

LITTLE BADDOW PARISH COUNCIL

The meeting of 3rd September, having interviewed two candidates previously, voted one as a co-opted member, filling the vacancy. There was considerable discussion about the new requirements for keeping the current "Parish Council Quality Award". The biggest key to success is evidence of how well the Council communicates and responds to village needs, and in one of the responses to this assessment the Council's website is to become more accessible, be more regularly updated and to include this monthly press report.

In the development agenda item there were no objections to either application. At public question time concern was raised about more obstacles including full size sleepers being placed on our roadside verges. Essex Highways department has already been contacted about them requesting action as hazardous to vehicles. Meanwhile there is a much improved situation regarding the obstructive parking at Spring Close. There is no known date for the erection of the traffic lights at Eves Corner but the Council's traffic surveys are going ahead and will include the effect of these lights once in operation.

Memorial Hall users are being most cooperative about the needed alterations to the Hall roof, work being due to start on 14th October and completion scheduled for 20th November. Village volunteers, hopefully from amongst young users, will start to improve the football pitch at Wickhay Green this month now that there has been rainfall.

It was noted that the Danbury Branch of Barclays Bank will now only be open three days a week, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Two grant applications were discussed. It was agreed to loan the War Memorial Fund the money for the necessary public liability insurance subject to it being paid back from profits raised at the scarecrow event, in addition to funds already given. An amendment to pay 75% of the cost of replacing the blades of the gang mowing machines for the sports field was defeated and the full request was agreed as no other grass upkeep money had ever been paid. Pleasing progress had been made in all the Council's action plans.

Details of items in this independent report can be obtained from the Council. GH