

Residents' Association Committee meeting – November 2010

A Meeting of the Committee took place on Tuesday 14th November. In addition to Committee members, Councillors Rosalind Mill and Michael Gosling were in attendance but the Police were not represented. In addition to formal matters:

Councillor Gosling reported that:

- The County Council's annual Government Grant had been cut by approximately 7% for the forthcoming year and 27% over the next four years. The Service Plan still had to be prepared and cost-cutting measures were being implemented.
- The condition of the roads was not good but the Council had established a large store of salt and grit to meet winter requirements.
- The Secretary asked whether the repayment of the monies deposited with the Iceland Bank had been resolved. Councillor Gosling said that the matter was the subject of a test case in the Icelandic Court and was still outstanding.

Councillor Mill reported that:

- The Borough Council was suffering the same financial problems as the County Council and some very difficult decisions would have to be made. One of these would relate to the possible closure of the swimming pool at Merland Rise. Running repairs were not viable and to replace the whole centre with both "wet" and "dry" facilities would mean that the Council would have no money to spare for other services. The Meeting expressed unhappiness over the loss of the pool and it was generally felt that the closure of the pool was not acceptable and that the Council should reconsider the matter.

The matter of the Recreation Ground toilets was raised; they were in a state of disrepair and the water had been turned off. The facilities in the Pavilion could not cope with events such as the Village Fête; it was queried whether football organisers might be persuaded to open and clean the toilets when required. Councillor Mill undertook to investigate the matter.

It was reported that commercial vehicles were damaging the grass verge at the end of Chipstead Lane and Councillor Gosling undertook to look into the matter.

It was reported that paper and cardboard were not being collected often enough from the recycling skips in Stubbs Lane and this was causing an overflow in the bins.

It was noted that verge posts had now been erected by the Post Box in Babylon Lane and that the pedestrian crossing barrier had now been repaired.