

# GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held  
at the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2008 at 7.30pm

Present:

Cllr R Bartleet, Cllr A Maxwell, Cllr C Nice, Cllr R Traube (Chairman) and Cllr M Williamson  
Clerk Mr D Williams, 3 members of public and Borough Cllr P Chillingworth attended.

## 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - Cllr A Coy, Cllr R Fairs

**2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** – Cllr Bartleet declared an interest in the planning application for Braziers, Dowsland Green as it includes land being purchased from him. He will remain at the meeting but will not comment on the application. He also declared an interest in an invoice for a parish paths partnership grasscut.

## 3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.

The minutes of the last parish council meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> June 2008 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

## 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Cllr Traube said that he had obtained leaflets regarding the Community Bus Service and the Transport Scheme, and it was agreed that details will be placed on the notice board and in Round and About.

## 5. COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Borough Cllr Chillingworth said that Highways had advised the Borough Council of a possible relaxation in rural speed limits, although no details were available at present. This may help the control of speeding on the road from the A120 through Great Tey towards Mount Bures.

He then left the meeting.

## 6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

The following cheques were authorised for payment

Chq. No.	Payee	Amount (£)/ of which VAT:-
100961	A R Dann t/a F Percival & Son-parish paths partnership footpath cut	£ 201.63    £ 30.03
100962	H J Fairs & Son - parish paths partnership footpath cut	£ 372.95    £ 55.55
100963	C A Blackwall (Farms) Ltd - parish paths partnership footpath cut	£ 111.39    £ 16.59
100964	J E & F A Bartleet - parish paths partnership footpath cut	£ 191.06    £ 28.46
100965	D Williams - clerk salary	£ 335.66
100966	Great Tey Golden Jubilee Fund – donation to village weekend	£ 500.00
100995	Playsafety Ltd – ROSPA report on play area	£ 91.65    £ 13.65
100996	Campaign to Protect Rural England – annual subscription	£ 28.00
100997	Allianz Insurance plc – inspection policy for play area	£ 343.23    £ 51.12
100998	Gt Tey Vill.Hall Mgment Comtee – hall rental	£ 48.00
100999	Gt Tey Vill.Hall Mgment Comtee – subsidy for local groups at hall	£ 366.00
101000	Gt & Little Tey PCC – donation-final £300 last yr, first £300 this yr	£ 600.00
101001	I W Dyer – grasscuts OPF & HFRG	£ 232.65    £ 34.65

(a)It was agreed that a transfer of £3,500 be made from Instant Access Account to Community Account. The clerk reported that after these transactions had been made, the balance of the Community Account was credit £1,073.07 and the balance of the Instant Access Account was £6,237.37. The bank statements were signed by the chairman as evidence of agreement.

(b)The clerk reported that a cheque book from Barclays had been lost in the post and payment had been stopped on cheques in this book.

(c)He reported that a reply had not been received from Colchester Association of Local Councils regarding our enquiry on benefits of an annual subscription, and it was agreed that the council would not renew the subscription to Essex Playing Fields Association in view of the previous lack of response to our request for assistance regarding the new play surface.

(d)It was agreed that the council would open a bank account styled Youth Activity Club Account and an authority to Barclays Bank could be signed by the existing account signatories advising that the mandate for the present Community account covers this new account.

(e)The insurance cover for the inspection policy for the play area was discussed, and the clerk was instructed to write to Allianz Insurance, advising them of the new play area surface and obtain a quotation for accidental damage and damage by vandalism, and also to ask whether this policy can be combined with the main insurance policy with them.

(f)The clerk presented the annual accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008. These accounts show total income of £40,609.97, total payments of £44,275.51, bank balances of £8,409.18 and total reserves of £38,827.90. The accounts were agreed and signed by the chairman and clerk. The Annual Return was also completed in Section 2. It was agreed that the internal auditor, L Tippett, be asked to audit these accounts within the usual time scale before the accounts are submitted to the external auditor.

## **7. PLANNING MATTERS**

081156 Braziers, Dowsland Green, Coggeshall – change of use of existing agricultural land to paddock and erection of stables, tack room and open barn – no objections

081189 11 Lower Langley – single storey extension to rear – no objections subject to neighbours' views.

081218 Hightrees, The Street – provision of new family room in existing garage to reduce double garage to single. Addition of side door to garage and erection of rear conservatory. - no objections subject to neighbours' views.

### **Approvals**

080810 Gulls Farm, Buckleys Lane, Coggeshall – 2 storey pitched roof extension to rear, provision of new utility room & cloakroom on ground floor, bedroom & ensuite shower room on first floor – approved subject to 9 conditions.

## **8. COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCIL PARISH GRANT AND ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL COMMUNITY INITIATIVE FUND**

Cllr Traube said that the parish council had agreed that an application would be made under this scheme for the installation of water to the allotments and the replacement of fences. Cllr Fairs had agreed to liaise with Anglian Water and also to obtain 3 quotations, and Cllr Coy had agreed to obtain 3 quotations for the replacement fencing. They did not attend this meeting, and so the clerk was asked to contact them in order that the application can be submitted and received by Colchester Borough Council by 30<sup>th</sup> July. The content of the application form was discussed.

## **9. THE POST OFFICE**

Cllr Traube said that he had been advised by Mr and Mrs Hirst that they are appealing against the planning refusal to convert their property from a shop and post office to a private dwelling. To support their appeal they are resigning as postmaster giving three months notice to close. The Post Office have made an initial contact with Mr Hirst and Cllr Traube has advised Mr and Mrs Hirst that he wishes to meet with a representative of the Post Office as soon as possible to discuss the future of the post office in Great Tey.

## **10. GREAT TEY YOUTH ACTIVITY CLUB**

Cllr Nice said that a committee had been formed and he had been appointed as chairman. They have contacted the Essex Association of Boys Clubs who can arrange for an unlimited number of police checks for volunteers at a total cost of £8. He advised that equipment is being donated to the club. He said that the club wished to proceed with the public liability insurance and to draw on parish council funding and will send details of income and costs to date together with details of the insurance cover required to the clerk for distribution to members. It was agreed that this would be an agenda item next month.

## **11. COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH SCHEME**

The clerk said that the police had advised that six volunteers and a coordinator were required to start the scheme and that there are 3 volunteers at present. It was agreed that another article will be placed in Round and About and that this would be an agenda item for the next meeting.

## **12. THE PLAY AREA**

The annual inspection reports on the play area and the play equipment from the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA) and Allianz Engineering were discussed. It was agreed that the clerk would send the medium and high risk areas in the ROSPA report and the unsatisfactory areas in the Allianz report to the handyman and ask him if he can correct these by the end of August and if so the approximate cost. Cllr Traube said that he was disappointed that the ROSPA report referred to the bark surface which had been replaced, and asked the clerk to obtain their comments regarding this before their invoice was paid.

## **13. THE VEHICLE ACTIVATED SIGN**

Cllr Traube referred to an email from Highways Department who advised that the present location was the only one acceptable. It was agreed that the clerk asks Highways to undertake data checks of traffic speeds at the original sites for comparison purposes, and not at the location site; and to advise us what the threshold speed is to activate the sign as it appears to be around 28mph, and we wish it set at 35mph.

## **16. CORRESPONDENCE NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE**

From Colchester Youth Worker Team advising that the summer activities youth bus will call at Great Tey in August. It was agreed that details of this will go on the notice board and in Round and About.

From B Jenkin MP in response to our enquiry regarding the dispensing by rural doctors' surgeries, enclosing a letter from the Minister of State for Public Health stating that any changes would be made after a full public consultation. The clerk was asked to reply and thank Mr Jenkin.

From D Barrenger, prospective Labour party candidate for our constituency, stating that he has written to the Minister of State for Public Health and will advise us when he received a reply.

## **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

The meeting was suspended

A parishioner asked if the end of Garden Fields is a parking area or a turning area – in the absence of any yellow lines it is probably best to mention this to the police when the mobile police van calls in the village.

A parishioner said that the footpath from near Betts Farm to Bacons Lane does not have sign posts. The clerk was asked to liaise with Chappel Parish Council and Essex County Council Highways Department.

A parishioner asked if the closure of the post office will be placed in Round and About – not at present as it has not been closed, the postmaster has resigned and we do not yet have information on the way forward and any reaction from the Post Office following a meeting with the chairman.

The meeting was resumed.

**17. OTHER BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION**

The clerk was asked to follow up for the employers liability and public liability insurance details from the handyman.

The clerk was asked to liaise with Marks Tey Parish Council and Colchester Borough Council regarding the unauthorised dumping of waste opposite Knaves Farm on the road towards the A120.

The clerk was instructed to ask the handyman to cut the footpath to the right of the Old Playing Field and the allotments.

The clerk was instructed to ask the handyman to mow and weed back to the fence and sweep up the Great Yard.

There being no further business the parish council meeting was closed at 10 pm.

Chairperson.....

Date.....