

LITTLE BARDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 23 2009 AT 7.30 PM IN GARDINER'S BARN

Members present: Cllr J Judson (Chairman), Cllr W Gardiner (Vice Chairman, Cllr R Wren, Cllr S Walsh, Cllr M Bearland, Cllr T Cutmore, C Cllr S Walsh, D Cllr A Wattebot

2 members of the public

1. **Apologies** - there were none.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting** on November 10, 2008 were read, approved and signed
3. **Matters arising from the minutes**
 - a) Hawkspur Green name signs- the council resolved that Cllr Terry Cutmore would meet with a Rissa Cahill (traffic technician) from Highways to resolve this issue. Clerk to arrange a date
 - b) VDS Statement- Uttlesford District Council no longer has funds available for printing the finished document. The Council resolved to pay the costs and asked for the VDS committee to obtain quotations for the printing of 200 copies
 - c) Footpath Map- a quotation for 300 copies to be printed at 10p per copy has been received by Cllr Richard Wren. The Council resolved to accept this and to pay for the printing costs
 - d) Emergency Plan - a new plan is waiting to be finalised. Cllr Terry Cutmore will be attending a ~~First Aid~~ Course at UDC Offices on April 22, 2009 and any further information will be added to the plan.
5. **County Councillor's report** - Cllr Simon Walsh reported that the Highway 's team was almost up to full complement
The council tax will rise by 1.9% or an additional 38p increase on Band D
It is proposed to spend 10 million on highways focusing on local councils' needs.
4 million to be spent on the elderly and 1 million for Businesses especially Tourism.
The council's reserves are not earning any interest.
A County Apprentices scheme is being backed.
Inspection results: Good from Audit
 Adequate for children's services
 Inadequate for child protection - an extra 12 million to be added each year
- District Councillor's report** - Cllr Antoinette Wattebot reported that the Council Tax will rise by 4.5%.
Thaxted Day Centre has re-opened after refurbishment
A new Joint Parking Scheme is to be introduced
The Council will be opposing Eco Towns including Elsenham and questions where the extra houses demanded by government are to be built.
Both County & District oppose the building of a second runway at Stansted and are waiting to hear the outcome of the proposed sale of Stansted.

6. **Highways** - the Council complained about the lack of response from the department about a lot of issues. For example the request for the Hawkspur Green name signs was made over 2 years ago. Cllr Antoinette Wattebot suggested the council contact Thaxted Parish Council which has monthly meetings with highway representatives to see if Little Bardfield could attend these meetings and hope that this might in some ways improve the situation.
Clerk to contact Elaine Baines, Thaxted Parish Clerk.

7. **Planning**

Farm View - rear orangery - a new plan that the council had no objections to.

Cllr Terry Cutmore had attended several Planning Workshops at UDC and informed the Council on several issues.

8. **Finance**

	£
Business Account	2,064.76
Current Account	1,934.99
<u>Cheques to pay</u>	
Mrs B V Fry Salary & Expenses	£418.82
<u>Cheques already signed and sent:</u>	
C J Butcher £120.00 30/12/08	
Audit Commission £ 57.50 20/01/09	

9. **Correspondence**

This had been distributed.

10. **AOB**

The Clerk must receive copies of the Bardfield Times. Cllr John Judson to organise. The snowdrops planted last Spring should make a better showing next year. No further planting will take place for the time being.

The meeting closed at 9 pm

The next meeting will be the Parish Annual Meeting at 7.30 pm in Gardiner's Barn followed by the Council meeting at 9 pm.