

STOCK PARISH COUNCIL
Clerk – Lorraine Green
Stock Village Hall, Common Road, Stock, Essex, CM4 0QW.
Tel. No. 07757 114952
Website: www.stock.org.uk/council

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 15TH DECEMBER 2008
 AT STOCK VILLAGE HALL, COMMON ROAD, STOCK AT 7.30PM.**

Present: Cllrs. Millernas, Dixon, Finch, Woodward, Phillips, Rilstone, Otter and Hawkes
In The Chair: Cllr. Johnson
Minute Secretary: Lorraine Green
Also Present: 6 Members of the Public and Chelmsford Borough Cllr. Ian Grundy

		ACTION
2082.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. No apologies.	
2083.	MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17TH NOVEMBER 2008. The Minutes of the Meeting, having been previously circulated, were then duly signed as a true record of events. All agreed.	
2084.	DECLARING ANY PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS. Cllrs. Otter, Phillips and Dixon declared an interest in Item 22 on the Agenda – Village Design Statement. Cllrs. Phillips and Rilstone declared an interest in Item 11 on the Agenda – Stock Library and Stock Heritage Society. Cllr. Finch declared that he had once worked for Sir John Carter who had a planning application on the Agenda.	
2085.	CASUAL VACANCY FOLLOWING RESIGNATION OF CLLR. ROGER WATLING AND CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR. Mr Mayfield at Chelmsford Borough Council had advised that there had not been a request for an Election so therefore the Parish Council could co-opt. The Clerk had advertised the vacancy and had received one application from Jonathan Hawkes. It was therefore agreed that Jonathan Hawkes would be co-opted on to the Parish Council and the relevant forms were signed. The Chairman welcomed Jonathan Hawkes onto the Parish Council.	CLERK
2086.	POLICE MATTERS. PCSO Kay Fleming sent her apologies and submitted the following report:- There has been a trailer stolen from Crondon Park and a digger stolen from Stock Primary School in the last two weeks. So can we make all farmers aware of this problem. The trailer was stolen between 06:00 and 06:30 in the morning. Can everyone keep their eyes open for anything suspicious. Also in Ramsden & Downham we have had a lot of Christmas decorations go missing last weekend so can the Parish Council keep an eye out for this as well. As for the dates of the next beat surgery's these are as follows: All Saturdays - 3 Jan, 7 Feb, 7 March, 4 April, 2 May, 6 June, 4 July, 1 Aug, 5 Sept, 3 Oct, 7 Nov & 5 Dec. Cllr. Millernas had reported to the Clerk that the bench in Swan Lane had been damaged when the digger had been stolen from the school. Clerk had reported incident to the Police and insurance company. Cllr. Grundy advised that the builders had taken the bits away presumably to repair the bench. Cllr. Millernas to speak the builders to find out the exact situation before the Clerk makes an insurance claim.	JM

	<p>PCSO Fleming had been made aware of the current parking problems outside The Four Vintners and bordering onto the B1007. The Chairman advised that PCSO Fleming had spoken to the car owners and advised them that the cars were parked illegally and they should endeavour to find alternative parking. She would not at present take action.</p>	
<p>2087.</p>	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.</p> <p>Tree Warden Scheme – Nothing to report.</p> <p>Footpath Map for Stock – The Clerk advised that a P3 grant cheque had been received for £899.82 towards the production of the maps. Item now to be removed from the Agenda.</p> <p>Parish Paths Partnership (P3) – Nothing to report.</p> <p>Downham Road Retexturing – Nothing to report.</p> <p>Water Running Out of Ditch at Junction of Mill Road/Downham Road – Phil Hope had advised the Clerk that now that the hedge has been cut back, investigation work has been ordered in the form of trial holes to determine if an outfall pipe exists at this location.</p> <p>Listing of War Memorial – Nothing further to report.</p> <p>Damaged Honeypot Lane Street Name Plate – Phil Hope had advised the Clerk that this has been reported to Chelmsford Borough Council who have informed him that the work has been ordered and that they are just waiting for the nameplate to arrive.</p> <p>Car Park on the Common and Essex County Council’s Community Initiatives Fund – The Clerk advised that a grant of £1,000.00 had been awarded to the Parish Council. Cllr. Woodward dealing with matter. Cllr. Woodward advised that the contractor hopes to start work at the end of January. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Stock Bowls Club, Stock Cricket Club and the Montessori asking for donations towards the car park renovation. Cllr. Woodward suggested laying sleepers around the edge of the car park to the grass to prevent people parking on the common. The Parish Council did not agree to the proposal as they felt it was unnecessary just for one month.</p> <p>Speed Indicator Signs – Highways had advised the Clerk that the VAS sign with two posts would be installed by the year-end. Mrs Lockwood of Highways had sent Risk Assessment Forms detailing the positioning of the poles. The Chairman had signed and returned these to Highways. The sign face will be rotated between the two posts every six months; this sign face is able to be moved between 4 posts per year spending three months at each location. Highways would therefore like the Parish Council to recommend two further sites to install the other two posts. The Chairman advised that she had had a long conversation with Mrs Lockwood regarding the positioning of the post at the North end of the village. Mrs Lockwood advised that the trees are in a position that would take the sun from the solar power. The Chairman felt that the post should be slightly North of the bus stop. Mrs Lockwood had agreed to look at the matter further. It was agreed that the positioning of the other poles would be discussed at the next meeting.</p> <p>Posts Outside Compass Green – Graham Livings of Highways had advised the Clerk that kerbing works and installation of bollards to replicate the situation at The Paddocks would be completed. It is likely that the bollards installed will be similar to the ones installed in Swan Lane rather than the ones outside The Paddocks as discussed with Cllr. Millernas. This work will be carried out by the end of the financial year.</p> <p>Maintenance Works to area in the vicinity of Furze Lane junction at the southern end of the Lane – Nothing further to report.</p> <p>Re-Marking Zebra Crossing in High Street – Phil Hope had advised the Clerk that it is planned to re-mark all of the road markings right the way through the village this financial year, ending 31st March 09.</p> <p>Broken Strut Under the Seat by the School - Bob Hale dealing with matter.</p> <p>Car Parking at The Village Hall – The Parish Council were still awaiting a reply to their letter. The Chairman advised that she had heard from Doug Taffs who would like to arrange a meeting after Christmas with three of his Committee and three of the Parish Councillors.</p>	<p>CLERK</p> <p>PW</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>SJ</p>

<p>Water outside 122-124 Mill Road – Phil Hope had advised the Clerk that this is on the list for improvement, however there are a significant number of jobs on Highways’ list which they are working through in order of priority.</p> <p>State of Back Lane and Brookmans Road and non-existent turf – Nothing further to report.</p> <p>Overgrown foliage near the Zebra Crossing – Nothing to report.</p> <p>Ingatestone Road junction with Honeypot Lane and Timber Bollard replacement outside Pembroke House, Ingatestone Road – Phil Hope had advised the Clerk that the white lining at this location is due to be carried out imminently.</p> <p>Essex Environmental Trust Community Enterprise Challenge Competition - Cllr. Woodward dealing with matter.</p> <p>Dredging of the Pond - Mr Williams of Blackwater Landscapes had written to the Clerk quoting a one off price of £132.00 for a complete clear out of the village pond. Mr Williams intends to remove all the vegetation from within the pond leaving only very small clumps of bulrushes, sedges, grasses and irises. The Willow tree on the island will also be cut back and the grass strimmed. With regard to the dredging of the pond, Mr Williams has made many enquiries but has hit a number of obstacles. Every company except one will not take the sludge away and this one company have submitted a price of £1,600.00 which Mr Williams feels is excessive. Mr Williams could dredge the pond himself and would hire a digger from a hire shop. His is insured on his public liability insurance. Mr Williams has spoken to a couple of local farmers who are willing to take the sludge away. The only problem is getting the sludge from the pond to the farm. Mr Williams therefore asked whether the Parish Council had any suggestions. Cllr. Woodward suggested that Mr Williams contacts Des Healy from Greenacre Farm. Clerk to advise Mr Williams.</p> <p>Councillor Representative to the ACDPC – Nothing further to report.</p> <p>Overgrown foliage outside the first house in Cambridge Close – Nothing further to report.</p> <p>Refurbishment of bench in Back Lane and jet washing all the other benches in the village – Bob Hale dealing with matter.</p> <p>Ponding in Common Road – Phil Hope advised the Clerk that he has met with Highways’ contractor, Balfour Beatty, who have requested a road closure to carry out the works. The road closure is planned for early February 2009 for which a drawing is being produced and Mr Hope will forward this to the Clerk along with further details in the near future. (This is the soonest Highways can arrange it for given their existing Contractor’s programme and formal Road Closure procedures).</p> <p>Advisory Signs for Smallgains Lane – A parishioner advised that a speed loop had been installed in Marigold Lane and when she questioned the matter and advised it should be in Smallgains Lane was told by the person putting in the loop that it was at the Parish Council’s request. The Parish Council confirmed that they had not requested this and only requested a Speed Loop is installed in Smallgains Lane. Clerk to contact Highways.</p> <p>Planting of Leylandii hedging in Fosters Close – Nothing further to report.</p> <p>Overgrown Foliage opposite the Cock Inn Public House – The Clerk read out a letter received from Johanna Lee of 1 Mill Road. Mrs Lee has put a planning application together for the work and has spoken at length with Chris Fox of Highways and Lynn Cameron, Tree Officer at Chelmsford Borough Council. They have both concluded that the amount of the tree overhanging the highway is not causing an obstruction and as such does not need to be cut back at this time. Mrs Lee has received quotations of £300.00 to remove the overhanging branches from her and her neighbour’s garden. However, if any work is to be undertaken on the road side of the tree, the cost increases significantly to around £1,200.00. Mrs Lee has therefore applied for a 25% crown reduction. Mrs Lee felt that the strategy of allowing very large trucks through the village should be reviewed as The Stock Road is not large enough through the centre of the village to accommodate such large vehicles. Mrs Lee’s house was struck this week by a lorry – this is entirely because large vehicles are forcing their way through the pinch point at the junction with Mill Road.</p>	<p>CLERK</p> <p>CLERK</p>
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	<p>The Clerk read out the correspondence she had received from Chris Fox in Highways. Mr Fox had visited the site again and advised that lorry drivers are moving out just after the pedestrian crossing. This manoeuvre seemed to be required not to avoid the tree but to negotiate the very awkward part of the carriageway as it runs past beside Mrs Lee's property and the footway opposite. The carriageway at this point is only 5 metres wide and the width of these vehicles take up two thirds of the road in the first place and by making this manoeuvre as to take up the complete width of the carriageway. To try and help prevent any further strikes, bollards, probably two, will be installed along the approach to the brick section of Mrs Lee's property in the near future. This brings Mr Fox onto a similar issue that has been raised by a member of the public regarding vehicles driving along the footway near the junction of High Street and Common Road to access the property Little Lattices. This is also a potentially dangerous action and to prevent this from happening in the future a bollard will be installed. On the type of bollards to be installed, as the area falls within the Conservation Area the matter will be discussed with Chelmsford Borough Council along with input from the Parish as to the most appropriate type suitable for the location and resilient enough to withstand any potential strikes.</p> <p>Lynn Cameron Tree Officer at Chelmsford Borough Council had advised that as a Council they cannot make anyone pay for the work whether it is a protected tree or not. They can, under the Miscellaneous Provisions Act, require an owner to carry out works to a tree if the tree is considered a danger. If the owner fails to do the work, the Council can arrange to have the work undertaken and a land registry charge placed on the property. However, in this case the tree is not considered to be in a dangerous condition. In addition the limbs overhanging the highway are small which would snap easily if hit by a high sided vehicle.</p> <p>Voluntary First Registration of Parish Council Land – Land Registration Act 2002 – Cllr. Dixon advised that the cost involved is not too significant – approximately £50.00 per piece of land. The problem is going to be proving ownership of land. The Chairman suggested Cllr. Dixon contact Lord Petre.</p> <p>Play Activity Weekends – Clerk awaiting confirmation of date from Chelmsford Borough Council.</p> <p>Shingle down outside Compass Green – Cllr. Woodward had reported the matter to Highways who had subsequently spoken to Mr Marrett. Mr Marrett agreed to reduce the level of the shingle. The Chairman had subsequently spoken to Mr Marrett regarding the matter.</p> <p>Survey of Village – Cllr. Woodward had spoken to PCSO Fleming and she had requested that all cars parked on pavements are reported to her. Cllr. Woodward reported that cars are parked by the bus stop on the main road. The pavement by the Catholic Church is narrow and the greensward and verges in Mill Road are being churned up by lorries. The Chairman said she hoped the builders reinstate after they finish building.</p> <p>Holes outside the house called The Paddocks which is next to The Hoop -. The Clerk had reported the matter to Phil Hope in Highways. Mr Hope has requested the Inspections Team to carry out a safety inspection at this location with a view to carrying out remedial works to any defects meeting the criteria.</p> <p>Turn Right Sign leaning in the bushes as you go towards The Ship Public House from Stock, on the left near Foxborough Chase - There is a Turn Right Sign leaning in the bushes. The Clerk had reported the matter to Highways and advised that they had sprayed the sign with orange paint.</p>	<p>JD</p> <p>CLERK</p> <p>PW</p>
<p>2088.</p>	<p>GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE.</p> <p>The following letters were read out:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Janet Alderman, Civic Services Manager, at Chelmsford Borough Council inviting two Parish Councillors to the Community Evening on the 20th January 2009. It was agreed that Cllrs. Dixon and Hawkes would attend. Clerk to inform Mrs Alderman. b) Steve Collins of Chelmsford Borough Council advising of the dates the manned vehicle would be visiting Stock for the Spring. The dates were 21st February and 21st March between 11.15am and 12.15pm in All Saints Church Car Park. Clerk to arrange advertising and notifying Stock Press and Roger Watling for the website. Cllr. Hawkes also suggested advertising in the Post Office. Clerk to arrange. 	<p>CLERK</p> <p>CLERK</p>

	<p>c) John L'Estrange, the Hon. Treasurer, of Our Lady and St. Joseph R.C. Church thanking the Parish Council for the grant.</p> <p>d) Tim Davis of Stock Press thanking the Parish Council for the grant.</p> <p>e) Essex Air Ambulance thanking the Parish Council for the grant.</p>	
2089.	<p>TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE FUTURE SPORTSGROUND FOR STOCK VILLAGE.</p> <p>Cllr. Grundy had attended a meeting with Mr Fox and Mr Fox of Crondon Park Golf Club and representatives of Stock United F.C to look at the proposed piece of land. Mr Fox sounded enthusiastic and wants to put something back into the village. Cllr. Grundy had sent a map to Chelmsford Borough Council and a meeting will be held on site in the New Year. Stock United F.C. are very enthusiastic and are speaking to the Essex F.A. and Cllr. Grundy is liaising with Chelmsford Borough Council.</p>	IG
2090.	<p>REPORT BY CHELMSFORD BOROUGH COUNCILLOR IAN GRUNDY.</p> <p>Cllr. Grundy reported that Chelmsford Borough Council had a major deficit for 2009/10 and 2010/11, particularly 2010/11 due to the dramatic cut in interest rates. Budgets and money were the major talking point at the Borough at present. Chelmsford Borough Council are debt free as they have built up resources and have been prudent for about 30 years. Some investment plans will expire next year. Recycling figures have dropped. Equal pay is due to go through. Cllr. Grundy reported that it looks like Essex County Council will be taking over the concessionary fares from April. Chelmsford Borough Council are to reduce 100 positions by making early retirements, voluntary redundancies and not filling vacancies. All sorts of savings are being proposed, i.e. meetings during the day instead of evening etc. Cllr. Grundy advised that the grant from the Government is a fixed three year deal and that Council Tax is fixed. Cllr. Grundy advised that removing the Parish Revenue Support Grant had created quite a storm. It would appear that not all residents are receiving a copy of Borough Life and Cllr. Grundy said he would look into the matter. Cllr. Grundy confirmed that Chelmsford Borough Council has the deregulation on taxis but the taxi drivers want it regulated to protect their income.</p>	
2091.	<p>STOCK LIBRARY AND STOCK HERITAGE SOCIETY.</p> <p>Cllr. Phillips advised that the Society are still trying to go ahead with getting the library as a Heritage Society but somebody else is also interested in the premises.</p>	
2092.	<p>STOCK PRESS ARTICLES.</p> <p>Cllr. Millernas to submit next article by 10th January.</p>	
2093.	<p>TO DISCUSS COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION COMMUNITIES IN CONTROL: REAL PEOPLE, REAL POWER: CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES.</p> <p>The Parish Council had no comments to make on the document. Clerk to advise.</p>	CLERK
2094.	<p>PARISH CHARTER CONSULTATION.</p> <p>A consultation draft of the Parish Charter proposed between Chelmsford Borough Council and the Parish and Town Councils in the borough had been received. Comments to be in by Friday 6th February. The Clerk had E-mailed the document to all Councillors. The Clerk advised that Cllr. Otter was on the Steering Group. Cllr. Otter advised that the Steering Group had gone through the first draft of the Parish Charter and made their comments. A second version has now been drafted and circulated to all Parish Councils for consultation. Once this consultation has ended another meeting will be held with the Steering Group, then another consultation will be held and then the document will go to Cabinet for approval. Cllr. Otter stated that this is an important document as it details how the Parish Council works with Chelmsford Borough Council. It was agreed that the Clerk would E-mail the document to all Councillors again. The Chairman stated that if the Charter improves the working relationship with Chelmsford Borough Council then it is a good thing. It was agreed that comments should be submitted to Cllr. Otter before the next meeting in order that she could produce a response.</p>	ALL
2095.	<p>FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT.</p> <p>Gerrard Tracey of Information Commissioner's Office had written to the Clerk advising that all existing Freedom of Information Act Publication Schemes expire on 31st December 2008. The Information Commissioner's Office has produced a new model publication scheme that all public sector organisations must adopt from 1st January 2009. The model scheme must be adopted without modification and such adoption requires no further approval. Once adopted the scheme will be valid until further notice.</p>	ALL/CLERK

	<p>A schedule and charges of information available from the Parish Council under the model publication scheme also has to be produced and the Clerk had prepared a draft document. The Clerk had E-mailed the document to all Councillors. It was agreed that the Parish Council would adopt the Scheme from the 1st January and the Clerk would advertise as required under the Act. It was agreed that the cost of producing documents would be free until 31st March 2009 and then a charging structure would come into effect. The details would be finalised at the next meeting. Cllr. Phillips offered to deal with any requests for information.</p>	
<p>2096.</p>	<p>PROPOSED POLICY FOR RETENTION AND DISPOSAL OF DOCUMENTS.</p> <p>The Clerk advised that under the Freedom of Information Act the Parish Council should have a policy for retention and disposal of documents. The Clerk had therefore prepared a document for discussion. The Clerk had E-mailed the document to all Councillors. After discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk should contact the EALC to establish what the statutory items were and time scales involved. Once this information was obtained the Clerk agreed to circulate to all Councillors in order that the matter could be discussed further at the next meeting and the policy adopted.</p>	<p>ALL/CLERK</p>
<p>2097.</p>	<p>PLANNING MATTERS.</p> <p>In Democratic Time a parishioner, Mr Day, discussed the application that he had submitted for Landry, Whites Hill. Cllr. Otter declared an interest and left the room prior to his discussion.</p> <p><u>Applications</u></p> <p>Application No. 08/01901/FUL. Two storey side and rear extension. Location: 6 The Square, Stock. Applicant: Mrs S. Makyns. The Parish Council commented that this fails to compliment or enhance the terrace of cottages in the Conservation Area. The design of the car port is completely out of character. The roof line is not appropriate.</p> <p>Application No. 08/01813/FUL. Conversion of outbuilding/stables to residential annexe. Removal of porch and construction of link. Location: Cobblers, Mill Road, Stock. Applicant: Sir John Carter. The Parish Council made the following comments:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This is a change of use for a property in the Green Belt. 2. Question 6 on access is not answered. 3. The Parish Council would not expect the proposed dwelling to have its own residential curtilage if it is intended as an ancillary residence. <p><u>Chelmsford Borough Council Planning Decisions</u></p> <p>Application No. 08/01587/FUL. Erection of a garden shed/summerhouse. Location: 7 Hereward Mount, Stock. Applicant: Mr Graeme Arkell. Approved.</p> <p>Application No. 08/01783/FUL. Replacement dwelling. Location: Brook Lodge Farm, Stock Road, Stock. Applicant: Mr Tahir Sharif. Approved.</p> <p>Application No. 08/01665/FUL. Part single, part two storey rear and side extension. Location: Plantation Cottage West, Mill Road, Stock. Applicant: Mr & Mrs R Nunn. Refused.</p> <p>Application No. 08/01760/FUL. Amendment to previously approved application number 03/01346/FUL to add a tiled, mock pitched roof over existing flat roofed garage. Location: Gardenfields House, Downham Road, Stock. Applicant: Mr Gary Hunter. Approved.</p>	<p>CLERK</p> <p>CLERK</p>

	<p>Application No. 08/01759/FUL. Retention of outside pool and erection of outbuilding which will house a double garage, gym and games room as well as a small kitchen and two shower and toilets for the outside pool. Location: Gardenfields House, Downham Road, Stock. Applicant: Mr Gary Hunter. Approved.</p> <p>Application No. 08/01707/FUL. Erection of 3 no. buildings for forestry purposes in conjunction with forestry at 40 acre plantation. Location: Forty Acre Plantation, Goatsmoor Lane, Stock Applicant: Mr R Holmwood. Approved.</p> <p><u>Applications for Works to be carried out on trees in Conservation Area and trees that have Tree Preservation Orders.</u></p> <p>Application No. 08/05611/CAT. Oak tree - rear boundary 18 The Square, overhanging 1 Mill Road and High Street - crown reduction by 25% (3m) maximum, cutting to suitable growing points (suitable growing points are side branches which are at least one third the diameter of the originating branch). Location: 18 The Square, Stock. Applicant: Mrs Lee. The Parish Council had no comments to make.</p> <p><u>Planning Appeals and Decisions.</u></p> <p>Appeal by Mr & Mrs P. Johnson, Plantation End, Furze Lane, Appeal Reference No. APP/W1525/A/08/2071593, Application No 07/1659/FUL. The Planning Inspectorate had allowed the appeal subject to the condition that the dwelling shall not be further enlarged or extended.</p> <p><u>Tree Preservation Orders.</u></p> <p>Nothing to report.</p> <p><u>Planning Correspondence</u></p> <p>The Clerk had received a letter from Derek Stebbing, Planning Policy Manager, at Chelmsford Borough Council advising of the North Chelmsford Area Action Plan – Preferred Options Development Plan Document (NCAAP) that was out for consultation. The consultation period runs from 11th December 2008 until 4.45pm on 16th February 2009. It was agreed that the documents would be circulated to Councillors for comment at the next meeting on the 26th January 2009.</p> <p>Mrs Jan Hurwood of Chelmsford Borough Council had sent an explanation regarding the Brock Farm costs decision. The Planning Inspectorate had advised that a partial award for costs against Chelmsford Borough Council on the grounds of unreasonable behaviour resulting in unnecessary or wasted expense, is justified in the particular circumstances.</p> <p><u>Planning Meetings</u></p> <p>After discussion, it was agreed that Planning Meetings would continue for a further six months and then the situation would be reviewed again. Clerk to book hall.</p> <p><u>Urgent Planning Matters Not On This Agenda</u></p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>	<p>CLERK</p> <p>ALL/CLERK</p>
<p>2098.</p>	<p>FINANCE.</p> <p>Interest amounting to £199.41 had been received.</p> <p>Audit of Accounts for 2007/08.</p> <p>Nothing further to report.</p>	

	<p>Cheques to be Signed - The following cheques were approved for payment and signed:</p> <p>101410 £1,134.90 Mrs L.J. Green Salary 01.12.08 – 31.12.08 101411 £529.65 Inland Revenue Only PAYE and N.I. 101412 £ 94.57 Mrs L.J. Green Expenses</p> <p>Transfer of Funds – No transfers were carried out.</p> <p>Precept and Chelmsford Borough Council’s Intention to Withdraw Parish Revenue Grant - The Clerk advised that Chelmsford Borough Council had informed the Parish Council without prior notification that they were withdrawing the Parish Revenue Grant which is included in the Precept payment. The Clerk and Chairman had attended a meeting with the ACDPC who had written a letter to Roy Whitehead at Chelmsford Borough Council on behalf of all Parish Councils regarding the matter. A meeting had been held at Chelmsford Borough Council on the 10th December when the matter was discussed further. Cllr. Dixon stated that the Parish Council have increased their Precept due to actions to be taken next year and a further element of increase to the parishioner was resulting from the removal of the Parish Revenue Support Grant. Cllr. Otter said that she would like to know the exact figures for Stock. Clerk to contact Mr Doubtfire at CBC and notify Councillors.</p>	CLERK
2099.	<p>VILLAGE HALL.</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>	
2100.	<p>VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT – GRASS CUTTING, MAINTENANCE, OPEN SPACES, FOOTPATHS, BUS SHELTERS AND PLAY AREA.</p> <p>It had been reported to the Clerk that there is a wooden cover over the drain at the junction of Swan Lane and the High Street. It would appear that the original has disappeared. Clerk had reported to Highways. It was reported that the area had been marked so the matter was being dealt with.</p> <p>Cllr. Millernas had reported to the Clerk that the streetlight on the corner of Dakyns Drive and Back Lane is not working. The Clerk had reported the matter to Phil Hope in Highways who was arranging for the Street Lighting Team to carry out an inspection. Cllr. Millernas advised that the work had been completed.</p> <p>A parishioner complained that it was increasingly difficult to drive through the village due to parked cars. People are also parking in Mill Road which is a problem as well. The parishioner advised that to get out of Bakers Field is a real problem. The Chairman advised that the Parish Council are monitoring the parking situation as they believe people are parking and car sharing to work. The Chairman had spoken to the Police who have struck a group of people that have been parking in this way. The Chairman advised that a meeting will be held shortly with the Village Hall Management Committee to discuss the use of the Village Hall for car parking.</p>	
2101.	<p>TRAFFIC, ROAD SIGNS AND PASSENGER TRANSPORT.</p> <p>Cllr. Otter had E-mailed all Councillors regarding the Essex Schools and College Strategy 2007-21 consultation. It was agreed that the item would be put on the next Agenda for discussion.</p> <p>Cllr. Otter had received two letters from Essex County Council. One was regarding bus tenders which does not affect Stock and the other regarding altered First Buses to Halsted, Witham and Braintree which again does not affect Stock.</p> <p>Cllr. Otter had attended a meeting organised by Essex County Council regarding crime on buses. A pledge has been made to make Essex the safest place to live in five years. Crime, fear of crime etc was discussed. Cllr. Otter said that it had been quite an interesting meeting.</p> <p>Cllr. Otter had attended a Passenger Transport Meeting. Highways had given a briefing and planning and sustainable transport had been discussed. Cllr. Otter advised that the telematics are still not working and a new Officer is now responsible for it. Cllr. Otter reported that there is only one toilet currently in the waiting room at Chelmsford Bus Station and a disabled toilet is now going to be installed. Cllr. Otter advised that the 100 bus service during the rush hour in the evening is worse service than during the day. It was reported that there is no bus service into the Leisure Centre at Basildon. Concessionary fares are to start at 9.00am.</p>	ALL

	Cllr. Grundy advised that he had a constructive meeting with Cllr. Hume at Essex County Council Highways. Cllr. Grundy had given him photographs and was awaiting a reply. Cllr. Hume is very familiar with the B1007. It was reported that the PCSO had found two cars speeding during a recent speed check.	IG
2102.	STOCK VILLAGE ACTION PLAN/VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT. Nothing to report.	
2103.	RISK ASSESSMENT. Nothing to report.	
2104.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING. The next Meeting of the Parish Council will be the Planning Meeting on Monday 5 th January 2009 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall and the Parish Council meeting is on Monday 26 th January 2008 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.	
2105.	CLOSED MEETING FOR OPENING TENDERS. There were no tenders to discuss.	

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming; the meeting closed at 10.20pm.

Signed (CHAIRMAN).....DATE.....