

# GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held  
at the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2008, at 7.30pm

Present:

Cllr R Bartleet, Cllr R Fairs, Cllr A Maxwell, Cllr C Nice, Cllr R Traube (Chairman) and Cllr M Williamson  
Clerk Mr D Williams, 6 members of the public, Colchester Borough Cllr P Chillingworth.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - Cllr Coy

**2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** - None

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

The minutes of the last parish council meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> April 2008 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES** - None

**5. COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Borough Cllr Chillingworth said that black and clear refuse sacks are being delivered to Great Tey. He will investigate the non delivery in some areas of the parish. A new administration of the Borough Council is being formed following the recent elections. Following questions regarding responsibility for public safety at Colchester Bus Station, and also the new design of the stands at the new bus station he said that he would investigate the situation.

He then left the meeting.

**6. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

The clerk reported that the following funds had been received.

Essex County Council – Parish Paths Partnership refund	£ 334.80
Colchester Borough Council – 1 <sup>st</sup> half of precept & grant	£ 6,924.00

The following cheques were authorised for payment

Chq. No.	Payee	Amount (£)/ of which VAT:-	
100947	Allianz Insurance plc – annual insurance	£ 522.09	
100948	D Williams - clerk salary	£ 335.66	
100949	I Dyer – grasscutting 2 x HFRG and 3 x OPF	£ 180.95	£ 26.95
100950	R Fordham – tree works to HFRG & OPF	£ 705.00	£ 105.00
100951	Highline Roadmarking Ltd – hatching to HFRG car park	£ 475.87	£ 70.87

The insurance policy cover was reviewed and it was agreed that the present levels of insurance are satisfactory, and the clerk was asked to ensure that the play area surface was included in the engineer's policy. The clerk was asked to obtain competitive quotations for the grass cutting in the autumn as the council should review the contract regularly. The clerk produced a request from Colchester Association of Local Councils (CALC) for an annual subscription of £35 and he was instructed to ask CALC for the benefits involved in being a member and refer back at the next meeting.

It was agreed that a transfer of £5,000 be made from Community Account to Instant Access Account. The clerk reported that after these transactions had been made, the balance of the Community Account was credit £ 1,068.89 and the balance of the Instant Access Account was £ 10,517.61. The bank statements were signed by the chairman as evidence of agreement.

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

The meeting was suspended

A parishioner said that he considered that the shop should be viable and we should not let it close.

The meeting was resumed.

**7. PLANNING MATTERS**

Applications

- 080704 Moor Farm, Moor Road – New porch extension, new two storey extension to Moor Farm – no objections subject to neighbours' views.
- 080744 Great Tey Stores, The Street – Change of use of part of ground floor premises from retail to residential – no planning objection but the council and parishioners are concerned that this valuable village facility has closed.
- 080776 Fairstead, Tey Road, Earls Colne – Change of use and alteration to building formerly used in connection with commercial kennels for the purposes of a complementary health clinic with car parking area for 2 vehicles - no objections subject to neighbours' views.
- 080808 Gulls Farm, Buckleys Lane, Coggeshall – 2 storey pitched roof extension to the rear - no objections subject to neighbours' views.
- 080810 Gulls Farm, Buckleys Lane, Coggeshall – 2 storey pitched roof extension to the rear - no objections subject to neighbours' views.

### **Approvals**

080551 2 Brook House Cottages, Brookhouse Road – extension and alterations to form granny annexe – approved subject to 4 conditions.

### **Refusals**

K/COL/05/0734 Winefantastic Ltd, Warrens Farm, Coggeshall Road – Certificate of lawful use or development refused.

### **Withdrawn**

080442 Walcotts Cottages, Coggeshall Road – demolition of existing dwelling & erection of two storey detached dwelling – application withdrawn

Letter received from Colchester Borough Council Planning Department (Planning Department) advising that an enforcement report concerning the unauthorised use of agricultural land at Elm Farm, Elm Lane to that of a haulage yard, temporary storage of building materials and unauthorised engineering works to form earth bunds is to be considered on 15 May.

Email received from Planning Department concerning the number of vehicles parked at Brook House, Brook Road and requesting further information, which was supplied.

## **8. THE VILLAGE SHOP**

Cllr Traube said that a village survey is being drawn up and will be distributed to parishioners shortly seeking views regarding support for a shop. He said that a community shop requires a shop manager in addition to volunteers. Grant funders seek 50% from the community. He proposed that the results of the survey are reviewed before the way forward is considered, and this was agreed. He said that in view of the small public attendance at this meeting this does not appear to be an immediate issue.

## **9. GREAT TEY YOUTH CLUB**

Cllr Nice said that the application for funding for the youth club had been submitted and refused because of the lack of detail in the application. A further application will be submitted, and if this application is approved the funds will not be available until Christmas time. The volunteers wish to proceed with the youth club and a leader has to be found. Support is being sought from the Essex Association of Boys Clubs and the Neighbourhood Action Panel (NAP) regarding the cost of police checks for the volunteers. They are considering the installation of a telephone line for broadband in the village hall, and would pay for the installation and rental. Security issues regarding this are also being considered.

## **10. HAROLD FAIRS RECREATION GROUND**

Cllr Traube said that Monster Play Systems had repaired the post to the play area and the wet pour surface and proposed that the cheque for the balance of the play area installation works for £1,175 is released to them. This was agreed. Cllr Traube said that the other gate to the play area has a finger trap that needs repairing and Cllr Fairs agreed to obtain a quotation for this.

Cllr Williamson said that she had received a complaint from a parishioner regarding the timing of a recent grasscut and hedgecut in HFRG near the school when the children are leaving school, and had also received another complaint regarding a grasscut in OPF when it was being used by children. It was agreed that the clerk would point this out to the contractor and also ask for a copy of his public liability insurance and employer's liability insurance.

Cllr Traube said that the hatching to the car park had been completed satisfactorily and Cllr Williamson will arrange for cheques for £200 from the school and for £100 from the Parent Teachers' Association to be forwarded to the parish council. The contractor's invoice for £405 plus VAT has been paid.

## **11. COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH SCHEME**

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

## **12. VILLAGE HALL**

Cllr Traube said that the engineers who repaired the boiler for the village hall now consider that it should last for a few more years.

## **13. SURGERY FACILITIES**

Cllr Traube said that there was a White Paper before Parliament to amend the rules for dispensing by surgeries who will no longer be dispensing if there is a chemist within 1.6 km of the surgery. This will affect Great Tey residents who will no longer have dispensed items brought to the surgery in the village. He proposed that the clerk writes to Bernard Jenkin MP and to the prospective Labour candidate raising our concerns and the implications for rural communities. This was agreed.

## **14. VILLAGE WEEKEND**

Cllr Williamson said that 2 tents size 40 feet by 20 feet had been offered to the parish council and were presently stored by Mr Andrew Fairs. It was agreed that Cllr Fairs would ask Mr Fairs if he could continue to store them on behalf of the parish council.

Cllr Traube referred to a letter received from Mr S Hall requesting the use of the Old Playing Field for the Village Weekend from 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> June. He will liaise with the local residents, arrange insurance and licenses and clear all

refuse and materials afterwards. This was agreed. He also requested funding from the parish council to support the activities, and the sum of £500 was agreed, which was the amount budgeted. The clerk was asked to reply. Mr Hall has also written asking whether the parish council would wish to take a stall, and it was suggested that the allotment holders may wish to consider this.

The clerk was instructed to ask Mr Dyer to cut the Old Playing Field a few days before the Village Weekend.

## **15. TENNIS COURTS**

Cllr Traube said that he could not see a great deal of support for the replacement of the tennis courts with a refurbished multi purpose court, and the parish council had received an opposing view from a resident of Christmund Way. Cllr Fairs said that the youth club should take preference and could be linked with the refurbishment of the multi purpose court. Cllr Traube said that the council should also consider the possibility of seeking funds for a possible village shop which should take preference. He said that the parish council has information on grants and quotations for different types of refurbishment, but in the absence of anyone in the parish to drive a project forward and to manage it in the future, this is not a priority project with other issues. It was agreed not to proceed any further with this at present.

Cllr Traube referred to complaints about youths making nuisance in the area, and he said that he had asked the Police Constable Support Officer (PCSO) to increase the police patrols.

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

The clerk referred a letter received from Colchester Borough Council (CBC) regarding the grant scheme. Applications have to be submitted by 30 July and it was agreed that members would consider and that this would be an agenda item next month. The grant scheme would also consider supporting a larger single project of up to £50,000 and it was agreed that the clerk should write to CBC now and advise them that the parish council may apply for funding for a village shop.

## **17. ALLOTMENTS**

Cllr Fairs said that he was to contact Anglian Water regarding a quotation for the installation of water onto the allotments.

Mr Dyer replied to the council's letter regarding his allotment plot saying that he was late in starting the plot this year and would cultivate his plot. The council agreed to review this in two months time.

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

From Mr B Dow regarding anti social behaviour by groups of youths and listing the nuisance. It was agreed to forward this letter to the PCSO and ask her to consider patrols in the evenings and weekends. Cllr Traube said that this problem should be raised at the next NAP meeting, and it was agreed that a parish councillor should attend. It was also agreed that part of the letter should be published in Round and About together with the police telephone number of 01206 210441.

From Atkins in response to our contact to Highways Agency regarding access onto the A120 from Great Tey. Atkins advise that they are the managing agents and they are to start an annual safety report for the A120 which will determine whether any of the junctions are accident cluster sites. If so it would be reviewed in more detail and then recommendations would be made for safety improvements.

## **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

The meeting was suspended

A parishioner asked if the surgery was taking action regarding the proposals to cease dispensing in the surgery. Cllr Traube confirmed that the surgery was taking action through their professional body.

A parishioner said that the bus shelter had been cleaned but left in a mess. Cllr Traube said that Essex County Council Highways had used an incorrect cleaner and they are now replacing the glass in the shelter.

A parishioner said that he was concerned with disturbances made by youths in the village. Cllr Traube said that action was being taken.

The meeting was resumed.

## **19. OTHER BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION**

Cllr Traube said that the cost for providing a box for newspapers to be collected by those parishioners who could not have papers delivered was £34.99 and it was agreed that the parish council would fund this.

Cllr Bartleet said that he had looked at the fence between a garden and the Old Playing Field and considered that it may have been moved about 6 to 9 inches, and recommended no action apart from recording the boundary with photographs. Cllr Fairs agreed to take the photographs and send them to the clerk.

Cllr Traube said that he had finally met with the engineer involved with the kerb for the bus hardstanding, and the engineer has agreed that the correct kerb will be installed within the next two months.

The clerk said that the date for the Annual General Meeting and the Annual Village Meeting should be set, and it was agreed that this would be before the next parish council meeting in June.

There being no further business the parish council meeting was closed at 10.10 pm.

Chairperson.....

Date.....