

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held

at the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 9th November 2010, at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr R Bartleet, Cllr R Fairs (Chairman), Cllr A Maxwell, Cllr R Traube, Cllr M Williamson.
Clerk Mr D Williams, Borough Cllr P Chillingworth and 4 members of public attended.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - Cllr Brook

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – Cllr Fairs expressed an interest in minute 7 as he is the applicant of the planning application for Skills Kindergarten. He will make a statement and then withdraw from the meeting whilst that matter is discussed.

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

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The clerk reported that a reply has not yet been received from Allianz Insurance regarding the details of cover of the fragmentation policy for the play area. He will follow for a reply.

5. REPORT FROM COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

Borough Cllr Chillingworth said that Colchester Borough Council (CBC) voted against having all out elections which would have reduced election costs. There is a public meeting at Moot Hall on 24th November with Essex Police. The Neighbourhood Action Panel will probably be cancelled due to a lack of public attendance. Cllr Traube said that he trusted that parish councils will not be penalised because CBC has decided not to change voting procedures and thus save money – we understand £160,000. Borough Cllr Chillingworth said that he would pass on our concerns. He also said that a decision regarding the CBC Revenue Grant will be made and advised shortly. Borough Cllr Chillingworth left the meeting.

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Funds Received

Colchester Borough Council – grant re village hall fencing & radiator thermostats £ 1,265.00
Essex County Council - grant re village hall fencing & radiator thermostats £ 2,235.00
Great Tey Pre School – costs re additional work to hall fencing – speed bump £ 200.00

(b) Cheques for payment

Chq.No.	Payee	Amount (£)/ of which VAT:-
101163	I Dyer – grasscuts	£ 103.40 £ 15.40
101164	I Dyer – handyman	£ 60.15 £ 8.96
101165	I Dyer – play area repairs	£ 81.08 £ 12.08
101166	D Williams – clerk salary	£ 358.33
101167	Great and Little Tey PCC – donation re churchyard grass cuts	£ 300.00
Youth Activity Club Account		
100030	Great Tey Village Hall Management Committee – hall rental	£ 42.00

(c) It was agreed to transfer the sum of £3,000 from Community Account to Business Saver Account. The resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr £ 852.15, Youth Activity Club Account Cr £1,558.33, and Business Saver Account Cr £9,306.60. The bank statements were signed by the chairman in evidence.

7. PLANNING MATTERS – Applications

- 101463 Skills Kindergarten, Warrens Farm, Coggeshall Road – application to vary condition 2 of planning permission C/COL/04/1710 restricting the number of children attending at any one time. Cllr Fairs said that this application was to increase the number of children attending the school from 30 to 60 and to develop the entire building as the bottom floor is not used at present. The footprint of the building is not being increased. The school will take children from 3 months of age to 5 years of age. Cllr Fairs then withdrew from the meeting room. Cllr Maxwell joined the meeting at 19.55 and chaired the meeting. After discussion the comments agreed were:- We have no objection in principle to an increase in the number of children attending the pre school subject to confirmation that the increase in traffic flow through the village has been taken into account, and subject to neighbours' views. Cllr Fairs then returned to the meeting room and chaired the remainder of the meeting.
- 102100 Basketers, Earls Colne Road – replacement of block and rendered garage with oak framed Garage – comments - We have no objection in principle to this application subject to a clause ensuring that this garage does not become a second separate dwelling, and subject to neighbours' views.
- 102101 Basketers, Earls Colne Road – listed building application for replacement of block and rendered garage with oak framed garage – comments - We have no objection in principle to this application subject to a clause ensuring that this garage does not become a second separate dwelling, and subject to neighbours' views.

Approvals

- 101834 Site of Former Barn (South of) Teybrook Farmhouse, Brook Road – erection of building for use as a residential annexe or holiday let to replace listed barn destroyed by fire (resubmission of 101070) – approved subject to 9 conditions.

8. VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Traube said that he had been in contact with Colne Contracts regarding the speed bump required to the car park, and they advised that the works would be done shortly. Most of the snags have been done on the new fence, and the remainder should be resolved when the speed bump is completed.

9. ALLOTMENTS

Cllr Williamson said that Colchester Allotment Society can give advice to plot holders if required.

10. HAROLD FAIRS RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Fairs asked the clerk to remind the handyman of the play area repairs that are required, together with the re-siting of the bench to the front of the village hall.

Cllr Fairs said that the estimate from Mr R Fordham for £250 to cut the hedging at the side of the school along the path did not include reducing the height to approximately six feet (to clear the top of the fence) as well as cutting the side of the trees. Cllr Fairs said that he will obtain a further quotation for all the works from an agricultural contractor. He also said that he had advised the handyman not to cut the playing fields during school leaving time.

11. OLD PLAYING FIELD

Two estimates were considered for the installation of a new boundary fence with the rear of the properties on Brook Road. The fence will be a wooden post and rail fence, with the rail height around 40cm. It was agreed that further clarification was required regarding the work involved with both estimates. Cllr Fairs is obtaining a further estimate leaving in the existing concrete posts. The clerk is seeking clarification of the size and type of timber being used. The clerk was asked to invite the householders to the December meeting when the planned boundary fence and its imminent construction will be discussed. Public questions on this occasion will be near the start of the meeting.

12. COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

Cllr Maxwell said that he was contacting the parish volunteers to update the list, and a note is to be put in Round and About to ask for further volunteers. The village hall has been offered to Essex Police for the training of volunteers free of charge after agreement from the Hall Management Committee.

13. RETENTION OF DOCUMENTS

Guidance has been given by the Essex Association of Local Councils in their Legal Topic Note dated September 2010, detailing the documents that have to be retained for legal reasons and the periods of retention, and this guidance has been considered and adopted.

14. CORRESPONDENCE NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE - None

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The meeting was suspended for public questions and statements:-

(i) The transport representative said that the buses are keeping good time during the diversions caused by the closure of Chappel bridge.

(ii) A parishioner said that the Village Directory is done every two years by the Neighbourhood Outreach, would the parish council like it done next year. Cllr Traube said that the last time that this was discussed it was agreed that funds from the Parish Council were not required in future and that costs would be covered by income from business and advertising. The Parish Council do not know whether it will receive any Revenue Grant from CBC and has no budget to fund the Village Directory. Cllr Fairs said that the Parish Council cannot support this due to cutbacks. Cllr Williamson suggested that an application is made to the Village Weekend trustees.

(iii) The parishioner then said that he would put a note in Round and About asking villagers if they want the Directory as the Parish Council cannot support due to cutbacks.

(iv) A parishioner said that he was concerned with potholes in the roads around the village. Cllr Traube said that the parish council had contacted Highways to review the roads, and the clerk was asked to follow this up and write again.

The meeting resumed.

15. OTHER BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION

Cllr Bartleet said that the white lines on the road from the village to the A120 need repainting, and that weeds on the railway bridge on Moor Road need attention. The clerk was asked to contact Highways concerning this.

Cllr Traube said that the computer supporting the Post Office had not been operating on more than one occasion recently, and business must have been lost. He said that he would discuss this with the Post Office to see if the problem can be resolved.

Cllr Fairs said that parishioners are concerned with increasing levels of traffic and parking in The Street. This can be raised at the forthcoming review with Highways.

There being no further business the parish council meeting was closed at 9.41 pm.