

# GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held  
at the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2013, at 7.30pm  
Present: Cllr Bartleet, Cllr Beesley (Chairman), Cllr Brewer, Cllr Langthorne, Cllr Veash, Cllr Williamson  
Clerk Mrs B Brewer, Borough Cllr Chillingworth and 4 members of public attended.

## 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr Fairs

## 2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – None.

**3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** - The minutes of the last parish council meeting of 12th March 2013 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

## 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES - None

## 5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The meeting was suspended for public questions and statements:-

(i). The transport representative said that he has been advised by Colchester BC that with effect from **15<sup>th</sup> April** all 88B journeys, Mon-Sat, will change to depart from stand Ab instead of stand Af. The Bus companies are being made aware of the change. A note to this effect will be posted in R&A.

He said that it was still not clear who was responsible for Health and Safety issues at Colchester bus station and At the March 2013 meeting he said that access to the bus station for the disabled and the infirm is not good because of poor road crossing facilities across the Vine Yard car park. This has still not been recognised by Colchester BC

Cllr Brewer will pursue these outstanding matters with CBC. The next Parish Transport Representatives meeting is in May 2013.

(ii) There has been a recent meeting of the Neighbourhood watch. Unfortunately the Police were unable to attend. An incident involving the theft of a parcel and garden ornament from outside a house in Chappel Road was reported.

The meeting was resumed.

## 6. REPORT FROM COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

i.) Borough Cllr Chillingworth said that black and white bags will be delivered on the 7.5.2013. Should any residents be missed they can report this on 01206 282700 and another delivery will be made on the 20.5.2013. A note will be put in R&A.

ii.) Cllr Chillingworth said there was to be a further locality budget for Community Projects Funding of approximately £400 per Parish and invited an application from the Parish Council by February 2014. An estimate will be required to support any application.

iii.) As regards the administrative decision to cut costs, without prior consultation, not to provide paper copies of Planning Applications, has not gone down well with Rural Parishes. There has been no recognition of the poor Broadband speeds in rural areas making viewing and printing of Planning Applications difficult. Parish Councils have a duty to provide details of planning matters to parishioners who attend public meetings and the Parish Council expressed concern that this appears to be another case where their tax payers were being treated inequitably.

Cllr Chillingworth promised to take this matter up with the Head of Planning.

iv.) He said that monies due from Section 106 for Parish Councils relating to recent planning applications (£1,918 is due for Open Spaces and £551 for Community Buildings) remain unpaid to date.

He said that Wakes Colne are considering starting a Neighbour Hood Watch Scheme.

v.) Posters regarding dog fouling are available from the Colchester BC Dog Warden and could be displayed on dog bins. The Council will endeavour to obtain posters through our Community Wardens.

vi.) Cllr Brewer expressed concern of the vagrants sleeping in shop doorways (adjacent to the Town Hall) during daylight hours which does not create a good impression of the Town.

Borough Cllr Chillingworth left the meeting.

## 7. FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

Chq.No.	Payee	Amount (£)/ of which VAT:-
101333	Essex Association of Local Councils – subscription	£ 258.93
101334	D Williams- clerk salary £448.50 less PAYE £89.70	£ 358.80
101335	HM Revenue & Customs - PAYE for clerk salary	£ 89.70
101336	Colchester Association of Local Councils – subscription	£ 35.00
101337	Gt Tey Village Hall Management Committee – hall rental	£ 57.00
101338	Ivan Dyer – hedge stumps removal	£ 197.77 £32.96
	Youth Activity Club Account	
100058	Gt Tey Village Hall Management Committee – hall rental	£ 34.00

(b) No transfer from Business Saving Account to Community Account is required. The resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr £489.71, Youth Activity Club Account Cr 772.23 and Business Saver Account Cr £11,620.04. The bank statements were signed by the chairman in evidence.

## **8. PLANNING MATTERS**

### **(a) Applications**

- (i) 130422 Scenterfields, Chappel Road – Lawful Development Certificate for an existing use – Occupation of Scenterfields in non-compliance with Condition 2 of planning application COL/89/1883 (Agricultural Occupancy Condition) – we support this application
- (ii) 130623 Land Between Marshalls Farm House & Marshalls House, Chappel Road - Variation of condition 02 of planning permission 120715 – we support this application.
- (iii) 130625 Couch End, Chappel Road for Couch End, Chappel Road, being demolition of existing conservatory structure to be replaced with rear single storey extension. No paper copy available – we support this application.

(b) Section 106 monies – to consider allocation of £1,918 for open spaces and £551 for community buildings in respect of funds due under a recent planning approval.

The Council agreed the Clerk should make an immediate application for the £551 to be paid as a contribution towards the Village Hall refurbishment costs.

As regards the 'Open Space' fund of £1,918 Cllr Langthorne proposed the Council should compile a 'wish list' of projects which can then provide a Parish Strategy and proposals prioritised for funding and implementation.

The Annual Parish Meeting will provide a platform for obtaining ideas and suggestions.

It was also proposed that Cllr Fairs be invited to inspect the recreational fields to ascertain whether there are any maintenance requirements that fall under this heading of funding.

(c) To consider CBC advice that paper copies of planning applications will not be sent in future – covered in Section 5 iii – see above.

(d) A Beauty Salon has opened in the Old Shop premises in The Street and has advertised in the Connect magazine. The Clerk is requested to ascertain whether any planning requirements e.g. change of use, have been sought and approved.

## **9. VILLAGE HALL**

Cllr Williamson reported she attended the Village Hall Management Committee Annual General Meeting and advised that the Chairman (Simon Frazer) and the Treasurer ( Jim Springate ) will not seek re-election in June 2013. Mrs Springate will continue to act as the booking secretary. In the event of lack of volunteers to fill these vacancies the Parish Council will have to fulfil these roles. Cllr Veash said that the Council may have to consider the benefit/need for a paid employee to undertake these roles/duties.

*Village Hall Refurbishment - August 2013.*

- i.) Village Hall Users have been advised of the refurbishment and the need to close the hall.
- ii.) Letters to this effect should be distributed in June 2013.
- iii.) Cllr Fairs to liaise with Richard Hermon regarding continued use of the hall by the Surgery and Post Office.
- iv.) The release of Trust Funds and structure of payments needs to be considered at the June 2013 meeting.
- v.) Agreement on colour scheme – more of the same would appear appropriate.

## **10. HIGHWAYS**

Cllr Brewer provided a resume of the correspondence with Essex CC regarding our Highways during March 2013. The Essex CC website link [www.essexhighways.org/](http://www.essexhighways.org/) provides access to their Highway and Maintenance Strategy (Policy and Standards - dated April 2008) and covers the points raised in our Emails.

Lamberts Lane has now been repaired and work is currently being undertaken on the Earls Colne Road.

The potholes by Sir Bay's house have been repaired but the quality of the repair leaves something to be desired.

The Old Ford Crossing is sinking and the general condition deteriorating.

Essex CC's promise that Great Tey roads would receive attention by the end of March 2013 has not materialised.

Cllr Brewer will continue the dialogue with Essex CC

## **11. GREAT TEY PUMP WALL**

The Clerk wrote to the House Occupiers on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2012 and 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2013 regarding the damage caused to the Pump House wall by their tree and asked for steps to be taken to prevent further damage. The house has recently changed hands and the new occupiers were unaware of earlier correspondence. They have promised to take action.

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

(i) A letter has been received from Susan Button who now runs the Post Office Outreach Service for Great Tey following the retirement of Sub Post Master Buck. Rental bills are now her responsibility and Cllr Brewer will pass a copy of letter to Jim Springate to notify change. The Outreach Contract is renewable in two years' time and she seeks assistance how to advertise the post office services to Parishioners. The Council propose that she is invited to provide a 'flyer' that could be distributed with R&A, posters for the Noticeboards and in addition it was agreed copies of her letter to be provided to the Fellowship Club and W.I for circulation.

Cllr Brewer will prepare a note advising of the change of management for R&A.

(ii) Essex Heritage Trust advises that they have funds available for worthy public heritage projects in Essex.

It was agreed to provide a copy of the correspondence to John Carr, PCC for their consideration

**12. OTHER BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION**

The litter pick on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March was cancelled due to adverse weather. The Community Wardens will be asked when they are available for a new date to be agreed, dovetailed with Cllr Fairs commitments.

Cllr Brewer reminded the Council that the Annual Parish Meeting will take place immediately preceding their next Parish Meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> May 2013 commencing at the earlier time of 7.00 pm. Highways remain a major concern and he was prepared to provide information on the Parish Councils Highways initiatives during the year. Immediately following the Annual meeting the appointment of Parish Chairman, Vice Chairman and Councillors' roles will need to allocated.

There being no further business the parish council meeting was closed at 9.10pm.

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