

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held
at the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 14th February 2012, at 7.30pm
Present: Cllr S Beesley, Cllr R Fairs, Cllr R Traube, Cllr N Veash, Cllr M Williamson
Clerk Mr D Williams, Borough Cllr P Chillingworth, and 4 members of public attended.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - Cllr Bartleet, Cllr Brewer.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – Cllr Fairs declared an interest in Minute 8 regarding the approval for the planning application for Warrens Farm as he is the applicant.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - The minutes of the last parish council meeting of 10th January 2012 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 Colchester Borough Council (CBC) is to arrange training for parishes regarding the establishment of local plans. He said that the Courier is now published on the CBC web site and asked that the electronic link for this is advertised in Round and About and on the parish web site. This was agreed. Borough Cllr Chillingworth outlined proposals for building development in Colchester. He said that he awaited revised meeting dates for the proposed meeting with Essex County Council (ECC) Cllr Brown and parish councillors concerning the highway problems around Great Tey. A previous date had been cancelled because of bad weather.

Borough Cllr Chillingworth left the meeting.

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

Chq.No.	Payee	Amount (£)/ of which VAT:-
101253	Great Tey Village Hall Management Committee – part hall insurance	£ 1,680.00
101254	Anglian Water – water for allotments	£ 24.96
101255	D Williams – clerk salary £358.33 less PAYE	£ 286.73
101256	HM Revenue & Customs - PAYE for clerk salary	£ 71.60
Youth Activity Club Account		
100045	Great Tey Village Hall Management Committee – hall rental	£ 31.20

(b) A transfer from Business Saver Account to Community Account for £2,000 was agreed, and the resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr £ 958.54, Youth Activity Club Account Cr £1,156.23 and Business Saver Account Cr £10,111.87. The bank statements were signed by the chairman in evidence.

(c) The clerk left the meeting and the room whilst the following item was discussed.

The clerk's annual salary was reviewed and discussed with reference to the present pay scales and job points and following guidance received from Essex Association of Local Councils. They advised that the correct pay scale for this job is scale 29. After discussion it was unanimously agreed to place the clerk on this correct pay scale, and increase the salary to a new figure of £5,328.96 pa. The clerk returned to the meeting.

(d) The budget for the year to 31 March 2013 was considered. CBC have decided to renew their grant at £2,060 but advised that this will be the last year of payment. After discussion the budget was agreed showing expenditure of £16,626 and income of £15,927, including precept and grant. A precept of £13,559 was agreed, which is an increase of £1,029. It will result in council tax of £35.64 per band D property (£32.78 last year), being an increase of £0.05p per week.

7. PLANNING MATTERS Applications

112435 Oak Lodge, Moor Road – erection of detached outbuilding to include, ancillary residential accommodation (existing building to be removed) and change of use of surrounding land and access from agricultural to residential use to extend residential curtilage of Oak Lodge -

We object to this application for the following reasons:-

1. The conversion of agricultural land into residential land for the purpose of a residential development.
2. The replacement of an agricultural building into a residential building.
3. Change of use of access from agricultural into residential use.
4. Residential development is in the open countryside being outside the village envelope.

We do not understand why the proposed building requires a separate access of a residential nature where the proposal is for ancillary buildings.

The vote for this response was 3 for, 1 against, and 1 abstention.

120182 Marshalls Farm, Chappel Road – new access crossing over public footpath to provide off road parking - No objections subject to the relevant conditions outlined in planning application 10095 approved 8/11/10, and subject to neighbours' views.

The vote for this response was unanimous.

Approvals

112410 Warrens Farm, The Street – Installation of solar PV panels on the roof of an existing agricultural building - approved subject to 2 conditions.

8. FUNDING FOR VILLAGE PROJECTS

The two projects being considered at present are the removal of the tennis courts and the redecoration and repairs to the village hall.

An application for grant funding for the removal of the tennis courts has already been made by The Trustees of the Village Hall for £10,000, and a further application for £5,000 will shortly be made to BIFFA who require a second quotation for these works. Cllr Fairs will arrange this quotation.

Applications for £13,582 to BIFFA, and £10,000 to Cory instead of Essex Environmental Trust for the redecoration and repairs to the village hall are being prepared and will be submitted by the clerk.

It was agreed to support an application for an Olympic Grant of £400 to ECC for the village sports day.

9. HIGHWAYS

Cllr Brewer and Cllr Traube said that they would rearrange the meeting with ECC Cllr Brown and Borough Cllr Chillingworth to inspect the state of the roads in and around the village. The clerk mentioned that a parishioner had expressed concern with the dangerous junction of Earls Colne Road and Chappel Road.

10. HAROLD FAIRS RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Williamson said that the school had requested use of the Recreation Ground on 1st June for a Jubilee Party. This was agreed.

11. CORRESPONDENCE NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE

From the agents of the Diocese of Chelmsford in response to our request last year for them to arrange for the hedges and trees to be cut back which are overhanging the footway on Chappel Road and Moor Road. They state that they have asked ECC Highways to do this. Cllr Fairs said that he met with the agent last year and understood that they agreed to do the work as they had done previously, and the clerk was asked to reply accordingly.

From Rural Community Council of Essex sending an application form for the Best Kept Village Competition. The clerk was asked to complete and submit this.

From Mr I Dyer, handyman, regarding two outstanding jobs.

From Mr S Collins giving details of Round and About Live, when village groups will have an opportunity to promote their activities in the Village Hall on 25th March. He asks if the parish council will have a table. Cllr Williamson agreed to attend.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

(i)Two parishioners said that they would like to see part of the village common land returned back to a wild flower meadow, and suggested around the beacon on the Old Playing Field, and also a small area of the churchyard. Answer – It was agreed that this was a good idea, and further details, including cost, were requested so that this could be presented and considered at the next meeting. It was also suggested that they could approach the Village Jubilee Fund. Cllr Fairs suggested that they speak to Reverend Richardson regarding the possibility of including part of the churchyard in these plans.

(ii)The transport representative said that he would liaise with ECC regarding the forthcoming passenger transport meeting.

(iii)A parishioner expressed thanks to the Community Wardens who held a bingo event in the village recently.

(iv)A parishioner asked if the Community Speedwatch Group was still operating. Answer – Yes the Group is still operating at different times which is due to weather conditions, and also due to random timing of operations.

12. OTHER BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION

Cllr Beesley said that the village directory and the emergency plan are being uploaded onto the parish web site. After discussion it was agreed that Public Questions and Statements would be included in future on the agenda at the start of the meeting, instead of at the end of the meeting as at present.

There being no further business the parish council meeting was closed at 9.30 pm.

Chairperson.....

Date.....