

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held

at the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 9th February 2016, at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllr Barron, Cllr Bartleet, Cllr Beesley (Chairman), Cllr Hunt, Cllr Williamson.
Clerk Mr D Williams, Borough Cllr Chillingworth and 1 member of the public attended.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr Fairs, Cllr Hamer

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – None

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - The minutes of the last parish council meeting of 12th January 2016 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES – The clerk apologised for not putting an article regarding the litter pick in Round and About for February, and it will be put in the March edition.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

The meeting was suspended for Public Questions and Statements.

(i).A parishioner asked if a reply had been received from Essex County Council (ECC) regarding the questions asked concerning the proposed alterations to the bus service. He said that if the bus timetable is to be changed then it will need to be communicated to the parishioners reasonably quickly. He said that he had contacted Mencap and advised them of the situation, and they advised him that they will write to ECC.

Cllr Beesley said that a reply had been received from ECC who said that they will respond to the points raised. He asked the clerk to reply and ask ECC for a full response mentioning that we have a tight timescale to advise parishioners in the village newsletter.

(ii).A parishioner said that road signs show that Moor Road is to be closed for a few days for road repairs. The meeting was resumed.

5. REPORT FROM COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

Borough Cllr Chillingworth said that the locality grant is £400 and acknowledged receipt of the parish council's application for funding for a new picnic bench in Harold Fairs Recreation Ground (HFRG). There was a possibility of increased funding but this has now been withdrawn. He said that a recent survey on the possibility of wheelybins showed that 81% of residents did not want them. There is no progress with the planning application for the expansion of Tollgate, as it is being reconsidered later this month.

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

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

Chq.No.	Payee	Amount (£)/ of which VAT:-
101528	Anglian Water – allotments water	£ 21.63
101529	D Williams-clerk salary £458.33 less PAYE £91.60	£ 366.73
101530	HM Revenue & Customs - PAYE for clerk salary	£ 91.60

(b) The resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr £20,505.77, Business Saver Account Cr £22.38. The bank statements were signed by the chairman in evidence.

(c) Members agreed to a request for a donation of £300 towards the insurance costs for the Village Weekend and asked the clerk to reply and advise that the parish council sets the budget in January each year and so is unable to fund any more. It would be appreciated if funding is sought earlier in future.

7. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) Applications

160079 The Leys, Broad Green, Coggeshall single storey granny annexe to side of house – no objections subject to neighbours' views.

(b) Approvals by Colchester Borough Council

152497 Marshalls Yard Marshalls Farm, Chappel Road -application for a lawful development certificate for existing private dwelling for residential use in connection with agricultural use and scrapyard.

152566 The Old School, Moor Road - demolish recently added outbuildings, refurbish existing buildings, single storey extension for porch, utility room and cloakroom. Convert loft space to create two new bedrooms, bathroom, including dormer windows.

152690 Kings Arms Broad Green -lawful development certificate for the existing use of rooms within the public house used on a bed and breakfast basis including three rooms to the first floor and one within the outbuilding.

152876 Woozle's Wood, Moor Road -application for prior notification of a proposed wooden cabin

8. HIGHWAYS

The clerk said that correspondence from a parishioner had been received and circulated regarding the poor state of Brook Road and Great Tey Road. Members agreed to ask the clerk to write to ECC Highways and ask for progress regarding the solving of water on the road leading to Tey Brook from Great Tey village, causing the deterioration of the road surface and creating danger when the water freezes.

Confirmation has been received from ECC by way of an Order creating Footpath 16 from the eastern side of Chappel Road, just south of the junction with Earls Colne Road to Pattocks Lane.
Confirmation has been received from ECC by way of an Order upgrading Pattocks Lane to a Restricted Byway.

9. HAROLD FAIRS RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Beesley said that parishioners' views regarding the future use of the tennis court area was sought in December's edition of Round and About, and one response had been received. Members decided to ask the clerk to put an article in Round and About stating that parishioners have been consulted, and the council has started to tidy up the area. A few suggestions have been received, being an outdoor gym, cycle track, football goal and basketball hoop but no funds are available to install these. The council therefore propose to remove the tennis court surface and to grass over the area. Any views regarding this course of action would be appreciated to enable us to move forward.

The clerk was asked to seek suggestions regarding these proposed works from Messrs Barron and for a guide price, saying that if we sought a formal quote we would require at least one further quote.

The clerk was instructed to ask Cllr Fairs if he could meet with the handyman to discuss his quotation to repair the bridge and timber walkway.

Cllr Beesley referred to the quotation from the handyman to coppice to ground level the trees and hedging at the rear of the properties which borders with the recreation ground, from the entrance to the recreation ground to Farmfield Road. Members discussed this and the clerk was asked to write to the handyman again and ask him for a copy of his public liability insurance schedule to update our records to enable the council to instruct on this job which has to be completed by 15th March. The clerk was also asked to obtain the insurance details from the other tree contractor.

Members agreed to complete the purchase for the picnic bench for £437.50 plus VAT once the locality fund for £400 from CBC has been confirmed. Cllr Bartleet asked for the dimensions of the bench so that he can measure the existing base, and the surface and the brackets can then be established.

10. ALLOTMENTS

The clerk was instructed to ask Cllr Fairs if he could look at the overhanging trees affecting the plots on the right side and seek a quotation to cut back if necessary.

Correspondence received from a plot holder asking if she could take over a vacant plot and turn it into a wild life area. Members agreed that as there are four parishioners on the waiting list, this request will go on to the waiting list and when a plot becomes available we will advise her. The council may be able to find an area somewhere else for her. We intend to cut back the overhanging trees.

12. CORRESPONDENCE NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE

A parishioner asks if the parish council has a local development plan. Cllr Williamson said that this was considered 3 years ago and a meeting at Essex Association of Local Councils was attended. It was agreed that it is a good plan to have but it requires a number of parishioners to support and run it.

A parishioner asks whether the parish council agenda for meetings, and minutes of the meetings, can be published in Round and About. Members agreed but pointed out that because of the publication dates of Round and About being before the end of the month, the agendas would be in draft form and the minutes would be almost 2 months old.

A request to use Harold Fairs Recreation Ground (HFRG) on Sunday 5 June and Sunday 4 September for village cricket matches was agreed. Use of the Old Playing Field on Saturday 25 June and Sunday 26 June, and HFRG on Sunday 26 June for the village weekend was also agreed. All dates are subject to them leaving the fields tidy and having public liability insurance.

There being no further business the parish council meeting was closed at 9.43 pm.

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