

£50 per annum or a one-off disconnection charge of around £300. The PC voted to continue with the adoption of the phone-box on Bridge Street.

5.5 Affordable Housing – with regard to the minutes of the PC meeting on 8th September 2008, item 4.5, which referred to the passing over of the Affordable Homes File by the previous Clerk, Acting Chair Byatt stated that there had been no intention to imply that the Affordable Homes project had been held up by not having this file. Tracey Harrison of Bedford Pilgrims Housing Association (BPHA) had advised that BPHA had engaged a Planning Consultant to help get the Church Corner scheme through planning. BPHA had also been approached by Mr John Cooper, owner of the Pickering Farm site, who wished to explore the possibility of an affordable housing development on that site. BPHA would meet with Mr Cooper to discuss this further. The Church Corner site is unlikely to be granted planning permission if another suitable site is available. The Pickering Farm option is likely to propose some market-housing. It was agreed that the PC would continue to explore all options.

6.0 Design statement – a presentation about Design Statements was made by David Grech and Claire Sime. The advantages and limitations of Design Statements were set out and the process for its production was outlined. It was argued that a succinct document which explained the village history and development, landscape and setting, materials etc would be the most appropriate for Whaddon. It would be possible to ask SCDC planning department to make the Design Statement a material consideration in the planning process. The Design Statement would inform development, extensions and boundary treatments (walls, hedges etc.). It is feasible for a Whaddon Design statement to be produced by Autumn 2009. Questions and discussion followed. Some Councillors were concerned that the role of the Design Statement in the planning process was less significant than had been anticipated when it was originally included within the Parish Plan. Acting Chair Byatt thanked the speakers and asked for the Design Statement to be an agenda item at the next PC meeting. David Grech and Claire Sime confirmed that they would be prepared to lead the project should it go ahead.

7.0 New Correspondence

- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils (CPALC) – constitution, financial accounts and invitation to AGM (06/12/08).
- Rural Housing Trust – invitation to an open house on 14/11/08 to see a new scheme of Affordable Housing.
- SCDC Recycling Officer – offer of free wood-chippings from Acacia and Eastern Tree Surgery for footpaths etc.
- National Association of Local Councils (NALC) – 2008/09 pay scales. The Councillors agreed to award the Clerk a cost of living increase (to £8.44 per hour) back-dated to 01/04/08.
- SCDC – request for comments on plans for development sites for 1500 new houses. Deadline 12/12/08.
- CPALC – invitation to South Cambridgeshire Association of Parish and Town Councils meeting on 19/11/08.
- Communities and Local Government – request for comments on proposed model code of conduct for local authority members and employees. Deadline 24/12/08.

8.0 Finance

Cheques already signed

Cheque no. 100607 for £85.00 to SCDC for planning application fee for Village Hall.

Cheque no. 100608 for £82.50 to SCDC for balance of planning application for Village Hall.

Cheques approved today (10th November 2008)

Cheque No. 100609, for £1163.25 to Sharman Knowles Partnership for architect services in connection with the Village Hall.

Cheque No. 100610, for £592.56 to Mrs G van Poortvliet for clerks wages.

Receipt

8th September 2008, £121.41, interest on Barclays Business Rate Tracker Account from 2nd June to 7th September 2008.

- 9.0 Village Hall Matters** - Councillor Strudwick provided an update. The next meeting of the Village Hall Committee is due to take place on 12th November. A donation towards the Village Hall refurbishment project had been received from the collection made at Ted Webb's funeral. Mrs Jean Webb and the VH Committee members would be asked for ideas on how to spend this money.

Councillor Ginger confirmed that the plans for the Village Hall extension had been submitted. A meeting with the architect and quantity surveyor had been scheduled for 18th November.

Councillor Burchett would help the Clerk to put together a specification for the recreation ground grass-cutting.

- 10.0 Whaddon Playground Project Update** - Councillor Burchett reported that the Playground Project is in discussions with Cambridgeshire Play Pathfinder Programme (CPPP) about a potential grant of £40,000. Should this grant be awarded the total funds for the Project will be £65,000, enabling a range of play-equipment to be purchased. One of the conditions for the CPPP grant is that timber play-equipment be used. Three suppliers will be asked to provide quotes. The PC will also need to sign a Deed of Dedication and provide a letter confirming that they will meet the inspection, maintenance and insurance requirements for the new equipment. Concern was expressed that the increased budget would require increased on-going expenditure on maintenance and insurance. It was suggested that the PC and Playground Project needed to agree a suitable way forward. The design-proposal for the playground will be available in the Village Hall on 29th November at 2pm.

- 11.0 Comments from the Public** - A member of the public asked why the bus-shelter had been installed so high off the ground and why Whaddon was being asked to contribute towards the cost of the proposed bus-service. The Clerk was asked to contact the supplier of the bus-shelter. Councillor Ginger explained that due to funding cuts it would be necessary to demonstrate the need for a new bus-service. Three villages had been asked to contribute to the costs of the proposed extension to the bus-route. A member of the public asked that the deadline for the SCDC playground grant be double-checked to ensure it was not missed.

12.0 Any Other Business

Councillor Ginger commented that a parishioner had contacted him using his personal email address. The preferred method for contacting councillors should be via telephone or the Clerk's email. It was agreed that a statement be put in the village newsletter and on the website. Barrington Cement Factory was closing down.

Councillor Peyton provided an update from Neighbourhood Watch. On 9th November two properties in Dyers Green, backing onto the bridleway, had been targeted for shed-burglaries. Residents were reminded to lock their property and provide adequate lighting.

Councillor Strudwick asked if it was possible for the PC minutes to be circulated earlier. The Clerk agreed to do this.

Acting Chair Byatt reported that there had been many incidents of post being wrongly delivered in the village. Councillor Peyton had already contacted Royston Post Office and been informed that this was being dealt with. It was decided to monitor the situation to see if it improved. A lorry had turned at the top of Bridge Street and had carved-up the verges. The Clerk was asked to put the election of a Chair on the agenda for the next PC meeting.

There being no other business the meeting was now closed at 9.30 p.m.

The date of the next meeting will be Monday 12th January 2009 at 7.30 p.m.