

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held

At the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 14th June 2016, at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllr Bartleet, Cllr Beesley (Chairman), Cllr Fairs, Cllr Hamer, Cllr Hunt, Cllr Williamson.
Clerk Mr D Williams and Borough Cllr Chillingworth attended. No members of the public attended.

1.APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr Barron

2.DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS – None

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of the last parish council meeting of 10th May 2016 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Cllr Hunt said that he met UK Power Networks and they advised that they will cut down to ground level the conifer tree on the boundary at the Old Playing Field and Nuts End, and they will also lop the small sycamore tree. The clerk was asked to advise the residents of Nuts End, asking them to advise us immediately if this is not acceptable.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The meeting was suspended for public questions and statements. There were none. The meeting was resumed.

5. REPORT BY BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

Borough Cllr Chillingworth said that the Local Plan Committee will meet on 5th July to sign off the plan which will then be published and go to consultation. The councils of Colchester Borough are in contact with Braintree District and Tendring District. Colchester Borough will be plan to build 920 houses per year from 2018-2033, an increase from 830 per year. The West Tey proposals for 2,500 houses depends on improvements to A120 and A12. A12 is expected to be funded between 2020 and 2025..

6.FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) The following cheques were approved for payment:-

Chq.No.	Payee	Amount (£)/ of which VAT:-	
101550	I Dyer – grasscutting OPF and HFRG	£ 158.40	£ 26.40
101551	Playsafety Limited - ROSPA report on play area	£ 100.80	£ 16.80
101552	L C Tippet – internal auditor fee	£ 180.00	
101553	D Williams-clerk salary £462.91 less PAYE £184.80	£ 278.11	
101554	D Williams – printer funded by EALC grant received	£ 79.99	£ 13.33
101555	HM Revenue & Customs - PAYE for clerk salary	£ 184.80	
101556	Mrs R Stone – notice board rental	£ 10.00	
101557	Campaign to Protect Rural England – annual subscription	£ 36.00	

(b) The resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr £22,299.89, Business Saver Account Cr £22.38. The bank statements were signed by the chairman in evidence.

(c) The clerk advised that the internal audit had been completed for the accounts for the year to 31 March 2016 and the report dated 10th June 2016 from the internal auditor was shown, and the salient points read out. The internal auditor's report was considered by all members and it was noted that the internal auditor stated that (1) the Council has properly assessed and managed the significant risks, (2) no other areas of risk had been identified, (3) tests in areas suggested by the Practitioners Guide have been undertaken and all matters have been covered, and (4) Section 4 of the Annual Return was completed and it can be forwarded to the External Auditor.

(d) Section 1 of the Annual Return being the Annual Governance Statement was then approved by the Council with all questions replied 'yes', and the chairman and the clerk were authorised to sign Section 1.

(e) The Accounting Statement, signed by the clerk, was then considered and approved by the Council and the chairman was authorised to sign the Accounting Statement in Section 2. The clerk was instructed to forward the Annual Return to the external auditor accordingly.

7.PLANNING MATTERS

Approvals by Colchester Borough Council

160597 Tocia, Chappel Road - proposed build of a new garage to the rear of the house – approved subject to 4 conditions and 1 informative.

8.HIGHWAYS

Cllr Beesley said that Essex County Council (ECC) Highways had invited the parish to join in the salt bag scheme again this winter. Cllr Bartleet said that there was still a good stock of salt bags and members decided not to join the scheme in view of the considerable monitoring required by ECC.

Cllr Fairs said that he attended the A120 Community Forum where the ECC Highways main contractors inform the local parish councils of progress with A12 and A120 improvements. The A12 improvements will be done before the A120, where 77 different routes are being reviewed.

Email correspondence received from a parishioner relating to:- 1. Work that has been undertaken along Brook Road which appears to be related to Superfast Broadband. He has asked that enquiries are made and any developments are reported in Round and About. 2. An update from ECC Highways is requested regarding the drainage issues along the main road.3. A request to ECC Highways to repair and relay the stones at The Ford, Tey Brook.

9.VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Beesley said that the solicitor acting for the parish council and the Trustees of Great Tey Village Hall had asked the parish council to confirm agreement to apply for a scheme to merge the two Trusts involved with the Village Hall. All members confirmed agreement. The clerk was asked to advise the solicitor.

10. HAROLD FAIRS RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Bartleet said that following receipt of complaints regarding a drainage issue at the rear of one property following the coppicing and removal of the tennis courts, he visited the site and with the resident found a drain in the Recreation Ground which appeared to be working as it was raining. Cllr Fairs said that he would visit the site when it rains heavily. The clerk was asked to advise the residents of this progress.

The quotation from the handyman for £105 plus VAT for repair to the boards of the arched bridge in the play area was considered, and members agreed not to proceed as the ROSPA report on the play area has recently been received which indicates that the play area will have to be rethought and replanned.

The quotation from the handyman to repair the bench recovered from the tennis court area, and relocate it to where the picnic bench was situated on the concrete pads is awaited as the bench is at Pattocks Farm and is to be viewed.

The quotation from the handyman for £350 plus VAT was accepted to repair the restraining wire on the fence that borders the rear of the properties that has been revealed by the coppicing of the trees and hedging. This quotation is also to include the removal of the chain link fence. No posts are to be replaced,

It was agreed regrettably not to proceed with the quotation from the handyman for £790 plus VAT to repair the bridge in the play area which was accepted at the last meeting, as the ROSPA report on the play area has recently been received which indicates that the play area will have to be rethought and replanned.

The clerk was asked to advise the handyman of these jobs.

In view of the ROSPA report it was agreed to consider the restructure and replacement of the play area equipment at the next meeting as an agenda item. Cllr Fairs and Cllr Williamson will obtain two further quotations for consideration in addition to one to be circulated. The clerk was asked to establish the VAT position.

The clerk referred to correspondence from the Essex Association of Local Councils (EALC) asking if a management agreement or lease is required for HFRG, as the parish council maintain HFRG and insure it, purchase and repair the play equipment and the play surface, arrange for ROSPA to inspect it annually, but is it owned by Great Tey Village Hall Trust, of which Great Tey Parish Council is sole trustee. Members considered that a management agreement or lease is not required. The clerk was asked to reply to EALC accordingly.

11. ALLOTMENTS

The quotation of 4 hours under his contract from the handyman was accepted to cut back the trees and branches that are overhanging the right side boundary of the allotments looking from the gate.

12. OTHER BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION

The clerk was instructed to ask the handyman to put 2 coats of wood preservative on the bus shelter.

The clerk reported that ECC are still considering the changes to the Saturday bus service that were requested in March.

Correspondence from Essex County Cllr Anne Brown forwarding advice from ECC Highways, that in accordance with their Maintenance Strategy, the signpost at the junction of Chappel Road and Moor Road has not been programmed for completion and currently is unlikely to be repaired in the foreseeable future. She says that she will follow this.

We will follow for the other missing signpost at the junction of New Barn Road and Earls Colne Road.

Members asked the clerk to provide a back up of Parish Council computer files to Cllr Fairs.

There being no further business the parish council meeting was closed at 9.45 pm.

Chairperson..... Date.....

Date.....
