding catering.

2.2. Accounts

Alan Collard questioned the PC regarding the Accounts to 31/03/09.

2.3. Playing fields

Members of the public were advised that projects were being still developed.

PM reported that a local landowner is considering offering some of his land for the use of a village cricket pitch. In view of this news it was agreed that the future of the playing fields and equipment be reviewed.

2.4. Village Plan

In answer to a question the Chairman stated that it is the PC's intention to form a Working Group to initiate a Village Plan.

2.5. Website

JL reported that several new pages have been prepared and uploaded for a launch very soon.

2.6. Land in front of Post Office / Shop

Consideration to be given to this land to prevent parking.

2.7. Gritting

Cllr. D Finch was able to answer resident's questions regarding the gritting of local roads.

3 ESSEX COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

ECC Councillor, David Finch, gave a brief report. (refer to Appendix)

4 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

There was no report from the BDC Councillor.

5 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 07/12/09 were approved and signed by the Chairman, as being an accurate record of the meeting.

6 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

7 PLANNING

The following was noted:

Application No: 09/01402/FUL

Applicant: Mr & Mrs Fraser Croft

Erection of dwelling house

Land Adjacent Chestnut House, 1 The Street, Toppesfield, CO9 4DJ

Application Withdrawn

Application No: 09/01463/FUL

Proposed Doctor's Surgery

Land adjacent to 2 – 10 Whitlock Drive, Great Yeldham

Toppesfield Parish Council understands that this application has been re-submitted. It was unanimously agreed to fully support this application because of its benefit to the residents of Toppesfield and Gainsford End. The Parish Council believes there is a great need for this facility. The views of the Parish Council have not changed.

Application No: 09/01506/FUL

Applicant: Berwick Hall Farm Ltd

Construction of replacement farm access road (north of Park Lane and west of Stambourne Road)

Land Opposite Berwick Hall Farm, Park Lane Toppesfield

Copy of resident's objection letter to BDC received.

8 HIGHWAYS

Nothing to report.

9 PLAYING FIELDS / RECREATION GROUNDS

PM reported that a local landowner is considering offering some of his land for the use of a village cricket pitch. In view of this news it was agreed that the future of the playing fields and equipment be reviewed.

It was agreed that more research was required and that specialist firms should be approached to assist with plans and fund raising.

ACTION: FC&SA

10 ALLOTMENTS / PARISH LAND

FL was requested to investigate the village TPOs and the trees that were planted ten years ago.

ACTION: FL

11 TELEPHONE BOXES

Nothing to report. (SS absent)

12 ENTERTAINMENT

Refer to 2.1.

ACTION: AC

13 WEBSITE

JL reported that several new pages have been prepared and uploaded for a launch very soon. It suggested that the hosting be moved when it is live.

ACTION: JL

14 VILLAGE PLAN

Nothing to report.

ACTION: PM To progress this project.

15 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

The Clerk reported on correspondence received.

15.1. Activity Days

It was agreed to book the BDC Activity Day in the school summer holidays.

ACTION: Clerk to complete and submit form to BDC.

16 ACCOUNTS

The Clerk's Report indicating receipts and payments requiring approval was received and approved. (Appendix A)

17 PRECEPT

The following 2010/2011 Precept was approved:

£10,400 + 2% = £10,608 (+ £1,877 PSG)

ACTION: Clerk to complete and submit form to BDC

18 DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

18.1. The following previously agreed schedule of dates for the year 2009/2010 was noted:

Mon 01/02/10 20.00
Mon 01/03/10 20.00
Mon 10/05/10 19.30 APM & AGM

18.2. The following schedule of meeting dates for the year 2010/2011, subject to Village Hall availability, was agreed:

Mon 07/06/10 20.00
Mon 05/07/10 20.00
Mon 06/09/10 20.00
Mon 04/10/10 20.00
Mon 08/11/10 20.00
Mon 06/12/10 20.00
Mon 10/01/11 20.00
Mon 07/02/11 20.00
Mon 07/03/11 20.00
Mon 09/05/11 20.00 APM & AGM
Mon 06/06/11 20.00
Mon 04/07/10 20.00

ACTION: Clerk to book dates with VH Booking Secretary.

19 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business the meeting closed.

Chairman _____ Date _____

APPENDIX A

ACCOUNTS 4 JANUARY 2010

	£	£
National Savings Deposit account:		
Balance as at 14-02-01	1,945.24	
Balance from 07/12/09		9,426.98
Received:		nil

Subtotal:		9,426.98
Payments to be approved:		
101204 Marshall Whittaker – clerks fees & expenses		613.94
101205 B Sewell – litter picking		30.00
101206 Paul Clark Printing Ltd – newsletter		488.00
101207 e-on – changing room electricity standing charge		13.79
101208 CPRE- subscription		29.00
101209 V E Turner – newsletter expenses (ink)		59.98
101210 Paul Chinery – grass cutting		276.00

Balance	1,945.24	7,916.27
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