

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held

at the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 12th February 2013, at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Beesley, Cllr Brewer, Cllr Fairs (Chairman), Cllr Langthorne (later) Cllr Veash, Cllr Williamson

Clerk Mr D Williams, Borough Cllr Chillingworth and 5 members of public attended.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr Bartleet

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – None

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - The minutes of the last parish council meeting of 8th January 2013 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Cllr Brewer said that he is arranging for the village hall front door lock repair. He has updated the parish Emergency Plan which has been circulated, and a meeting has been arranged with Colchester Borough Council (CBC) and Essex County Council (ECC) regarding concerns with the Colchester bus station.

5. VACANCY OF PARISH COUNCILLOR

Cllr Fair said that Cllr Roy Traube had resigned from the parish council after more than 10 years as a councillor. He thanked him for his support and service to the parish council over this long period, and in particular to his management of the maintenance and refurbishment of the village hall. The vacancy has been advertised and as no election was called, the parish council can now co opt a new parish councillor. Cllr Brewer proposed Mr Shane Langthorne and Cllr Williamson seconded this proposal. There were no other nominations, and Mr Langthorne was voted unanimously as a parish councillor, and he duly joined the councillors at the meeting.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The meeting was suspended for public questions and statements:-

(i). The transport representative asked if there had been a transport meeting in January as was previously arranged. Cllr Brewer said that there had not been a meeting. The transport representative said that several issues could be resolved at the forthcoming meeting with CBC and ECC but some matters will require a meeting with all bus users.

(ii) A parishioner thanked the parish council for objecting to the proposed development at Pendleton, The Street which had been refused by CBC.

(ii) A parishioner said that the proposals for a new development at West Tey linked with the improvements to the A 120 road are being put forward again.

(iii) A parishioner asked for agreement to park a catering van on the Great Yard on 7th April. This was agreed.

(iv) A parishioner asked if there is any legislation to enforce the clearing up of rubbish off the road after hedges have been cut. Cllr Fairs said there was not.

The meeting was resumed.

6. REPORT FROM COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

Borough Cllr Chillingworth said that the proposed West Tey development depends on the housing proposed being put in the Local Plan. This is a long term project. There is to be a trial of pedestrian access only in High Street Colchester for 18 months starting on 7th March.

Cllr Fairs said that the parish council were concerned that approval had been given to a planning application that the parish council had objected to. Borough Cllr Chillingworth said that in those cases if the parish council is concerned, then the application should be called in for consideration by the planning committee.

Borough Cllr Chillingworth and 1 member of public left the meeting.

7. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) The following credits have been received:-

Colchester Borough Council - community grant	£ 355.00
UK Power – wayleave	£ 56.91
Allotment rental	£ 12.50

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

Chq.No.	Payee	Amount (£) /	of which VAT:-
101323	Anglian Water – water for allotments	£ 21.61	
101324	Gt Tey Village Hall Management Committee – part hall insurance	£ 1,750.00	
101325	Great & Little Tey PCC – donation for churchyard grasscuts	£ 300.00	
101326	D Williams – clerk salary £444.08 less PAYE £88.82	£ 355.26	
101327	HM Revenue & Customs - PAYE for clerk salary	£ 88.82	
101328	Richard Fordham – tree work at HFRG	£ 600.00	£ 100.00
	Youth Activity Club Account		
100056	Gt Tey Village Hall Management Committee – hall rental	£ 17.00	

- (c) The donation to the Village Hall Management Committee for part of the annual insurance was discussed, and in particular the level of insurance of the hall building and the premium charged, which appeared high. The clerk was asked to obtain hall rebuild costs from the Rural Community Council of Essex and to ask the treasurer of the Management Committee when the insurance policy is renewed to advise the insurer that rebuild costs are being investigated and will seek a refund of premium if the cover is reduced. We are to diarise for November to seek alternative quotations for village hall insurance.
- (d) An authority to transfer £ 2,700 from Business Saving Account to Community Account was completed. The resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr £ 1,055.72, Youth Activity Club Account Cr 840.23 and Business Saver Account Cr £ 12,318.12. The bank statements were signed by the chairman in evidence.
- (e) Tenders have been received for the grass cutting contract. These were discussed and it was agreed to accept the lower tender from the existing contractor Mr I Dyer. The clerk was asked to advise and thank both contractors.
- (f) The handyman's hourly rate is reviewed each year, and it was agreed to increase the rate to £10.25 per hour with effect from 1 April 2013. The clerk was asked to inform the handyman and thank him for his work for the village.
- (g) The clerk advised that £355 has been received from CBC for the community grant. It was agreed that the clerk instructs the handyman to proceed with the repair of the children's playground seat at a cost of £75, and advise him that the bus shelter revarnishing at a cost of £125 is delayed until the weather improves towards April. The third item covered by the grant is the replacement of the allotment post and it was agreed to accept the lower quote of £128 for an oak post set in concrete from the handyman, and the clerk is to instruct him to proceed with that as soon as possible. The other contractor quoting is to be thanked and advised that his quote was not successful.
- (h) Cllr Fairs referred to the signing authorities for the parish council bank account, where it was agreed at the last meeting that six councillors should all be authorised signatories with any two to sign. This had been reconsidered and after discussion it was agreed that Cllr Fairs should be an additional signature with Cllr Bartleet and Cllr Williamson, with any two of those three to sign jointly. The mandate was completed.

8. PLANNING MATTERS

Approvals

122076 Marshalls Farm, Chappel Road – erection of single storey dwelling to replace mobile home – approved subject to 8 conditions and 2 informatives.

Refusals

121803 Pendleton, The Street – construction of new two bedroom detached property – refused.

9. VILLAGE HALL

The clerk was asked to write to the contractor confirming the redecoration and refurbishment of the village hall in August when the pre school is on holiday and to ask the Village Hall Management Committee to advise user groups. Cllr Fairs has agreed to project manage the refurbishments.

10. HAROLD FAIRS RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Brewer said that the hedge from Lower Langley to the school does not require cutting.

Cllr Fairs said that the tree and hedge cutting from the car park to the tennis court has been completed by Mr Fordham.

11. HIGHWAYS

Cllr Brewer said that a report had been sent to ECC Highways regarding the condition of resurfaced roads; potholes and flooding at East Gores Lane and Salmons Lane; flooding in Chapel Road; the road surface at The Old Ford Crossing, Teybrook Farm, Brook Road; and potholes in Swan Street. ECC Highways advise that resurfacing defects should be corrected by the end of March; East Gores Road has been repaired; and the other defects will be attended to although dates cannot be provided. Cllr Brewer said that he would respond to this reply from ECC Highways, and also point out other long standing issues such as the missing signpost at the top of New Barn Road and the leaning signpost at the corner of Moor Road and Chappel Road.

It was agreed that the clerk asks Cllr Bartleet to quote for the cutting back of the hedges overhanging the footway on the corner of Brook Road and Moor Road as this has been an outstanding issue with ECC Highways and the landowner's agent for many months.

12. CORRESPONDENCE NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE

From the Rural Community Council of Essex sending entry forms for the Best Kept Village Competition and Village of the Year Competition. It was agreed to enter and the clerk was asked to complete the entry forms.

From a parishioner asking whether the parish council can endorse a business product. It was agreed that this could not be done.

From the Treasurer of the Village Hall Management Committee advising all user groups that the hall must be locked securely with all doors and windows shut.

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

Chairperson.....

Date.....

