

# GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held

at the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2015, at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllr Barron, Cllr Bartleet, Cllr Beesley, Cllr Fairs (Chairman), Cllr Williamson.

Clerk Mr D Williams, Borough Cllr Chillingworth and 3 members of the public attended.

## 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – 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 9<sup>th</sup> December 2014 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

## 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES – None

## PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

The meeting was suspended for Public Questions and Statements.

(i).A parishioner referred to the horse chestnut tree in the Old Playing Field that was suffering from bleeding canker. The tree is 20 years old. She has contacted the Royal Horticultural Society to seek their views. They advise that they are seeking a remedy to the canker and are investigating the cause. It may have honey fungus. They ask that the tree is managed, and that they are sent photographs and measurements twice a year. They believe that it is not a health and safety risk and that the disease will not spread to other species. The parishioner said that she will undertake this voluntary survey and report back from time to time.

The meeting was resumed.

Members agreed that the tree can remain under this monitoring. Mr Dyer will be asked to make a cage for the tree.

## 5. REPORT FROM COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

Borough Cllr Chillingworth said that S106 monies will not be payable in future for new developments under 10 in number. The response from Colchester Borough Council (CBC) regarding the parish council's application for funds under the S106 arrangements for the development at Chrysmund Croft was discussed.

Local consultation 'drop ins' are to be arranged regarding the Issues and Options in the Local Plan for development in the Borough.

Replacement clear recycling bags will be available at Marks Tey Village Hall every morning except Thursday. Borough Cllr Chillingworth left the meeting.

## 6. PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Cllr Fairs said that no candidates had yet come forward and the vacancy remains unfilled.

## 7. FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

Chq.No.	Payee		
101463	Great & Little Tey PCC – donation for churchyard grasscuts	£ 300.00	
101464	D Williams- clerk salary £453.00 less PAYE £90.60	£ 362.40	
101465	HM Revenue & Customs - PAYE for clerk salary	£ 90.60	
101466	BeDot MediaGroup – web sitehosting & domain renewal	£ 71.98	£ 12.00
101467	Gt Tey Village Hall Committee – hall rental	£ 57.00	
101468	I Dyer – grasscutting	£ 158.40	£ 26.40

Youth Activity Club Account

100078	Gt Tey Village Hall Committee – hall rental	£ 42.00	
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(b) The resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr £ 16,585.44, Youth Activity Club Account Cr £ 100.25 and Business Saver Account Cr £ 22.38.

The bank statements were signed by the chairman in evidence.

(c) The clerk said that a reply had been received from CBC regarding the request for funding for the site clearance of the tennis court project. The issues raised by CBC were discussed, and it was agreed to reply to the questions raised and to ask for half of the funds available for leisure or open spaces being £1,831.25 to enable the tree works costing £2,400 to be done before the bird nesting season at the end of March. We will reapply for the remainder when the funds are fully available when the property is occupied. The balance of the funds required for the project will be included in the budget discussed later. When the funds are confirmed then Cllrs Fairs or Cllr Barron or Cllr Bartleet will meet with the contractor on site to clarify the trees to be reduced to stumps and removed.

(d) The budget for the year to 31 March 2016 was considered. Expenditure was reviewed and a total of £16,845 was agreed. The clerk's salary was increased by 1% to £ 5,500 and the handyman's rate was increased by 25p per hour to £ 10.75 per hour. Income of £17,404 including precept and grant was agreed. Colchester Borough Council (CBC) has decided to reduce their total grant from £1,515 to £1,363, a reduction of £ 152. Last year's precept was £15,104, and it was agreed to increase this by the £152 reduction in the CBC grant and a £500 provision for future village hall maintenance included in expenditure. Thus the precept for 2015/6 was unanimously agreed at £15,756, and an increase in the Band D council tax from £41.48 to £42.50, which is an increase of 2.46%.

**8. PLANNING MATTERS**

- (a) Applications  
146574 - Tey Brook Centre, 2 Brook Road – Change of use of Unit 2 from Use Class B1/B2 to provide a Specialist Funeral Care Facility (Sui Generis) – no objections subject to neighbours’ views.
- (b) Approvals – None

**9. ALLOTMENTS**

The clerk reported that some allotment plot holders still had not paid the annual rent and will be chased.

**10. HIGHWAYS**

Cllr Fairs said that a letter of complaint had been received from a parishioner concerning the lack of road repairs in the parish, and in particular the main road from A130 to A1124, and Moor Road. He also expressed concern with the flooding from the village towards Tey Brook which when frozen makes the road hazardous. The clerk was asked to write to Essex County Council (ECC) Councillor Anne Brown, who has been in contact with ECC Highways, and invite her to the next parish council meeting so that these issues can be discussed.

The clerk reported that ECC Highways had completed the work to the junction of Earls Colne Road and Chappel Road by installing No Entry signs to the south side of the island at the junction, and the road markings have been repainted. The footway had not been installed, and the island had not been removed. Members agreed that these works done were acceptable, and the clerk was asked to write to ECC Highways asking them to ensure that the No Entry signs are maintained.

**11. CORRESPONDENCE NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE**

A complaint had been received regarding the lack of up to date parish council meeting minutes on the web site and also that the minutes were one month old on the notice board. Arrangements were made to rectify this and the clerk was asked to reply accordingly.

There being no further business the parish council meeting was closed at 9.31 pm.

Chairperson.....

Date.....