

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held
at the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 8th March 2011, at 7.30pm
Present: Cllr S Beesley, Cllr R Fairs (Chairman), Cllr M Williamson.
Clerk Mr D Williams, Borough Cllr P Chillingworth and 1 member of public attended.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - Cllr Bartleet, Cllr Brook, Cllr Maxwell, Cllr Traube, Essex CC Cllr Brown

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – Cllr Beesley declared an interest in minute 7 regarding the planning application for Greenacres as he is the owner. He will leave the meeting room whilst this matter is being discussed.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING. - The minutes of the last parish council meeting of 8th February 2011 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 the full budget for Colchester Borough Council (CBC) had been approved. There is no increase in council tax for CBC and Essex County Council (ECC). CBC is to start a jobs club locally which will give advice on interview techniques and CV writing. He responded to a question regarding the withdrawal of travel tokens by ECC saying that this was part of their cost cutting and so voluntary services will have to be developed locally. He also said that there was no possibility of a review of council tax banding which would affect those properties which have been extended. Borough Cllr Chillingworth left the meeting.

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) The following funds have been received

Allotment Rentals	£	70.50
Trustees of Great Tey Village Hall – grant re Old Playing Field fence	£	523.00

b) The following cheques were authorised for payment

Chq.No.	Payee	Amount (£)/ of which VAT:-	
101183	I Dyer – handyman	£ 160.87	£ 26.81
101184	D Williams – clerk salary £358.33 & Post, printing exp £ 91.14	£ 449.47	
101185	I Dyer – Old Playing Field fence work	£ 627.60	£ 104.60
Youth Activity Club Account			
100035	Great Tey Village Hall Management Committee – hall rental	£	28.00

c) It was agreed to transfer the sum of £700 from Business Saver Account to Community Account. The resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr £ 1,025.78, Youth Activity Club Account Cr £1447.83, and Business Saver Account Cr £4,007.18. The bank statements were signed by the chairman in evidence.

7. PLANNING MATTERS - Applications

Cllr Beesley left the meeting room.

110236 Greenacres, Chappel Road – two storey rear extension (resubmission 101902) – After discussion and as this resubmission had taken into account the planning officers design requirements the agreed response is no objections subject to neighbours' views. There was not a quorum to formally agree this and so this item will be on the agenda for confirmation at the next meeting.

Cllr Beesley returned to the meeting room.

110329 Nu sty, Chappel Road – rear extension and loft conversion/extension including increasing the height of the property. The agreed response is no objections subject to neighbours' views. Reference was made to the footway outside a neighbouring property - formerly Homagen, -which has recently been renovated but the footway not been repaired and the clerk was asked to write to Planning Department Colchester asking them to follow this matter up with the developer.

Licence Chequers, The Street - Details of a forthcoming hearing regarding the application for Variation of Existing Premises Licence for information. The clerk reported that an enquiry had been received from a parishioner stating that planning permission is required for the change of use to a shop. The clerk was asked to seek clarification from Planning Department at CBC.

8. HIGHWAYS

Cllr Fairs said that following correspondence from parishioners concerning the state of the roads around the village, and in particular Tey Road, the council had written to ECC Cllr A Brown and to ECC Highways. Highways said that work to the roads will be assessed after the bridge works at Chappel are finished. It was agreed to review the situation then and meet with Highways.

9. QUEEN ELIZABETH II FIELDS SCHEME

Cllr Fairs said that he will review this scheme and report at the next meeting.

10. OLD PLAYING FIELD

Cllr Fairs said that the fence works had been completed satisfactorily. He also said that following a complaint from Nuts End that a tree near the fence is restricting light, he inspected the tree with Cllr Beesley and Cllr Williamson and has subsequently obtained a quotation of £300 plus VAT to lop the tree to a height of 8-10 feet. It was agreed to accept this quote and to seek a grant from the Trustees of the Village Hall to cover the net cost of this. Cllr Fairs will instruct the tree surgeon.

11. VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Williamson said that together with Cllr Brook they have updated the risk assessment for the village hall, and the clerk has been asked to send this to the pre school and to any other hall user who requests a copy. A copy is also to be sent to the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC). Cllr Williamson said that she will attend the VHMC Annual General Meeting on 17th March, and that Cllr Brook has said that he will attend.

12. HAROLD FAIRS RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Fairs said that the agricultural hedge cutter will be used to trim the hedge from Lower Langley to the school shortly if weather and ground conditions are suitable. The clerk was instructed to ask the handyman to remove the obstruction of one bench seat beforehand.

13. COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH – no report available

14. CORRESPONDENCE NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE

From ECC Highways in reply to our enquiry saying that all salt bins were filled in December and in January. The salt bag pilot is now closed and the issue of salt bags and salt bins and the policy will be reviewed in the summer.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The meeting was suspended for public questions and statements:-

- (i)The transport representative said that he will put an article in Round and About regarding travel tokens.
 - (ii)A parishioner asked if the rose garden at the village hall could be tidied up, perhaps by a gardener voluntarily.
- Cllr Fairs said that he would follow this up.

The meeting resumed.

15. OTHER BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION

Cllr Williamson said that she attended a ‘wash up’ meeting of the Village Weekend Committee (VWC) when it was anticipated that a reduced request of £250 will be made to the parish council to cover the insurance of the next village weekend in 2012. The previous figure paid to the VWC was £500. She agreed that she would obtain details of grants made by the VWC from the proceeds of last year’s village weekend as some parishioners had enquired about this.

Cllr Williamson asked the clerk to circulate to all existing councillors the information concerning councillor nomination packs for the forthcoming parish elections, and how to obtain them.

There being no further business the parish council meeting was closed at 9.03 pm.

Chairperson.....

Date.....