

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held
at the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 10th August 2010, at 7.30pm
Present: Cllr R Bartleet, Cllr R Fairs (Chairman), Cllr R Traube, Cllr M Williamson.
Clerk Mr D Williams, Borough Cllr P Chillingworth and 1 member of public attended.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - Cllr Brook

2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** - Cllr Fairs declared an interest in minute 9 as he is a director of the company contracted to install the water to the allotments.

3. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.** - The minutes of the last parish council meeting of 13th July 2010 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES - None

5. REPORT FROM COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

Borough Cllr Chillingworth said that he believed that the parish precept will not be capped if the parish has to increase it if the revenue grant is removed or reduced. The Courier is being distributed and he would like to know if distribution is successful. Borough Cllr Chillingworth left the meeting.

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) The following funds have been received

Essex County Council (ECC) – part grant for allotment water installation £ 1,250.00

Colchester Borough Council (CBC) - part grant for allotment water installation £ 1,468.00

(b) The following cheques were authorised for payment

Chq.No.	Payee	Amount (£)	of which VAT:-
101145	W A Coy – litterpick barbeque expenses	£ 75.00	
101146	D Williams – clerk salary	£ 358.33	
101147	Thompson Smith & Puxon – advice re Old Playing Field boundary	£ 293.75	£ 43.75
101148	M Hird – padlocks for the allotment gate and water trough	£ 24.98	£ 3.72
Youth Activity Club Account			
100028	Great Tey Village Hall Management Committee – hall rent	£ 28.00	

(c) It was agreed that no transfer be made from Community Account to Business Saver Account in view of the forthcoming capital expenditure, and the resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr £2,005.87, Youth Activity Club Account Cr £1,656.33, and Business Saver Account Cr £5,595.70. The bank statements were signed by the chairman in evidence. It is noted that incorrect balances were reported last month, and these have now been corrected.

7. PLANNING MATTERS – Applications

101552 Eastbrook, Brook House Road – proposed rear single storey kitchen extension and alterations – no objections subject to neighbours' views.

Approval

101124 East Gores Farm Buildings, Unit K1, Salmons Lane, Coggeshall – change of use of Shed K1 from agricultural use to storage B1 office – approved subject to 8 conditions.

Refusal

101070 Site of Former Barn (South of) Teybrook Farmhouse, Brook Road – erection of building for use as a residential annexe or holiday let to replace barn destroyed by fire – application refused.

8. VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Traube said that the quotation for the fencing around the village hall from C & W Fencing Ltd has reduced to £5,000 plus VAT. He said that CBC planning department has confirmed by telephone that planning permission is not required. Cllr Traube said that he had spoken to the fire officer who is satisfied with the arrangements. He has also met with the fencing contractor and agreed that he will monitor the works which will be completed by the end of August.

Cllr Traube said that the work to the radiator valves starts on 16th August, and when completed the clerk was instructed to ask the village hall management committee (VHMC) for their agreed half of the cost.

The clerk said that confirmation of the grant funding from ECC and CBC for the fencing and radiator valves has now been received.

Cllr Williamson said that she attended a meeting of the VHMC when the committee said that they had received grant funding for a fixed projector screen and they requested parish council approval for the installation. This was agreed in principle subject to an engineer installing it properly, it not affecting the false ceiling, and sight of a drawing and further details.

Cllr Fairs said that he will investigate the damage done to the ceiling tiles in the main hall. He also agreed to meet with the handyman regarding the new location outside the hall of the bench that was outside the former post office. The bin that was outside the former post office is not to be relocated.

The clerk was instructed to arrange for the litter bins outside the school and in the play area to be emptied.

9. ALLOTMENTS

Cllr Fairs referred to the proposed installation of the water supply to the allotments, and said that the water supply is connected, but Anglian Water has not yet installed the water meter. It was agreed that the final invoice regarding installation can be paid when the installation is complete.

10. COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCIL REVENUE GRANT

Cllr Fairs said that the clerk had prepared a draft reply to the consultation following the discussion at the last meeting. This draft was readout and agreed and the clerk was asked to send it and send copies to B Jenkin MP, ECC Cllr A Brown and CBC Cllr P Chillingworth.

In view of the possible reduction or removal of the revenue grant, it was agreed to consider a first draft of budgeted expenditure and income for the financial year ending 31 March 2012 at the next meeting, with details being circulated by the clerk beforehand.

11. HAROLD FAIRS RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Fairs said that he will see the handyman regarding a quotation to fence off the tennis courts. Cllr Fairs agreed to also ask the handyman to do the repairs on the play equipment requested in the recent ROSPA report. Cllr Fairs referred to the ROSPA reply to our enquiry regarding the obstacles that are mentioned in their inspection report on two items of equipment. These obstacles are part of the integral structure of the equipment installed in 1999 and mentioned for the first time in last year’s report. The clerk was therefore instructed to ask ROSPA to remove these items from the report. The recent inspection report received from Allianz Engineering regarding the play equipment was discussed. The clerk was instructed to ask the handyman to repair the swing chains highlighted in the report. The clerk was also asked to investigate with ROSPA and Allianz Engineering whether we require both inspection reports.

Cllr Fairs said that he will obtain a quotation from a tree surgeon regarding the work required on the trees near the entrance, and also obtain a quotation for the work required on the trees behind the tennis courts.

The hedge along the pathway from Lower Langley to the school and along the side of the car park was discussed, and it was agreed that Cllr Fairs would obtain a quotation to cut back the hedge.

12. OLD PLAYING FIELD

Cllr Fairs referred to correspondence from the parish council’s solicitor regarding the fence between the rear of some Brook Road properties and the Old Playing Field (OPF). The solicitor recommended a properly constructed fence and registration of the Parish Council’s title at the Land Registry. Cllr Fairs said that a quotation had been received from a fencing contractor and a further quotation was being sought. It was agreed in principle to proceed with the installation of the fencing, but not to proceed with the registration of the title at this time in view of the solicitor’s quoted cost of £500 plus Land Registry fees. The cost of the fencing would be covered by a grant from the Trustees of the Village Hall. Cllr Bartleet suggested that photographs of the new fence be taken and retained, and this was agreed. The clerk was asked to prepare a draft letter to the residents concerned, advising them that following discussions, and advice from the solicitor acting, he has recommended that a permanent fence be installed. The council has therefore agreed to install a wooden post and rail fence to mark the boundary to replace the existing wire fence.

13. CORRESPONDENCE NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE

From the local historian, referring to the copy plans of the parish of Great Tey made in 1811 that are to be returned to the parish, asking if an event for the official handover can be linked with the publishing of her book about Great Tey which hopefully should generate funds for the church. The vicar has confirmed that these copy plans can be stored in the vestry which is secure. It was agreed that the parish council be involved with this event and the clerk was asked to liaise and advise the council of progress.

From ECC Highways enclosing a copy of the Speed Management Strategy 2010 which can also be accessed on the ECC web site.

From the parish council web designer suggesting that the web site is becoming dated and suggesting that it is updated. The clerk was asked to enquire whether there is a cost involved and whether there is a specimen or similar site that can be accessed for information.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The meeting was suspended for public questions and statements:-

- (i)The transport representative advised that the response from ECC regarding the public consultation concerning transport needs is probably expected in October.

The meeting resumed.

14. OTHER BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION

Cllr Traube asked to use a parish council tent next month. This was agreed.

There being no further business the parish council meeting was closed at 10.08 pm.

Chairperson.....

Date.....