

Minutes of the Emergency Meeting of Moggerhanger Parish Council held on 1st August 2012

**Present: Councillors Barrance, Hall, Carter, Anderson, Dean, Bashford, Mease,
(Chairman) and the Clerk.**

The Chairman introduced the evening by requesting the views of the councillors on the way the council was functioning after hearing of a number of concerns that had been passed to him, including criticisms of the council.

A discussion on the lack of communication between members and in the time between council meetings.

The Clerk explained that on many occasions members had been offered the opportunity to attend meetings called by Central Beds Council, for Parish and Town Council representatives to councillor training on matters such as planning and new legislation that would affect them in the future.

In the past the council had contributed a short report to be included in the Church Magazine and given a donation towards the cost of printing. A proposal was made for the council to have a short report inserted in the current village magazine after each council meeting. The Clerk would follow up this proposal. A copy of the minutes will be put on the notice board after they have been approved.

Planning and planning enforcement had at times been a problem for a number of members. The Clerk explained that councillors who have declared an interest in a planning matter, when questioned on the council's comments by a resident or interest party must explain they cannot comment. The Clerk also explained that the council was a corporate body and all decisions have to be opened and agreed by the majority, the Chairman only had a deciding vote if the votes were tied, he or she was unable to make a decision on their own.

A general discussion followed on the organisation and the outcome of the Jubilee Celebration day. Unfortunately the weather was cold and those running the BarBQ had been told they could not start serving until late in the afternoon, this had been a problem as a number of people especially children had been disappointed, and a loss had been made.

Mr Bashford passed around a copy of the accounts for the day, which showed the organisers had banked £422.45 as profit, but if the Parish Council paid for the marquee £250.00 a profit of £690.00 was made, which would enable a Teak Bench to be purchased to be erected in the playarea at some residents request.

After a long discussion on the cost of a bench and where it should be sited, Mr Dean proposed that the bench should be purchased for the playarea and the council contribute £250.00 towards the cost, this was seconded by Mr Bashford a vote was taken, and carried by one vote with three abstentions.

The meeting closed.