

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

Present: Cllrs. Millernas, Johnson, Phillips, Hawkes, Woodward, Finch and Otter
In The Chair: Cllr. Dixon
Minute Secretary: Lorraine Green
Also Present: 2 Members of the Public

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	situated directly to the front of No. 16 within Highway land. It was reported that the posts had already been installed and complaints had been received. Clerk to write to Louise Lockwood advising her of this information and send her a copy of the planning refusal. Clerk to send copy of letter to Enforcement Officer at CBC. Reception in Mayor's Parlour for Parish Councillors - The reception for Stock will be held on 25th March 2010. Pot Holes - The Clerk had reported the pot holes in Common Road and The Square to Highways. Cllr. Grundy had advised the Clerk that there are potholes appearing all over the place and it is important these are reported. Cllr. Grundy asked that Councillors report any potholes they see to Highways using their website. Cllr. Woodward agreed to carry out a full Stock survey. The Chairman gave the Clerk a list of potholes to be reported and a blocked drain in Whites Hill. Cllr. Woodward reported that the triangle by Mill Road now had no grass but was all mud.	CLERK
2321.	GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE. The following letters were read out:- a) Mrs Elizabeth Foster writing to complain about the refuse, wheelie bins & recycling bins which are still being left out on pavement's throughout Stock village. There is a large refuse bin which has been left on the road outside the flower shop (number 38 High Street) which is on the road into Back Lane and it restricts the space available for cars and is a danger to pedestrians by blocking the walk way. Cllr. Otter stated that PCSO Fleming had said that this was a footway obstruction. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Mrs Foster acknowledging the letter and advising her that the Parish Council were dealing with the matter the best way they could. It was agreed that an article should be put into Stock Press asking parishioners to be vigilant and not to leave out wheelie bins as they were an obstruction to the Highway. It was agreed that the Parish Council would monitor the situation and if it did not improve they would write to the relevant homeowners. b) Mrs West requested that a grit bin is installed in Birch Lane as there are five areas in and around Birch Lane that become particularly hazardous:- (1) Adjacent to the junction with Myln Meadow (2) Faulkner Close - sloped (3) The turning point adjacent to numbers 22-26 Birch Lane (4) The slope at the end of Birch Lane (from 30 to the end of the lane). (5) The entrance to Birch Lane from Common Road Mrs West would suggest a location adjacent to the electrical station on the corner of Myln Meadow as then it would be easily accessible to residents of Myln Meadow, Faulkner Close and Birch Lane and have close proximity to Common Road. A parishioner, Mr Tolaini, endorsed Mrs West's request. The Clerk had contacted Highways who advised that upon assessment of Birch Lane and surrounding roads for a salt bin, she felt that this location does not meet the requirement of being a hazardous location i.e. double bend or severe incline and does not agree to permission being given to a bin at this location. With reference to the Clerk's question about liabilities of spreading salt she referred to the following paragraph below:- For the purposes of liability and insurance the County Council and its agents will take responsibility for the salt bin and its contents after it has been installed. However, should the sponsor contract a third party, or instruct or oblige any employee to use the contents of the bin then they could be held liable in the result of any incident. However should members of the public take it upon themselves to spread some salt/grit as necessary then the County Council will take responsibility for the salt bin and its contents. The Clerk had sent a copy of the reply to Mrs West who had subsequently written to Mr Gregory at ECC advising that she had learnt from a neighbour that there has previously been a Salt/Grit bin located in Birch Lane and that it was removed by the council after residents started to remove salt to treat their own areas of the road. On that basis, presumably the council should have been gritting the area themselves as a Grit bin was provided.	CLERK

	Mrs West requested that representative of the Council visit Birch Lane, Myln Meadow and Faulkner Close the next time that there is snow and ice and they would see that the camber of the road and the various inclines do indeed make it hazardous for both vehicles and pedestrians (there is no pavement along various stretches of these roads). Furthermore, if it was suitable for a grit bin in the past, surely it would be eligible now and therefore it should be the decision of individuals as to whether they wish to run the risk of being sued for gritting the road in the event of an accident. In this litigious society we run the risk of never doing anything to help anyone in case we might be sued. Surely common sense must prevail otherwise the council would not be gritting roads themselves in case they were sued by drivers who had accidents on those roads. The council has also gritted the pavements in Stock High Street - does that make them liable if someone falls as opposed to not liable if they left the pavements in a dangerous untreated condition? Stock Parish Council has advised that they prefer the option of leaving areas untreated (and therefore more dangerous) than running the risk of litigation. As an individual, Mrs West preferred the common sense option. Technically, if she were to be sued, she has legal fees insurance and similarly, the Council has public liability insurance for just this circumstance. To conclude, on the basis that a Salt bin has been provided in the past by the council, please arrange to visit the location where you would indeed find several bends and inclines, and possibly talk to some of the residents, one of whom parked adjacent to the Common rather than trying to get out of Myln Meadow in ice-rink conditions. c) John L'Estrange, the Hon. Treasurer, of Our Lady and St. Joseph R.C. Church thanking the Parish Council for the grant. d) Tim Davis of Stock Press thanking the Parish Council for the grant. e) Essex Air Ambulance thanking the Parish Council for the grant. f) Stock Cares thanking the Parish Council for the grant. g) Karen Barden, Sports Development Officer, at CBC regarding the Parish Sports Programme for Easter and Whitsun Holidays. The Clerk gave the forms to Cllr. Woodward to organise. h) Jackie Lane, NEAT Officer, at CBC regarding the Annual Just Bin It Campaign 2010 – Love Your Environment. It was agreed that the event had been a waste of time and money last year so the Parish Council would not be holding the event this year. Cllr. Johnson stated that nobody had attended. It was agreed that an article would be put into Stock Press advising parishioners that the Parish Council would not be holding Bin It Day but please clear around your property. i) Jackie Apps, Senior Manager, of Victim Support requesting a donation towards their organisation. It was agreed that it was not the Parish Council's policy to support these organisations. j) Darren Smart, Mobile Library Service Co-ordinator advising that the Mobile Library will be visiting Orchard House between 9.20am and 9.50am on 8th & 22nd January, 5th & 19th February, 5th and 19th March, 16th & 30th April, 14th & 28th May and 11th & 25th June. The Clerk had notified Stock Press and Roger Watling for the website. A copy had also been put onto the noticeboard. k) Mr Cansick regarding the water running out of the ditch at the junction of Mill Road/Downham Road. With the recent bad weather the build-up of ice has resulted in heavy rutting and as the visibility at the junction is not great it is dangerous. Also the water running down Downham Road and across to the junction with Great Prestons Lane makes exiting the lane also hazardous especially in view of the speed of traffic in Downham Road. The Clerk had reported the matter to Highways. l) Sarah Brown of Highways advising of a temporary road closure in Goatsmoor Lane between 15th February to 19th February whilst BT renew aerial cables. The road will be closed from the junction with Potash Road in a generally easterly direction for a distance of approximately 525m. The alternative route will be via Potash Road, Stock Road, Mill Road, Whites Hill, Furze Lane, Goatsmoor Lane and vice versa.	PW CLERK
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2322.	PLANNING MATTERS. <u>Applications</u> Application No. 09/01589/FUL. Construction of toy shed and open sided outbuilding. Location: Stock Church of England Primary School, Swan Lane, Stock. Applicant: The Directors of Stock Pre-School. The Parish Council had no comments to make. Application No. 09/01824/FUL. New pitch roof to existing dormer windows with infill between dormers to front elevation. Location: Hawthorns, Downham Road, Stock. Applicant: Mr & Mrs Marsh. The Parish Council commented that they welcomed the improvement to the appearance of the property and in fact the style and construction is in accordance with the draft Village Design Statement. Application No. 09/01822/FUL. New pitch roof to existing dormer windows with infill between dormers to front elevation. Location: Apilgarth, Leather Bottle Hill, Stock. Applicant: Mr & Mrs M. Stevens. The Parish Council commented that they welcomed the improvement to the appearance of the property and in fact the style and construction is in accordance with the draft Village Design Statement. <u>Chelmsford Borough Council Planning Decisions</u> Application No. 09/01641/FUL. Two storey side extension, front & rear dormer windows. Location: Kauri Cottage, Stock Road, Stock. Applicant: McCallum. Refused. Application No. 09/01492/FUL. Retrospective application for change of Use to B1 and B8 uses. Location: Brock Farm, Ingatestone Road, Stock. Applicant: Mr Robert Napp. Approved. Application No. 09/01815/CLOPUD. Construction of electrically powered gate to existing vehicular access. Location: Thrift, Madles Lane, Stock. Applicant: Mr A. Andrew. Approved. A letter had been received from Melanie Corbishley, Planning Officer, writing in connection with regards to the recently refused application for an electronic gate. The applicant has since submitted a Certificate of Lawfulness for a smaller gate and following consultation with the Council's Legal Department, it has been determined that the gate is 'Permitted Development'. The gate has a maximum height of 1.4m compared to the refused scheme which had a maximum height of 1.8m. Application No. 09/01661/FUL. Variation of condition 10 of permission reference 07/00320/FUL to enable conversion of part of garage to Plot A to a study. Location: 132 Mill Road, Stock. Applicant: Mr & Mrs John Arber. Approved. <u>Applications for Works to be carried out on trees in Conservation Area and trees that have Tree Preservation Orders.</u> Application No. 09/05277/TPO. G3 – Oaks x 4 in rear garden – crown clean. Location: 37 Myln Meadow, Stock. Applicant: Mrs Sandra Gardner. TO BE DISCUSSED AT MEETING. Application No. 09/05278/TPO. G3 – Oaks x 4 remove epicormic growth to 3m. Location: 37 Myln Meadow, Stock. Applicant: Mrs Sandra Gardner. TO BE DISCUSSED AT MEETING.	CLERK CLERK CLERK
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	Application No. 09/05248/TPO. T13 & T14 - Oaks x 2 in rear garden of 26 Myln Meadow - crown reduce by 2.5m, cutting to suitable growing points and crown clean. (Suitable growing points are side branches that are at least one third the diameter of the originating branch.) (TPO/2001/117). Location: 26 Myln Meadow, Stock. Applicant: Mr & Mrs Gibson. Approved. Application No. 09/05247/TPO. T12 - Oak on land between 14 Myln Meadow and 20 Myln Meadow - reduce lateral spread over rear garden by 2m, cutting to suitable growing points and crown clean. (Suitable growing points are side branches that are at least one third the diameter of the originating branch.) (TPO/2001/117) Location: 20 Myln Meadow, Stock. Applicant: Mr & Mrs Gibson. Approved. <u>Planning Appeals and Decisions.</u> Nothing to report. <u>Tree Preservation Orders.</u> Nothing to report. <u>Planning Correspondence</u> Brentwood Borough Council Local Development Framework – Gypsies and Travellers Development Plan Document Pre-Submission Draft Plan Consultation - It was agreed that the matter would be put onto the next Planning Agenda for discussion. Fence alongside footpath at Scriveners Farm – Nothing to report. Listing of The Plantation – Cllr. Hawkes reported that the hedge has been taken out in Mill Road as you go down the hill and lorries are parking on the blind bend and leaving debris on the road which is very dangerous and an accident is going to happen. Clerk to ask PCSO Fleming to visit the site and Enforcement Officer. Nothing further had been heard from English Heritage regarding the listing of the building Hedge planting at Fosters Close – It was agreed that the Clerk should chase CBC regarding the hedging and also speak to Moat about the removal of the Lleyanndii. 48 Well Lane – Nothing further to report. <u>Urgent Planning Matters Not On This Agenda</u> It was reported that a Show Home Now Open Sign had been put on the corner across the pavement outside the florist. Clerk to report matter to PCSO Kay Fleming. Cllr. Johnson reported that as you go down Furze Lane on footpath 53 at Little Bishops Wood the footpath has been diverted by the wood by a very large Oak tree which has been cut down. She advised that there is a lot of concern about it. Clerk to report to Lynn Cameron at CBC. Cllr. Woodward reported that the two Willows are to be pollarded outside Mr Raeburn’s next week.	CLERK CLERK CLERK																				
2323.	FINANCE. Cheques to be Signed - The following cheques were approved for payment and signed: <table><tr><td>101518</td><td>£1,193.22</td><td>Mrs L.J. Green</td><td>Salary 01.01.10 – 31.01.10</td></tr><tr><td>101519</td><td>£ 547.64</td><td>HM Revenue and Customs Only</td><td>PAYE and N.I.</td></tr><tr><td>101520</td><td>£ 70.55</td><td>Mrs L.J. Green</td><td>Expenses</td></tr><tr><td>101521</td><td>£ 135.13</td><td>Kedon Industrial Supplies Ltd</td><td>No Parking Sign</td></tr><tr><td>101522</td><td>£ 124.50</td><td>Mr R. Hale</td><td>Posts outside Almshouses</td></tr></table> Transfer of Funds – On the 21st January 2010 £2,500.00 was transferred from the Base Rate Tracker Account to the Community Account.	101518	£1,193.22	Mrs L.J. Green	Salary 01.01.10 – 31.01.10	101519	£ 547.64	HM Revenue and Customs Only	PAYE and N.I.	101520	£ 70.55	Mrs L.J. Green	Expenses	101521	£ 135.13	Kedon Industrial Supplies Ltd	No Parking Sign	101522	£ 124.50	Mr R. Hale	Posts outside Almshouses	
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2324.	COUNCILLOR/CLERK'S REPORT. Tree Warden's Report – Nothing to report. Replacement posts outside Almshouses – Work had now been completed. Prices for fencing on Common –The Clerk had sent out tenders. People parking on the grass verge by The Hoop next to the cottages – The sign was now ready for collection. Sportsfield - Nothing to report. Cllr. Phillips reported that he was concerned that Whiteholme in Mill Road and Mill Cottage in Mill Road could be demolished now that the owners had passed away. Cllr. Phillips asked the Parish Council to consider writing to the owners notifying them that the Parish Council are going to approach English Heritage to get the properties listed. It was agreed that Cllr. Phillips would seek advice from James Bettley and report back at the next meeting. Cllr. Otter reported that she had noticed that the back of the Pavilion had been cleared but was concerned to see a metal gate on the Common together with a picket fence at the side of the Pavilion. Cllr. Woodward advised that this was to stop vehicles driving onto the Common and advised that no trees had been cut back. At the end of the bowling season the undergrowth will be cut down and the tree will be cut back which permission had been granted for. Cllr. Woodward advised that the fence had been erected following the generosity of one of the members. He advised that permission had been received from Lord Petre for the erection of the fence and that the picket fence has been erected as the nursery may be using it for a play area.	
2325.	DISCUSSION ITEMS. Parish Charter Consultation – The Chairman advised that the Consultation was going to cabinet next week and was likely to be approved. He felt it was a common sense approach to parties working together. Cllr. Otter stated that she did not see any reason why the Parish Council should sign up to the scheme. Grass Cutting Contract 2010/12 – It was agreed that the Clerk would send out tenders to Blackwater Landscapes, Pinnacle, CBC Park Services, M.D. Landscapes and Mark Henderson. Tenders to be back to Clerk by 19th February 2010. Stock Library – The Chairman advised that he had heard back from Lord Hanningfield's office and he had appointed someone at ECC to be the contact. A meeting had therefore been agreed for the 8th February. The Chairman had invited Jenny Berkley to attend the meeting as a principal user. The lease, maintenance and running costs etc would be discussed. If the costs were reasonable then the project would be considered but if it was extortionate the plan would have to be reconsidered. The Chairman advised that it was just a fact finding exercise at this stage. Lord Hanningfield had advised that ECC were looking favourably at helping the Parish Council take the old library over for community use. It was agreed that a note would be put in Stock Press advising that the Parish Council were progressing the proposal of taking over the old library and a meeting had been arranged with ECC. Replacement Bus Shelter – The Chairman had attended a meeting with ECC regarding replacing the bus shelter opposite The Hoop. ECC had agreed that they would look to raise the kerb to make it more wheelchair/pram friendly. The Chairman had sent the plans to ECC and they had agreed that the shelter should have its back to the hedge and bus shelter users sit facing the road as there is insufficient clearance to have it the other way round. The Chairman asked Cllr. Johnson to speak to the house owner asking if the shelter could be put 1ft into their ground. Removal of Groups from Parish Paths Partnership (P3) Scheme – The letter revising the terms of the P3 scheme has been withdrawn immediately by Cllr. Norman Hume – it having been sent out without his knowledge, authority or proper consultation. Cllr. Hume has ordered that a full and proper consultation with County Councillors and respective Parish Councils will be carried out. It is intended that the aim should be to work with the Parishes to achieve a better balance between voluntary work and contracted cutting work and to ensure that best use is made of this stream of funding. Cllr. Finch had met with Matthew Hopkins of P3. Cllr. Finch had suggested that Mr Hopkins wrote an article for Stock Press to try and get volunteers to help on the footpaths. If no volunteers come forward Cllr. Finch will continue reporting matters to Highways.	CLERK JD/SJ CF

	An E-mail had been received from Barling Magna Parish Council who are currently looking at the design features of a new Parish sign. Stock's sign epitomizes what they are searching for in their own sign and asked for ideas of how the Parish Council came up with the design, who designed it and if an artist was used. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Judy Williams as she dealt with the sign originally.	CLERK
2326.	RISK ASSESSMENT. Nothing to report.	
2327.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING. The next Meeting of the Parish Council will be the Planning Meeting on Monday 8 th February 2010 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall and the main Meeting will be on Monday 22 nd February 2010 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.	
2327.	CLOSED MEETING FOR OPENING TENDERS. Nothing to report.	

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming; the meeting closed at 9.05pm.

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