

**Minutes of Kelvedon Annual Parish Assembly held on Thursday 24 April 2008 at 7.45 pm at Kelvedon Institute Hall**

**Present:** Cllr Craig Martin in the Chair, 50 public and Councillors present.

**Apologies:** Cllr Raison, Pastor Gill, Ms Marie Jones (Scope, Grangewood).

**Minutes of Previous Assembly:** Thursday, 26 April 2007: Summary available in Hall.

**Member of Parliament's Report:** Mr Newmark reported on two main local campaigns – Braintree Community Hospital on which a decision was awaited from the Regional Health Authority and improvements to the A120 on which he continued to object to the probable route on environmental grounds. Noted that no work was expected on the A120 until 2016/17. He had also made representations re the A12 and on educational issues in the area. All present were urged to attend the MP's surgery to discuss any issues in depth. Mr Newmark then answered questions from the public.

**Police /Community Safety Report:** In the absence of the local Sergeant this was given by local PCSO. He reported that regular foot patrols had been increased and included local trouble spots identified at regular weekly meetings. Police presence also included monthly Beat Surgeries, Mobile Police Office and NAPS meetings. Youth nuisance had reduced but continued to be a general problem. Kelvedon Police Station now open from 10.00 to 14.00 on Wednesdays and Fridays.

**Chairman's Report:** Copies available in Hall. Cllr Martin highlighted commencement of work on the car park and the work of the Youth Forum in raising funds towards new play equipment. He also thanked the Web Master for her work on the Kelvedon Parish website. He noted that traffic and policing issues continued to concern residents.

**Youth Forum Report:** Five members of the Forum gave a report of the work undertaken during the year towards the new play equipment which was officially opened on Saturday, 17 May. Thanks were expressed to Forum members for their hard work.

**Financial Report:** Cllr Hackworth, Chairman Finance Committee, presented a report of the Council's Receipts and Payments for 07/08, with an outline of the Budget for 08/09. He drew particular attention to two major projects – provision of new playground equipment and construction of the car park, both funded over two financial years.

**County Councillor's Report:** Cllr Edey reported that the County Council was currently looking into costs of school transport and had also allocated approx. £200,000 to each District for Highways projects in direct co-operation with Parishes.

**District Councillor's Report:** Cllrs Foster and Mitchell reported on District matters, including changes to Planning procedures, new powers for Area Committees, transfer of housing stock to Greenfields Housing Association, progress made in the Braintree Local Development Framework, District Council's carbon footprint and introduction of free national bus travel which is funded from Council Tax.

**Public Questions:** Matters covered responsibility of Greenfields for repair to roads, tree growth in High Street obscuring street lights, request for additional Zebra Crossing in High Street.

The Assembly closed at 9.35 pm with thanks from the Chair to all who had taken part. Light refreshments were then served and all present were invited to remain for a presentation by Ian Haines, BDC Recycling Officer on Recycling in the Braintree District.