

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held
at the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 8th September 2009, at 7.30pm

Present:

Cllr R Bartleet, Cllr S Brook, Cllr R Fairs (Chairman), Cllr A Maxwell, Cllr M Williamson.
Clerk Mr D Williams, Borough Cllr P Chillingworth and 14 members of public attended.

1.APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - Cllr R Traube, Essex CC Cllr A Brown

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – None.

3.BEST KEPT FRONT GARDEN COMPETITIONS AND BEST KEPT ALLOTMENTS COMPETITION

The chairman congratulated all the certificate winners and said that the time spent working in their garden was appreciated by the village. He said that the winners' cheques will be posted to them as soon as our bankers had accepted the new bank mandate. Certificate winners were:-

Best Kept Large Front Garden

First Prize – Gulls Farm, Buckleys Lane

Second Prize – Scenterfields, Chappel Road

Third Prize - Greenlands Farm, Lamberts Lane

Best Kept Small Front Garden

First Prize Equal - Rectory Cottages, Brook Road

First Prize Equal – Baldwins Farm, Brook House Road

Second Prize – Bidford, The Street

Third Prize – 4 Hunt's Cottage, The Street

Special Award – 41 Greenfield Drive

Special Award – Gelasan, Brook Road

Best Kept Allotment

First Prize – M Hird and B Flack

Second Prize – B Clark

6 members of public left the meeting

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.

The minutes of the last parish council meeting of 11th August 2009 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

5. COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Borough Cllr Chillingworth said that he had circulated to members a report regarding the Section 106 arrangements. He said that when payments are made under a Section 106 agreement by a developer of a new property, then 65% of the due payment can be utilised by the parish for leisure services, including the village hall. There is one payment of approximately £900 due to the parish. He said that the improvements to the A120 have been shelved.

Borough Cllr Chillingworth left the meeting.

Cllr Fairs asked the clerk to write to Essex CC Cllr Brown and ask her if she is able to attend next month's meeting to discuss issues such as the situation with the A120.

Cllr Maxwell said that he had received no contact from Essex Police since April regarding the Community Speed Watch. The clerk was asked to write to Essex Police accordingly.

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

Chq.No.	Payee	Amount (£)/ of which VAT:-
101079	D Williams – clerk salary	£350.00
101080	P Jellard – Best Kept Large Garden Competition	£ 20.00
101081	H Sears - Best Kept Small Garden Competition	£ 10.00
101082	J Bartleet - Best Kept Small Garden Competition	£ 10.00

Youth Activity Account

100017	Gt Tey Village Hall Management Committee – hall rental	£ 14.00
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(b) It was agreed that no transfer be made between Community Account and Business Premium Account, and the resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr 615.30, Youth Activity Club Account Cr 1936.83, and Business Premium Account Cr £ 5,092.94. The bank statements were signed by the chairman in evidence.

(c) The clerk advised that the external auditor's report in the Annual Return had recently been received. The report in Section 3 was satisfactory and there were no comments. The Annual Return was shown to the members at the meeting.

7. PLANNING MATTERS - Approved

090855 5 East Gores Road – proposed two storey rear extension (demolition of single storey rear garden room extension) together with associated alterations – approved subject to 1 condition.

8. ALLOTMENTS

Cllr Fairs said that he has submitted application forms to Anglian Water regarding the installation of water to the allotments and is now awaiting a site meeting with them. He has established that it is difficult to install the water through Guildhall Chase and then over the Old Playing Field as the main sewer and high voltage cables are buried in Guildhall Chase. He said that he preferred installation from Brook Road and then along Warrens Farm, or possibly through a property in Brook Road.

The clerk was instructed to send out the renewal plot rental invoices for 50 pence per annum together with two copies of the new agreement and a covering letter advising that the water installation has been delayed and we will write again when the water is installed and then ask for a pro rate payment. In the meantime ask that a copy of the new agreement be signed and returned.

9. VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Fairs said that the grant application for half of the cost of the thermostat radiator valves had been submitted and will be considered in late October.

Cllr Williamson said that the pre school had written asking that the proposed new fence be wooden and not metal. A discussion followed and the meeting was suspended to obtain the views of the public:-

(i) A parishioner said that this project has not yet been put to the Village Hall Management Committee and this will have an impact on the other village hall users. The meeting resumed.

After discussion it was agreed that Cllr Williamson and other councillors would arrange to meet the pre school management committee and ask them to do more research and place proposals before the Village Hall Management Committee.

10. TREE REPORT

The tree report prepared by Essex County Council (ECC) was considered. It was agreed that Cllr Fairs would contact R Fordham and arrange for the remedial work to be done. The clerk was asked to send the report to the parish council insurers, and seek their approval to the proposal by ECC that the report is prepared every five years.

11. FUTURE CAPITAL PROJECTS

Cllr Fairs asked that consideration be given to capital projects that could qualify for grant funding. Cllr Maxwell said that he had received suggestions from parishioners concerning refurbishment of the tennis courts and installation of a barbeque and picnic benches in the Old Playing Field. He said that a pavement along Brook Road and a permanent fence along the rear of the Brook Road properties bordering the Old Playing Field could also be considered. Cllr Fairs said that there were no suggestions made at the Annual Parish Meeting in May, and after discussion it was agreed that no capital projects will be considered this year as there did not appear to be support or need in the village. It was agreed that the parish council meets with ECC Highways to establish whether a proposed footpath along Brook Road is viable and to see if it is a project that could be considered by the Highways Community Initiative Fund. The views of residents in Brook Road would need to be obtained. Cllr Fairs asked that the clerk to make the arrangements for a meeting with ECC Highways.

A letter received from a parishioner in Brook Road was read out. He was replying to the council's letter to all Brook Road residents regarding the boundary at the rear of the properties with the Old Playing Field. He said that instead of the council concerning itself with the wire fence, that it should support the provision of a footpath along Brook Road. The clerk was asked to reply stating that the council was concerned with garden creep and the concrete posts and the wire fence denotes the boundary. We are to discuss the viability of a footpath with Highways Department but would need the views of other Brook Road residents.

12. CORRESPONDENCE NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE

A letter from Heart of the Valley was read out. This was in reply to the council's letter sending the recent donation. The letter advised the present position regarding the utilisation of funds received, and said that they would re approach the council before the November meeting and ask that an annual donation be considered.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The meeting was suspended for public questions and statements:-

(i) A parishioner said that as the A120 project has been shelved, can the parish council write to our Member of Parliament- Cllr Fairs said that the parish council will ask the ECC Councillor to attend the next meeting to discuss.

(ii) A parishioner said that as a resident of Brook Road he would support the building of a footpath in that road.

(iii) A parishioner said that the local roads are seeing more traffic with the rerouting of traffic away from the A120 and as a result the road surfaces are breaking up. - Cllr Fairs said that we will mention this poor road surface and the traffic re route to the Highways Inspector when we discuss the Brook Road pavement possibility.

(iv) A parishioner asked who is responsible for a footpath repair that is required outside Homagen, Chappel Road where the building work has been done - The clerk was asked to write to Planning Department, Colchester as this was a condition of the planning approval.

(v) A parishioner said that the hedge at Marshall's Cottage on the corner of New Barn Lane and Earls Colne Road needs cutting. The clerk was asked to investigate and write accordingly.

The meeting resumed

15. OTHER BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION

Cllr Williamson said that rubbish had been dumped at the top of New Barn Road. The clerk said that Street Services at Colchester Borough Council had been asked to remove the rubbish.

There being no further business the parish council meeting was closed at 9.20pm.

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