

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held
at the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 9th February 2010, at 7.30pm

Present:

Cllr R Bartleet, Cllr S Brook, Cllr R Fairs (Chairman), Cllr R Traube, Cllr M Williamson.
Clerk Mr D Williams, Borough Cllr P Chillingworth and 3 members of public attended.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - Cllr A Coy, Cllr A Maxwell

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – Cllr Bartleet declared an interest in minute item 10 as he undertakes footpath cutting in the parish paths partnership scheme, and will remain at the meeting whilst the item is discussed.

Cllr Fairs declared an interest in minute item 8 as he is a director of the company undertaking the installation of the water supply to the allotments for the parish council and will remain at the meeting and give a report on progress.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING. - The minutes of the last parish council meeting of 12th January 2010 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Cllr Williamson said that the questionnaire regarding the play equipment has been distributed with the February edition of Round and About. The clerk reported that no reply had yet been received from Planning Department Colchester Borough Council regarding our enquiry concerning Collops Barn, and whether the plans showed that the property was to be detached or attached to the stables. He was asked to follow for a reply.

5. REPORT FROM COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

Borough Cllr Chillingworth said that he had made enquiries concerning the use of the salt bins as the matter had been raised at the last meeting. He said that only Essex County Council (ECC) Highways staff are authorised to use the salt bins to spread salt on the highway or pavement, otherwise householders can only use it on their privately owned property. ECC can give dispensations if requested, and it was agreed to wait for the reply to our enquiry to Colchester Borough Council concerning salt bins generally.

Borough Cllr Chillingworth said that Surestart, a new outreach service for children under five years old and their families, will be introduced in the Borough shortly and details are awaited.

He then left the meeting.

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) The following cheques were authorised for payment

Chq.No.	Payee	Amount (£)/ of which VAT:-
101105	Bedot Media Group – web site hosting	£ 9.99
101106	D Williams – clerk salary	£ 350.00
	Youth Activity Club	
100021	Great Tey Village Hall Management Committee – hall rental	£ 28.00

(b) It was agreed that no transfer be made between Business Saver Account and Community Account, and the resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr £641.09, Youth Activity Club Account Cr £1,796.83, and Business Saver Account Cr £6,194.13. The bank statements were signed by the chairman in evidence.

7. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

- 091096 - Land Adj. Farmhouse, Marshalls Farm, Chappel Road, - Change of use and conversion with extension of existing garages/barn at Marshalls Farms House, to single residence plus new garage for Marshalls Farm House. This application was discussed at length, and it was agreed that there were no planning reasons to object to this infill and so the agreed response is no comment.
- 091639 East Gores Farm, East Gores Road – Change of use of shed N from B1/B8 (office/storage) use to office (B1) – The agreed response is no objection subject to neighbours' views.

8. ALLOTMENTS

Cllr Fairs distributed draft letters to be sent to the two landowners involved with the water pipe for the allotment water supply which is to be passed under their land. These letters were agreed and will be sent, and the work is to be done at a weekend as soon as is convenient.

9. VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Traube distributed a list of maintenance works to be undertaken at the village hall. The quotation of £625 plus VAT was agreed and the work will be done during the pre-school half term week. Cllr Traube said that the treasurer of the Village Hall Management Committee has agreed to reimburse the parish council with this cost.

10. PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP

The clerk reported that correspondence had firstly been received from ECC advising that they would deal direct with landowners in future regarding the footpath cutting under the parish paths partnership scheme, but then subsequently gave parishes the opportunity to discuss the scheme with them and agree changes. Members agreed that a reply should be sent to ECC advising them that the present scheme is satisfactory, we did not wish to see any changes, and asking for confirmation of the grant for 2010/2011. The clerk was asked to write accordingly.

11. CORRESPONDENCE NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE

Email received from Mr and Mrs Hirst advising that the Post Office will close on a provisional date of 5th May. The clerk was asked to reply and ask them to confirm that they have advised the Post Office so that the arrangements for an outreach service can be made. The clerk was to advise Cllr Traube of their reply.

Copy correspondence was read out from a parishioner to the Highways Agency regarding the A120 and the lack of progress on improvements.

Email received from Colchester Borough Council regarding changes to the Town and Parish Grants Scheme. The judging panel on 17th February will no longer include all the parish councils, and there will be representation from several sectors of the community and four parish representatives. Members expressed concern and the clerk was asked to reply asking:- (i) if the criteria has changed, (ii) why has this change been advised so late, (iii) who is on the panel, (iv) how many are on the panel, (v) the amount of total funds available (vi) the amount applied for.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The meeting was suspended for public questions and statements:-

- (i) There is an additional route on the number 70 bus service from Colchester to Braintree
- (ii) Adjustments are being considered to the existing number 70 bus service
- (iii) ECC are to forward details of bus concessions for students which can then be put in Round and About.
- (iv) The footpath outside Homagen, Chappel Road needs repairing. Cllr Traube said that he had established that this will be done when the building works there are complete.
- (v) What is being done about repairing potholes. Cllr Fairs said that potholes should be reported to ECC Highways who then take responsibility. The website link for potholes is ehss.essex.gov.uk/default.asp

The meeting resumed.

12. OTHER BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION

Cllr Fairs said that the owner of Nuts End, The Chase are replacing their existing fence with the Old Playing Field and it appears that the new fence posts are on the Playing Field side of the existing boundary which is marked by concrete posts. It was agreed that he would meet and advise the owner of this so that the work can be corrected.

A request to use the Old Playing Field for car parking for a wedding in August was agreed, and the clerk was asked to reply and say that we would like to see the car parking marshalled.

Cllr Fairs referred to the consultation meetings arranged by the West Tey Consortium, and said that several parishioners had attended. It was an early plan for one of several alternatives to improvements to the A120 and further developments are awaited.

Cllr Traube said that ECC Highways had confirmed that they will ask the resident at Viper House, The Street to cut back the tree that is overhanging the footpath.

There being no further business the parish council meeting was closed at 9.25 pm.

Chairperson.....

Date.....