Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 16th October 2006 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present:-Chairman Mr E Webb Vice Chairman Mrs C Byatt

Councillors Mrs M Peyton, Mr P Neale, Prof. A Milton, Mr L Ginger

District Councillors Mr D McCraith, Mr N Cathcart

Parish Clerk Mrs Y Albery
Parishioners 9 present

1.0 Apologies for absence received from County Councillor Mrs L Oliver

2.0 Approval of previous minutes

All councillors agreed that the minutes of the last meeting were correct and the Chairman (Mr E Webb) signed them accordingly including one copy for the Main Notice Board.

3.0 Matters Arising

3.1 Bridge Street bridge problem

The Highways Dept. will shortly be strengthening the sides of the bridge as requested at the September Parish Council meeting. There was general discussion about further modifications to the bridge which might improve flooding in the area and the matter was left for future discussion.

3.2 Affordable homes

A meeting is being set up with Ms Denise Lewis of SCDC and BPHA re funding for the Whaddon affordable homes.

3.3 Recreation Ground grass cutting

Thanks were expressed to Mr Jim Docwra for his freely given time for cutting the recreation ground during the last few years.

Quotations have been received from Meadow Nurseries for a fee of £60.00 per cut assuming 12 cuts per year. A quote has been received from Buchams Landscape for a fee of £75.00 per cut assuming 12 cuts per year. Mr K Green of Whaddon Golf Club has quoted a price of approximately £50.00 per cut with a view to keeping the total price under £500 for the year. The Councillors present agreed that the Chairman should negotiate terms with Mr Green

4.0 Correspondence

- 1 SCDC Gipsy Traveller Development Plan Document
- 2 Village Life Fund- Letter received to notify us of our unsuccessful application for funding of a picnic table.

5.0 Planning

Neighbouring properties are often not being notified when planning applications are submitted. District Councillor Cathcart will investigate.

6.0 Finance

Cheques already paid on 03/10/06

Cheque No 100520 £25.00 to CPRE East of England for Councillor's Course

To be signed tonight

Cheque No 100521 £24.26 to Archers Signs & Panels Ltd. (notice for Village Hall)

Cheque No 100522 £60.00 to S Baker for grass cutting recreation ground.

Cheque No 100523 £26.10 to Mrs Byatt relating to Course attendance.

7.0 Parish Plan Recommendations

The Parish Plan recommendations were ratified by the Parish Council. (See list of recommendations in the attached appendix).

8.0 Field Pest Control (Bridge Street area)

Discussion took place concerning the legalities of the use of firearms in the vicinity of footpaths and roadways. Complaints had been received from Bridge Street and Meldreth Road regarding the use of firearms particularly during hours of darkness. It was stated that the farmers had a legal right to clear their land of pests, but responsible behaviour was not always evident. A member of the public suggested that we should try to get all involved parties together for a formal meeting which would include representation from the farmers, shooters and concerned residents. It was decided to ask Mrs Shaw of Neighbourhood Watch if she would organise a firearms officer to speak at the meeting to explain the roles and responsibilities of all parties involved in local pest control.

9.0 Comments from the Public

It was mentioned that as there was a 'Car Boot Sale' next Saturday (21st October) it would be necessary to have the relevant area of the recreation ground cut as it was now quite long. Chairman Webb would speak to Mr K Green to see if this was possible.

A member of the public commented on the possibility of selected members of the public being trained in the use of speed guns and the likely risks involved from irate motorists.

Various comments were made on the Parish Plan Recommendations, one comment asked for an explanation of what 'Visual Aids' meant. It was explained that this was the use of colour markings and also the word 'SLOW' painted on the road.

10.0 Village Hall Proposed Plans

The Plans were produced by Mr Hough. Discussion took place and many of those present expressed surprise at the large size of the car park and its proximity to the children' play area. It was stated that the SCDC Planning Dept. had asked for one car space for every eight square metres of floor space which resulted in the design as tabled. More detailed plans will be made available at a later date.

11.0 Any Other Business

Councillor Peyton asked for a progress report on the Village Hall sewer connection. The Chairman reported that the sewer connection in the road had been completed and the contractor would be shortly returning to complete the rest of the work including the bollards. Councillor Byatt reported that the CPRE (East of England) course which she had attended was very informative and constructive.

There being no other comments the meeting was closed.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm

The date of the next meeting will be 20th November 2006 at 7.30 pm