

Howe Green Community Association

Minutes of the meeting of the Association Committee
held on Wednesday 29 March 2006
at Howe Green Chapel

Chairman	David Pearson
Vice Chairman	Ken Wedon
Minute Secretary	None
Treasurer	Wendy Spooner

Committee Members:

Judy Bynom
Martin Cross
Gabi Everett - absent
Caroline Travis - absent
Vic Morgan - absent
Richard Spooner – absent
Yvonne Bullock
Paul Bullock

1. Apologies for Absence

Vic Morgan.

2. Minutes from the last meeting held in November 2005

Minutes were accepted. Proposed: Ken Wedon. Seconded: Paul Bullock.

3. Matters arising from last meeting

Car boot sales: *Ken has not contacted the CBC, but pledged to do so.*

Paul Kelly will address the community regarding his plans for the future. Paul has said that he has come to an agreement with the planners. However, the enforcement officer for the council, Christine Lyons, has said that she knows nothing of any agreement subsequent to the ruling of last year.

Planning permission has been obtained for changes at Three Oaks. Ken made the point that the changes effectively extended the boundaries of the village and that, if this is permitted, it sets a precedent for other such expansions.

On the bank account, the signatories are incorrect. The chairman and treasurer agreed to visit the bank and sort it out.

4. Parish Council update

The Annual Assembly is on Wed 19th April at 8pm in Village Hall Sandon.

One item on the agenda will be the new proposed development at Sandon. Wickford Developments want to help the village by building some 1500 houses, commercial units and a new primary school on a greenfield site near the new Park and Ride. It is not clear how this will help the Parish nor is it clear where the children are coming from to fill a new primary school. In any case ECC do not want a new Primary School in this area. However, developers are circling like vultures all round our area so we need to watch planning applications very carefully.

Concern has been expressed at the development of the green field site in East Hanningfield Road directly opposite the junction with Butts Green Road. The owner has, without planning permission, moved a mobile home onto the site and has extended the hard standing area. The enforcement officer is investigating and we are now waiting for the planning application required to be

submitted. This will be yet another long drawn out procedure as the likelihood is that the application will be rejected and appeals will follow. I will monitor the situation.

Local people have complained about the number of accident occurring and the lack of signing in the vicinity of the roundabout beneath the A12 flyover at Howe Green. Ian has been chasing this matter up with ECC Highways since Feb but have not even had a reply to my letters. We will continue to press for a site visit. (The committee agreed that this was a problem.)

5. Village Design Statement

We had a visit from a representative of the Rural Community Council of Essex who suggested that we were doing things in the wrong sequence. Ken suggested that Derek Stebbing look at the current questionnaire and perhaps visit us to advise how we should proceed.

6. AGM Arrangements

Ken agreed to contact Derek Stebbing with a view to giving us a talk on the importance of the Village Design Statement. An AGM notice will be issued as soon as details are finalised.

7. Environment

13 Chalklands planning application - this application was rejected by the council.

The meeting discussed the pipe works to be carried out by Essex and Suffolk Water.

In a letter, Mrs J Sewell has expressed concern about the danger for pedestrians and cyclists crossing the Colchester-bound sliproad of the A12. *Ken agreed to write to the council to ask for pedestrian-controlled lights at the crossing.*

Bus shelter vandalism. The bus shelter has still not been repaired. *The chairman agreed to chase Sandon BC stating that we would do it ourselves if it was not done within two weeks.*

Phone box vandalism – again. It was agreed that it was desirable that to have a vandal-proof phone box there. *Ken agreed to contact BT.*

Destroyed chicane trees. *The chairman agreed to contact Ian Wright with a view to the HGCA providing a replacement tree.*

Car parking at the bottom of Gingerbread Hill. It was considered that the Park and Ride car park should alleviate this problem – probably caused by people meeting there and leaving one car to go off in another.

Concern was raised that the Park and Ride car park may be locked after 7 pm. This will discourage anyone from using it if they cannot guarantee to return by 7 pm.

The petrol station on the corner of Molrams Lane is to be replaced by a shop.

8. Social Events

Sandon Village Fete – Sunday 25th June. Under pressure, Wendy agreed to organise a Howe Green stall at the fete. Yvonne volunteered to help as did the chairman and vice-chairman.

Summer Garden Party. Vic has expressed a desire to step down from organising the event this year. There were no volunteers to take it on. It was agreed that it was desirable to repeat the event so *the chairman agreed to approach Vic again.* Venue was discussed. It was suggested that a note *be put in the newsletter* asking for venue suggestions.

The Annual Dinner was a success, with 20 or so attending. The event realised a profit of £99.

9. Treasurer's Report

Current account:	£1788.65
Deposit account:	<u>£1274.11</u>
Total	£2062.76

10. Any other business

The members present agreed that they were available for re-election to the committee.

Ken raised the matter of a planning application 06/00531/FUL/CB to rebuild the nursing home on East Hanningfield Road. The date for objections 11 April 2006 is before the next meeting. It was agreed that members would look at the plans on the net and let the chairman know if they had objections.

Next meeting: AGM Monday 24th April 2006.

Next committee meeting: 15 May 2006