

Minutes of Great Bentley Parish Council Planning Committee Meeting
Thursday 7th October 2010 in the Village Hall

Planning Reference No.	Application Details	Address	PC Comments
10/01029/FUL	Change of use from retail to fish and chip takeaway.	For GB Food Hall, Plough Road, GB	Concerned that joint ROW, height of extractor fan, highways issues, parking, waste storage, litter.
10/01032/FUL	Proposed re-positioning of entrance doorway.	The Green Pharmacy, The Green, GB	No comments.
10/01000/FUL	Change of use for Unit 4 from D2 to A1, B1 and B8	Plough Road BC, Plough Road, GB	No comments.
10/01082/FUL	Conservatory extension.	3 Goodwyn Mews, Birch Avenue, GB	No comments.

Comments were Proposed by Cllr Herbert and Seconded by Cllr Fox – all in favour.

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Thursday 7th October 2010 in the Village Hall

Present

Cllr Hills (Chair), Cllr Herbert (Vice-Chair), Cllr Gibbon, Cllr Wright, Cllr Warder, Cllr Balbirnie, Cllr Fox, Cllr Taylor, Cllr Morton and Kate Mayhew (Clerk)

In Attendance

District Cllr Lynda McWilliams, Essex County Councillor Derek Robinson, Linda Belgrove, Independent Member of Essex Police Authority, Mick Dorling, Contractor and approximately 28 members of the public. PCSO Les Barnes.

Questions from the Public

Mrs Grimsey - Planning Application for Fish & Chip Shop, lives next door, bought property in July, (previous application in 2006), were told there were no plans to change the use. Passageway between buildings is owned by Mrs Grimsey but shop has a ROW. Parking provision is not altered, the opening hours are until 9.30pm. Cllr Hills advised Mrs Grimsey to write to Highways and TDC with her concerns. Another member of the public present also raised an objection that there was no reference advising objectors to write to the Parish Council with their concerns. There is already an extractor fan on-site, noise issues present and they are concerned that this will be increased. Cllr McWilliams has written to Planning with public concerns. Cllr Hills advised that they need to speak to Planning and Highways with their concerns. Members have voted to agree to the application. Cllr Gibbon advised that there are times the PC object to applications and are over-ridden by TDC planners.

Mrs Grimsey asked why the public are invited if their opinions are not taken into account. Cllr Hills explained the process and that we had not received any objections but this does not take away the strength of any objection made to TDC with the support of Cllr McWilliams.

Mr Foakes – Affordable Housing – is there going to be more built, if so where and when? Cllr Hills explained the process and advised there would be a survey being sent out soon asking for public opinion.

Mr Hegarty – at a previous meeting it was hinted at that parcels of land were being looked at for further development. Could the Aingers Green development be extended? It would make sense. Cllr Hills advised that all options are open. Mr Hegarty – affordable housing will attract a positive response to survey. Would it not be better to have land before undertaking a survey? Cllr Wright advised it took 15 years to achieve this site. Cllr Gibbon advised properties could be available for older people not just families.

Mr Hegarty – can property already available in the village be looked at for affordable housing too – Cllr Hills suggested this be written on the survey notes when it is delivered.

Linda Belgrove, Independent Member for Essex Police Authority advised there will be a public meeting on 10th November at Princes Theatre, Clacton for anyone wishing to speak with EP with any concerns. Budget cuts in Essex are 25%. £45million lost over next 4 years. Recruitment stopped from Sept 2010 which will have an impact on all policing. Cllr Balbirnie advised that it is important public attend the meetings to give their say and find out the local position.

1. **Apologies for absence** – None
2. **Minutes** – To confirm and sign Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd September 2010. All agreed. Proposed by Cllr Taylor, no objections. The Chairman signed the Minutes.
3. **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Gibbon for St Mary's Farm - has a farming agreement with new owner but does not affect the area surrounding the Cinder Path. Cllr Wright for St Mary's Farm - he will be renting 50 acres from next year. Cllr Fox for Allotment Site Item.
4. **Police Report** – PCSO Barnes read out the report.

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES - Weeley Road

NUISANCE YOUTH - St Mary's Church - search no trace

OBSTRUCTION - Pine Close - rubble on road
Station Road

MISSING PERSON - The Green
The Paddocks

CRIMINAL DAMAGE - St Mary's Road - tractor window smashed

Linda Belgrove asked the PCSO why the reports don't go through to Neighbourhood Watch. All reports should go through to this. PCSO Barnes was not aware GB was linked through to the NW Scheme.

Please find attached news letter

Les Barnes PCSO 71909
Thorpe Le Soken NPT Eastern
Internal Ext : 487603
External 01255 862843
Email : leslie.barnes@essex.pnn.police
website : www.essex.police.uk

5. **Clerks Report** – The Clerk read out her report (previously circulated)

Clerks Report – October 2010

1. *Allotment Agreements were delivered and all but 1 has been returned with payment. Following discussion with Cllr Herbert I have advised tenants via the Parish Magazine that I will no longer send out copies of the Agreement at renewal time and if they renew they automatically agree to the Terms and Conditions of the existing Agreement. This will save a lot of time each year. We have been able to give 4 new plots to those on the waiting list which has brought the list down but we still have approximately half a dozen people waiting.*
2. *The insurers have agreed to replace the bench destroyed by fire in the Spinney.*
3. *The tractor insurers have dealt with the minor incident to a 3^d party's vehicle.*
4. *The PCSO Agreement has been fully terminated with Essex Police now.*
5. *The Annual Audit has been returned completed.*
6. *The Wayleave Agreement for the work done by BT from The Path to the Green has been signed and returned.*

Cllr Taylor asked about an update on the Considerate Parking Scheme, Clerk to chase with Ian Taylor from TDC about joining/participating in the scheme.

Thank you.

*Kate Mayhew
Clerk to Great Bentley Parish Council*

6. Correspondence Report – *Items of correspondence received for the Councils attention.*

*Correspondence Report
October Parish Council Meeting 2010*

- 1) *TDC – Special Expenses for 2011/12*
- 2) *TDC – Section 106 Developer Contributions*
- 3) *Essex Police – Confirmation of termination of PCSO Agreement*
- 4) *Mick Dorling – Request to continue to fundraise on Biker Nights (copy attached). Cllr Hills read out the letter and asked for comments. Cllr Herbert commended Mr Dorling on his work and the allocation of funds. Cllr Gibbon and Cllr Taylor concurred.*

Cllr Wright said he would also like to endorse the thanks from Cllr Gibbon, for Mick Dorling's assistance with marshalling and fundraising on Bikers night. Also for working with Paul Hamilton who has been persistent with his requests to be part of the evening. Mick has offered to alternate between his existing caterer and Mr Hamilton for 2011

- 5) *D. Gibbs – Hazards in Plough Road (copy attached) - Clerk to respond.*
- 6) *P. Nunn – Cinder Path Closure (copy attached) - Clerk to respond.*
- 7) *TDC Planning – Hamilton House, TPO – No comments from Members.*

7. Information and Reports - *Requests from members for additional matters off report or information only to be brought to the attention of the council*

8. County and District Councillors Reports

- i) *County Councillor – Subsidence on road, DR has asked Highways to look at this. Cllr Balbirnie asked him to request Highways put more wiring alongside this part of the road*

for protection. Looking into further signing to notify HGV drivers Tye Bridge is not a suitable route. Has attended Member presentation on ECC preferred mineral sites and these would be made public on 19th October. CIF applications to be in by 29th October.

- ii) District Councillor – Looking at cuts, 25-40%, not yet known; incidents on Biker Nights are down on previous years. Traffic Wardens are being trained to give parking tickets and dog fouling tickets. TDC can train people from PC's to give tickets also. Cllr McWilliams is now a stakeholder for the NHS Trust.

9. Finance – Items of approved expenditure for the month. There were no objections.

07/10/2010	100963	H TWEED	G020	STRIMMING	£ 64.00		£ 64.00
07/10/2010	100964	MAY GURNEY LTD	L020	LAMP REPAIR	£ 126.39	£22.12	£ 148.51
07/10/2010	100965	MAY GURNEY LTD	L020	LAMP REPAIR	£ 155.92	£27.29	£ 183.21
07/10/2010	100966	GREENLEAF PEST CONTROL	P100	PEST CONTROL	£ 40.00		£ 40.00
07/10/2010	100967	VEOLIA WATER GREAT BENTLEY VILLAGE HALL	M080	WATER RATES - STANDPIPE	£ 50.76		£ 50.76
07/10/2010	100968		A065	RESOURCE CENTRE RENT	£ 171.27		£ 171.27
07/10/2010	DD	BT - TELEPHONE	A030	TELEPHONE HIRE OF TOILETS FOR VILLAGE GREEN	£ 64.19	£11.23	£ 75.42
07/10/2010	100969	MTM PLANT & SALES	P020	EVENTS	£ 225.00	£39.39	£ 264.39
07/10/2010	100970	GLASDON UK LTD GREAT BENTLEY VILLAGE HALL	M100	NEW BENCHES	£ 349.00	£61.07	£ 410.07
07/10/2010	100971		A060	ROOM HIRE	£ 19.80		£ 19.80
07/10/2010	DD	E-ON	L010	ENERGY CHARGE	£ 250.49	£43.84	£ 294.33
07/10/2010	100972	MAY GURNEY LTD	L020	LAMP REPAIR	£ 126.39	£22.12	£ 148.51
07/10/2010	100973	M DORLING	G010	GRASS CUTTING VILLAGE GREEN	£ 304.00		£ 304.00
07/10/2010	100974	M DORLING	G020	STRIMMING	£ 140.00		£ 140.00
07/10/2010	100975	M DORLING	M010	GENERAL MAINTENANCE	£ 237.00		£ 237.00
07/10/2010	100976	D TYLER GREAT BENTLEY VILLAGE HALL	A013	CARETAKER	£ 63.70		£ 63.70
07/10/2010	100977		P010	ALLOTMENT WATER RATES	£ 365.49		£ 365.49
07/10/2010	DD	TALKTALK POST OFFICE LTD	A035	BROADBAND CHARGES	£ 19.99	£ 3.50	£ 19.99
07/10/2010	100978	(HMRC) POST OFFICE LTD	A011	CLERKS INCOME TAX	£ 29.80		£ 29.80
07/10/2010	100978	(HMRC)	A012	CLERKS NI	£ 44.25		£ 44.25
07/10/2010	100979	K MAYHEW	A010	CLERKS SALARY	£ 586.54		£ 586.54
07/10/2010	100979	K MAYHEW	A040	STATIONARY	£ 6.02		£ 6.02
Total					£3,440.00	£230.56	£3,670.56

10. Highways – Cllr Gibbon to contact Amber Leisure to ask them for support to stop caravans being brought through the village. Amber Leisure will email them and ask them to take an alternative route but this can't be enforced.

Forge Lane very bad – Clerk to report.

11. Website – Nothing to report.

12. Housing Needs Survey – Cllr Hills felt the letter should be sent out asap with a return date of 2 weeks. Guides and Scouts to deliver, notice in Parish Magazine advising if survey not received to contact the Clerk. Distribution to take place by the end of October, reminder in November Parish Magazine and return date of 30th November. Responses go direct to the RCCE. All members in agreement.

13. Private Security Sub-Committee – Cllr Gibbon, Chair of Sub-Committee, read out his report.

Friday 10th September 2010, 12pm in the Resource Centre

Present:

Cllr Gibbon (Chair), Cllr Fox (Vice-Chair), Cllr Herbert and Kate Mayhew (Clerk)

Not Present: *Cllr Wright, Cllr Taylor*

The Sub-Committee met to discuss the issue of private security for the village. The matter was discussed in detail and the companies contacted to give quotations for providing a service were Tower Security and Oakpark Security.

Members felt that of the two companies contacted Oakpark Security offered the best service to meet the needs of the village and could be tailored to the Councils satisfaction. It was felt that financially any arrangement must have a trial period and any hidden costs identified. Oakpark Security would be willing to meet with Full Council and discuss any issues Members have.

Cllr Gibbon advised he had discussed the matter of the PCSO with the Chairman of Essex Police Authority, Mr Robert Chambers, at a coincidental meeting and he had agreed to discuss the matter further. The Clerk spoke with him at length about the PCSO Scheme and he was willing to meet with Full Council and give his support to the Council re-entering into another contract if so wished to ensure a more suitable arrangement can be made.

Members of the Sub-Committee felt that a PCSO presence was far more suited to Great Bentley than a private security firm. It was agreed amongst members that Full Council should consider the option of reviewing the PCSO Contract with Robert Chambers at the next available opportunity. Mr Chambers has agreed to attend a Meeting of the Great Bentley Parish Council in order to do this. The Chairman also felt that the older members of the community would feel safer approaching a PCSO rather than a private security firm.

The Sub-Committee therefore wish to put to Full Council their recommendations to appoint Oakpark Security as their preferred contractor but also to revisit the option of having a PCSO if further assurances can be given to Council's satisfaction.

Cllr Hills asked did the Sub-Committee recommend appointing Oakpark Security in the mean time. Cllr Gibbon advised there had been a good police presence in the village since the PCSO Agreement ended. Cllr Gibbon strongly advised the PC speak with Robert Chambers at a meeting. Proposed by Cllr Taylor and Seconded by Cllr Warder. Clerk to arrange the meeting. Cllr Herbert advised the funds should be made available for a PCSO in our forthcoming budget. Linda Belgrove advised a suggestion to share a PCSO with Alresford PC which she sits on was made previously and was still an option.

14. Allotment Land Site – *Cllr Hills asked all members with an interest to leave the room. Cllr Wright, Cllr Gibbon and Cllr Fox left the room. Cllr Hills updated the Council on the current position regarding the land following a meeting with the Councils solicitor. The title has gone direct to the new owner incorporating the land set aside for allotments. This is due to the land not being registered. It is anticipated that the matter will be long and complicated and not easily resolved.*

Mr Nunn advised that he was present at the meeting when Mr Mitchell gave the land over with a caveat that the land be used for allotments only when the current site is full and he felt the current site was not used fully.

15. Car Park Lease – *Cllr Hills advised he had spoken with the Councils solicitor regarding the Agreement. Members agreed to obtain photo's, dilapidations schedule, Cllr Fox suggested a surveyors report be obtained. The solicitor advised it was a standard NR document. Cllr Taylor advised the rateable value for the site needed to be established. Cllr Herbert advised all Members to view the site at the weekend. Cllr Hills asked Councils permission to speak with NR and the Solicitor to iron out Members issues with the Agreement. Clerk to arrange a meeting*

with NR Representative once Agreement finalised.

- 16. The Cinder Path** – The Clerk advised the path is clearly not a registered footpath. The Footpath Representative has applied for a Modification Order and invited the public to send in applications by 5th November. Cllr Hills felt that it was a fight the village may not win and that the Parish Council should take a back seat and make the village aware that it is not them who are trying to get a possessory title on the land especially in light of the issue of the allotments.

Cllr Hills advised that Cllr Fox, who was not present during this time what was agreed as it was recognised that he did not have an interest in the Item.

- 17. A) Village Green Sub-Committee Report –**

Meeting held at The Resource Centre on 30th Sept at 7.30pm

Those present Cllrs B. Herbert, D.Gibbon, R.Taylor and contractors H. Tweed and M. Dorling. Work carried out since last meeting.

*Bollards put in place near to The Plough.

*Various areas have been grass seeded.

*Although the walkway between The Path and Robin Close is not the responsibility of the PC, so many complaints have been received about the its untidy nature that I decided to clear it. MD and myself removed a bulging Transit truckful of bottles, cans and brambles from there.

*The cable which BT wanted to install around Rest-a-While was completed the next day to our satisfaction.

*Minor repairs have been carried out on the mower. Necessary because the mowers ran over metal stakes left by the footballers. They have been informed.

*A member of the public would like to donate a large conifer tree as the Christmas Tree at Aingers Green.

*Mr. Dorling has now finished overseeing motorbike night for this year and would like us to know how much has been raised in donations and what he would like done with the money.

At the moment the pond is so full of water the complete October clear out is in doubt. We will however clear that part above water level at least.

Meeting end 8.30pm

Since:

Allotments - I have received a request from the Treasurer of the Village Hall to read the water meter. That reading was 3635 on 2nd Oct. Giving the PC a probable bill of £350, mostly due to very dry weather during the growing season. The water has now been turned off for the winter.

B) Planning – To put a note on Planning App for F&C Shop giving concerns over potential smells and parking issues if application approved.

- 18. Other Reports**

- a) Tendring District Association of Local Councils –**

Great Bentley Parish Council 08/10/10

Report on Tendring District Association of Local Councils 29/09/10

The meeting invited Gary Pullen Development Control TDC to its meeting. This report covers that aspect

a) The trial system for referral of planning applications to the Planning Committee, which is due for review by the Cabinet, along with other items in the annual review of the Constitution. It was reported that no feedback had been received from Parishes and Towns to lend weight to TDALC's representations. Mr Pullen responded that the review was indeed under way.

b) Design Statements - Some parishes had drawn up their Statements or Village Plans and submitted them to TDC for approval and adoption but had heard nothing further. It was reported that if TDC adopts these then they would be 'material considerations' but not major material considerations. Great Holland's plan had been adopted after three years, it had been modelled on St Osyth's plan which had been in place for some time and RCCE had been of help in getting it off the ground. Members thought they had wasted their time preparing them but Mr Pullen said that they did help in determining applications but they did only have a bearing on the local area covered by the Statement or Plan.

c) 106 Agreements - Recent changes allowed for the protection of 'green wedges' which had been removed by the previous Government but was now reinstated. Mr Pullen reported that the previous Government had wanted to change the system for Section 106 Agreements which would have been very expensive to operate; Regulations had been issued but there was no guidance in interpreting the Regulations; the new coalition Government had come out against the change as they appear to be in favour of a tariff setting system where the developer paid and there had been indications as to how this would operate. He added that there Eric Pickles was expected to make an announcement about a much simpler system at the Conservative Party Conference next week.

Cllr Hills asked if the new Car Park could be considered as an Environmental Issue. The money has to be spent specifically. Cllr Hills asked Cllr McWilliams to look in to that and report back to the Clerk. Clerk to place on November Agenda.

It was pointed out that Section 106 monies were not necessarily required to be spent in the area of the development (e.g. proposed Tesco development in Manningtree) Mr Pullen said that he did not know how quickly the new regulations would come into force and the timescale had a bearing on decisions. He added that the previous Government had not liked green wedges but the new Government's 'localism' agenda meant that if villages wanted green wedges, then they could have them - He added that the Local Plan was due to expire in November, but until then the existing TDC policies would stand; the new Local Development Framework was being drawn up and it was expected that existing planning policies would be retained.

Mr Pullen was asked if there were any definition of the size of green wedges. He replied that parishes should make sure that their wishes were submitted to the Planning Department so that they could be taken into account in drawing up the LDF - he added that these needed to be map-based..

It was pointed out that TDC members could access information on the website as to what Section 106 monies were being held and for what. Whether Section 106 tariffs would be the same across the District was raised. Mr Pullen did not know what the Government's intentions were but added that it would be much easier to operate if it were the same everywhere.

d) Parish Planning Committee Input - A request for information on planning law for parish councillors was made as it was known that "We don't want it" is not a planning consideration any more than "We don't like it" is. Mr Pullen said that training parish councillors was in train for the November session to make sure that officers and TDC members could help parishes to put their concerns into appropriate wording to avoid the lawyers pouncing on refusals based on things that were not planning considerations.

It was pointed out that having an officer in attendance at parish council meetings had helped with this in the past and it was accepted that there were no resources to reinstate this in the foreseeable future. Mr Pullen said that it was hoped that training for parishes could get going again soon.

e) Use of Website - Lodging an objection to a planning application had proved to be easy using the website. Frinton and Walton Town Council had joined with Mistley and Manningtree in fighting a Tesco application and their experience had assisted Frinton and Walton in their fight.

f) Urban Grabbing and Rural Grabbing - The new terms for "garden grabbing" was raised with members expressing concern that buildings were being constructed very close together in order to fulfil the requirements laid down by government. Mr Pullen said that all applications were considered in the light of local planning policies and that the government was relaxing the density of development in its guidelines. The new Local Development Framework would take this into account.

g) Gypsies and Travellers - The matter of someone trying to buy up land to use for up to 70 families' vans and the possibility of some retribution for retrospective applications were raised together. Mr Pullen said that Eric Pickles (the Minister concerned) was looking at introducing a system to punish applications being made retrospectively. He added that the ramifications of any system had to be considered before any laws were drawn up. He said that a suggestion for double the fee had been made in 2002 but had not been taken up yet. He pointed out that no offence had been committed until enforcement notices had not been complied with and that the situation was no worse now than it was in previous years.

b) Transport Report –

I have had confirmed today there will be a new Bus Service No 77, starting on 1 December from Aingers Green to Colchester.

Bus will be run by Horizon Travel (based at Lufkin's Farm). Return Service will be 6 days a week, 6 times a day!!!!

Cost £2 single (no return fares); Senior Citizen cards can be used.

Details to follow. Timetables will be advertised, I will send a copy in time for November Magazine.

Peter Harry, Transport Representative

c) Footpath Report –

The numbering of paths in the parish of Great Bentley is as stated on the "Definitive Map of Public Rights of Way for the County of Essex" dated 1 July 2002, scale 1:10,000. For descriptions of paths please see previous reports.

Notes on paths as at 30/09/10

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
5. Sections mown by landowner and strimmed by Network Rail
7. Strimmed by Highways
8. Section mown by landowner
10. Section mown by landowner
11. Cleared by Highways and landowner
- 12.
13. Section mown by landowner
- 17.
19. Strimmed by Highways
- 20.

It is intended to publish attached notice in the November issue of the Parish News stating that the deadline for submission of Evidence Forms with reference to the Cinder Path will be 5 November 2010. To date 59 completed Evidence Forms have been received.

D.E.Gollifer
(Footpath Representative) 30/09/10

Application For Modification Order with reference to the Definitive Map and
Statement for the County of Essex

I refer to the notice dated 06 August 2010 with reference to the track that leads from St. Mary's Farm to Plough Road, Great Bentley (known as the Cinder Path). Would members of the public who wish to provide evidence on this issue, please forward the completed "Public Rights of Way Evidence Forms" to the address below by 5 November 2010. The completed Evidence Forms should be sent to David Gollifer at Cambria, Weeley Road, Great Bentley. (Tel: 250309).

D.E. Gollifer
Footpath Representative
30 September 2010

d) Caretaker – The Chairman read out the Caretakers report.

Village Caretakers Report for October 2010

Only one case of fly tipping seen or reported this month which is pleasing. Play area has been fine with limited litter found in that area. Spasmodic and isolated litter noted on green, bottles and glasses and food wrapper after bikers nights but in general OK. The biker's area the following day has always been well and truly cleared. Interesting today to see council bin emptier actually looking for dumped litter in areas around cricket club.

Clothing bank OK as are notice boards. The condition of the right hand school notice board will shortly need attention and I believe I have mentioned this before.

Nothing else to report this month.

David Tyler 29/9/10

Cllr Gibbon advised he could be going on a delegation to meet Lord Henley, the new Minister for Environment and would like to be informed of any reports of hazardous waste being dumped in the Village.

e) NAP Report – Cllr Taylor read out the report.

*Great Bentley Parish Council 08/10/10
Report on Neighbourhood Action Panel 22/09/10*

Report from Robert Taylor comprising abbreviated minutes of last meeting with items relating to or of interest to Great Bentley.

1. Guest Presentation

Frank welcomed and introduced Lisa Ansel who manages a teenage band. She explained how teenage bands are exploited by venues. Having consulted with young musicians there is a need for a permanent space, for the under 18s, for Saturday night live music with payment. The young learn to play musical instruments but find they cannot afford to buy their own. They would also like the facility of a recording studio. Lisa has 20 volunteers and there is a big idea for young entertainers to create something on people's doorsteps, in Towns and Villages. Lisa explained the positive approach to establishing an under 18's venue where they could perform every three months, to bring out their talents; it would also give the opportunity to play in a large venue to a large audience. Lisa is SIA qualified (Security) she has others willing to qualify and requires funding; she is also looking to set up a Management Committee.

Frank welcomed and introduced Daniel Smith who represents TAD (Teenagers Against Discrimination). The idea behind the group is to get rid of the stereotype and stigma image that young people have and to prove teenagers can behave well. They want to be part of the community and not against. A TAD fund raising event was recently held and £800 was donated to the RNLI. TAD is Clacton based but hoping to become involved with Harwich and Frinton. The meeting agreed to give these initiatives their support

2. Chairman's report

Frank paid tribute to Sgt McCrae for following up on matters we had raised.

Frank reported on the meetings he has attended; -

20th July he attended the 4Youth awards ceremony hosted by Adrian and said how impressed he was with the way they operate.

4th August he attended the British Transport Police/National Express management meeting in Colchester and raised matters recently brought to his attention regarding some of the railway stations. BT Police has requested Alresford Parish Council consider an Alcohol Control Zone in Station Road; the PC supports this.

Frank reported how there had been extra police patrols at weekends in Brightlingsea throughout the summer months. He also gave an update on the illegal camping that has been taking place in Alresford and how regular police patrols have alleviated the problems.

Mobile phone use whilst driving is increasing. Frank explained if a member of the public sees this offence he has been assured that if a correct vehicle registration number, date and time is recorded this can be reported to the police on 03003334444.

Fly tipping is occurring again with large number of tyres being dumped and asbestos.

At a Joint Action Group meeting it was agreed that a non political press statement is to be made opposing cuts to the Police Budget.

3. Police Report from Sergeant Frazer McCrae

Frazer referred to the priorities of the last meeting and other information for the panel.

1. Underage Drinking and selling of alcohol; Needs to have specific intelligence to pursue. A joint operation has been carried out at a St Osyth pub regarding under age sales of alcohol. Officers continue to stop and seize alcohol from youngsters.
2. Speeding issues are ongoing by Police Officers and PCSO's, with the support of mobile Police units.
3. Operation Barbican – Motorbikes on Great Bentley green; this year the number of incidents regarding the bikes has reduced.
4. Parking issues – Brightlingsea's "Considerate Parking" initiative is now recommended throughout the force.

f) Village Events requiring Police Attendance

The Meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Questions from the Members of the Public

MOP – Who is the Footpath Representative working on behalf of? Cllr Taylor advised we asked David Gollifer to do the job. He represents Great Bentley and reports to the Parish Council. Cllr Gibbon and Cllr Wright detailed his responsibilities in more detail. The gentleman felt the Cinder Path being closed was a risk to young families who now have to walk along Plough Road. Cllr Fox suggested he contact Highways regarding his concerns of any dangers in Plough Road.

Mr Hume – Queried what had happened to upset the land owner.

Mr Hegarty – Questioned if conversations held with the current land owner could be disclosed. Cllr Hills advised he had spoken with the PC's Solicitor regarding the matter and been told it was very unlikely the Cinder Track would become a Footpath. Cllr Hills will in time contact the landowner and request the path be re-opened. Mr Hegarty asked if the question of re-opening the Path has been put to Mr Irwin the owner? Cllr Hills replied that yes it had been.

Mr Hume – Asked if the PC think it a waste of time trying to achieve a FP Modification Order? Cllr Hills felt personally after advice from the Solicitor that yes it was a waste of time. Mr Hume stated this conflicted with ECC who had said that if enough public support were raised it could force the issue. It is alleged approximately 60 applications to modify the path have been made. Cllr Wright felt that to fight the landowner may backfire but a voluntary agreement could be reached in time with the correct handling. Cllr Wright's opinion is that the PC should look at the matter but there is not currently enough evidence to support a legal claim to change the Cinder Path to a formal Footpath status. Mr Hume

suggested he speak directly with the landowner. Cllr Gibbon advised the new owner was very approachable but the matter had not been handled properly and spates of vandalism on his land has given the new owner a reason to close the gate. During the previous owners time the Footpath had been closed which could prevent the track from being a Footpath.

Mr Hume – Did the new owner not know it was a well walked path? Cllr Fox advised when he owned the land the footpath was abused and he had closed it on many occasions.

Cllr Balbirnie advised it was simply a private arrangement.

Cllr Gibbon mentioned that he had suggested the path be drawn alongside the Allotment site. Many people along Plough Road objected to this.

Cllr Fox advised that due to one persons actions the path has been closed to many others.

Mr Hume – Questioned the cause of the legal mistake regarding the Allotments? Cllr Hills was not prepared to comment.

A member of public asked who the custodian of the land was between the death of Mr Mitchell and the sale of the land. After a brief pause Cllr Herbert said he believed that Cllr Fox was the custodian of the land during that time posing the question to Cllr Fox. Cllr Fox advised that was he but he was not prepared to comment on the matter at that time in a public meeting.

The next Meeting will be held on Thursday 4th November 2010