

**LITTLE BARDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT GARDINER'S BARN  
ON MONDAY NOVEMBER 12, 2007 at 8pm**

**Members present:** Cllr J Judson (Chairman), Cllr W Gardiner (Vice Chairman), Cllr M Beanland, Cllr R Wren, C Cllr S Walsh

4 members of the public

1) **Apologies:** Cllr T Cutmore, Derek Whitty

2) **Minutes of the meeting held on September 3, 2007** were read, approved and signed

3) **Matters arising from the minutes**

- c) VDS Statement was brought forward. Mandy Boon reported that Uttlesford District Council were being co-operative, but they need more pictures. 75 draft copies to be printed for public approval before it is adopted by the community and then by UDC. The final document will be 17 pages long and 200 copies will be printed. The conservation officer has made no comments and RCCE has been most helpful. The group intends to call a meeting in December to look at the draft and hope that UDC will approve it in the New Year.

The Chairman thanked Mandy and commented that the PC looks forward to seeing the completed document.

- a) Hawkspur Green road signs - these are in the pipe line. Oxen End signs completed  
b) Footpath Map- Cllr Wren produced a draft copy.

Comments made: i) add the path alongside the river  
ii) mark bridleways slightly differently  
iii) include with the VDS and get it printed by UDC..

Bulb planting - after discussion the Council resolved to ask Cllr Wren to purchase 300 bulbs of different varieties. Crocuses & snowdrops round the Village Sign, under the noticeboards at Hawkspur Green & Oxen End. Wild Daffodils by the Church Sign and on the bank between Wainsford Farm & Gridiron Villas. This would be a trial & it was hoped to involve some of the youngsters in the village

- d) Styles road repairs was deferred to the next meeting.

The Chairman thanked Jim Andrews for his work to the Car Park and private path  
e) Litter Bins- 2 No have been removed from telegraph poles due to complaints from local residents

Dog Litter Bins have been placed at the side of the Sewage Works, the Church Car Park and near the Noticeboard at Hawkspur Green.

4) **County Councillors report** - Cllr Simon Walsh reported on Post Office Closures (views to be made known by November 16, 2007). The Fire Authority. Widening of M11 at Junction 8. Local Government finance up 2% . County Council to keep costs down. These reports in full will be attached to the minutes.

5. **Highways** - the Clerk attended a meeting of the East Area Panel in Dunmow. A new Area Highways Manager, David Forkin, has been appointed and expressed most strongly his disappointment in the way that the West Area Office has dealt with all the communications from the Parish Council over the last 2 years. The Clerk listed all the repairs that the Council had raised with the department and was asked to put them in writing. This was done. The Planned Parish Visit (scheduled for July) will now take place in the New Year.

## 6. Planning

- a) The Chapel - Cart & Wood Shed refused.
- b) The Chapel - retrospective application for fencing - council was against the close boarded fencing along the side and rear of the property as it is out of keeping with a listed building. There were no objections to the front picket fence. The application for a footpath to the side of The Chapel has not yet been resolved.
- c) Grid Iron Villas - Clerk to query the proposed hedge not yet planted , the species of plants and who would be responsible for it.

## 7. Finance

	£
Instant Business Reserve Account	2,156.16
Current Account	1,418.23

Essex C C Highways - Verge Cut repayment due £796.22

### Cheques to sign

Mrs B V Fry - Clerk's expenses 87.18

The Council resolved to sign a cheque for the Dog Litter Bins on receipt of invoice.

The Council resolved to reimburse Cllr Richard Wren for the cost of bulbs to be planted.

### Proposed costs for 2008 - 2009

Increase in Insurance

Increase in Section 137 donations

Increase in Verge cut costs

Increase in routine maintenance costs to Car Park, Footpaths & areas not covered by the two verge cuts each summer

Bulb planting after trial

The Council resolved on this basis to keep the Precept at £2,500 for the year commencing April 1, 2008 and the form from UDC was signed by the Chairman & Clerk.

8. Correspondence this had been circulated.

## 9 AOB

- a) Complaints concerning a 4 wheel drive maroon Discovery parked dangerously close to the junction in Gt Bardfield with the road to Little Bardfield to be passed to Kate Fox - Clerk to Gt Bardfield
- b) Clerk to contact Thaxted P C re parking of cars opposite the Guildhall Stores and Chemist on double yellow lines causing problems for both cars and pedestrians
- c) Water main leaking opposite the Rectory - Clerk to contact Three Valleys Water
- d) Clerk to contact Highways re May Gurney diversionary road signs left on the verge at Hawkspur Green
- e) Clerk to query the use of a 22 seater coach to take 8 children to Thaxted for a link with a school bus to Dunmow which does not leave for 30 minutes after arrival
- f) New Mobile Library Day to be verified.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm

The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 25, 2008 at 7.30 pm in Gardiner's Barn.