

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held

at the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 14th July 2015, at 7.30 pm

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

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Essex CC Cllr Brown, Borough Cllr Chillingworth

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – None

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - The minutes of the last parish council meeting of 9th June 2015 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES – None

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

A parishioner said that he objected to the planning application for approval of the proposed change of use of an agricultural building to a dwelling house at Forresters Farm, Lamberts Lane. He said that the previous application had been refused because of the isolated location in the countryside, the distance from any settlement boundary and the siting of the barn in very close proximity with the existing dwelling of Forresters, together with reasonably substantial amounts of structural work that would be required to make the building habitable. He said that these issues were still relevant.

5. CO OPTION OF A PARISH COUNCILLOR TO FILL THE VACANCY

Cllr Beesley asked if there were any nominations for the vacancy of a parish councillor. Cllr Hamer said that there may be a possible candidate, and so she was asked to extend an invitation to the next parish council meeting.

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

Chq.No.	Payee	Amount (£)/ of which VAT:-	
101490	I Dyer – grasscuts May	£ 184.80	£ 30.80
101491	I Dyer – grasscuts June	£ 132.00	£ 22.00
101492	I Dyer – handyman	£ 132.30	£ 22.05
101493	Campaign to Protect Rural England – subscription	£ 33.00	
101494	D Williams-clerk salary £458.33 less PAYE £91.60	£ 366.73	
101495	HM Revenue & Customs - PAYE for clerk salary	£ 91.60	
101496	Great Tey Village Hall Management Committee – hall rental	£ 57.00	
101497	Playsafety Ltd – ROSPA report for play area	£ 96.00	£ 16.00
101498	Rural Community Council of Essex - subscription	£ 66.00	£ 11.00
101499	Great & Little Tey Parochial Church Council – donation	£ 675.00	
101500	PKF Littlejohn LLP – annual auditor's fee	£ 120.00	£ 20.00

(b) The resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr £ 18,468.08, Business Saver Account Cr £ 22.38. The bank statements were signed by the chairman in evidence.

(d) The clerk presented the external auditor's report for the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2015. This said that the information in the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters have come to their attention giving cause for concern.

7. PLANNING MATTERS

151180 Tey Craft Centre, Brook Road – advertisement consent - We object to this application for the non illuminated fascia sign on the roadside, item 3, as we consider that the size and scale is inappropriate and out of character with the adjacent buildings and being on the main approach road to Great Tey. We have no objection to items 1, 2 and 4 facing the other units.

151397 Forresters Farm, Lamberts Lane - prior approval of the proposed change of use of an agricultural building to a dwelling house (use Class C3) - No comment.

(b) Approvals

150859 Barn To South Of Tey Cross Farmhouse, Tey Cross Farm - Conversion of redundant listed barn and new extension for residential use –approved subject to 10 conditions

150860 Barn To South Of Tey Cross Farmhouse, Tey Cross Farm – Conversion of redundant listed barn and new extension for residential use –approved subject to 20 conditions

(c) Other Matters

Footpath 11 Order issued re Upgrade of footpath to a bridleway – We support the landowners in their objections to the upgrading of this footpath to a bridleway. We are concerned with the destruction of the habitat of protected wildlife, flora and fauna in widening the footpath to unnecessary widths in many areas and consider that the widths could be substantially reduced.

Footpath 16 Decision Notice issued confirming that this footpath will be added to the Definitive Map.

8. PROTECTED LANES

Cllr Beesley said that a response has been received from Colchester Borough Council (CBC) to our previous enquiry. They advise that CBC is preparing a new local plan and are currently trying to decide how to deal with policy issues such as Protected Lanes in the new plan. Members therefore agreed to wait until this had been clarified before considering any further.

9. HIGHWAYS

Cllr Beesley said that Essex County Council (ECC) Highways had invited the parish to join in the salt bag scheme again this winter. Cllr Bartleet said that there was still a good stock of salt bags and members decided not to join the scheme in view of the considerable monitoring required by ECC.

Cllr Beesley asked that the pothole on Brook Road between the glamping centre and the sewage treatment works is reported to ECC Highways. Cllr Bartleet said that the weeds on the railway bridge in Moor Road should be treated, and the clerk was asked to contact ECC Highways regarding these two issues.

10. PUMP HOUSE

Cllr Beesley said that a parishioner had kindly offered to weed the Pump House, and members agreed to accept the offer subject to the completion of a licence agreement. The clerk was asked to send it to him for signature once members had agreed to the format. Cllr Fairs said that he would review the condition of the plaque at the pump house.

11. FACEBOOK

Cllr Hamer asked whether members wanted a facebook page for the parish council as another method of communication. Members agreed to investigate this before considering further.

12. VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Fairs asked whether solar panels should be considered to fund roof repairs, and it was agreed that he would investigate this.

13. HAROLD FAIRS RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Williamson said that with Cllr Bartleet she met the contractor on site and identified the trees to be removed around the tennis court, and it was agreed that this work is done during the week commencing 14th September.

Cllr Barron was asked to establish whether the quotation for the ground works of £3,100 covered the removal of the stumps, making good and re-seeding. Once this is clarified, the clerk was asked to obtain CBC confirmation that a grant of £1,831.75 is payable towards the cost of these works from the S106 monies due for the Chrysmund Croft property.

Cllr Fairs said that the ROSPA report on the play area has highlighted that the bridge over the mounds needs attention, with other items being Low or Medium Risk, which need monitoring. The handyman has been asked for a quotation to repair and also a quotation for a steel framed bridge and timber walkway, also giving some images. Cllr Williamson said that she will also ask Playquip for a quotation. Members agreed to consider this at the next meeting.

14. ALLOTMENTS

Cllr Beesley said that some allotment holders have raised some points. Firstly they said that some paths are overgrown. The clerk was asked to write to the handyman and enquire whether in his opinion are they all being cut regularly enough.

Allotment holders are also concerned that there are some unworked plots whose weeds are spreading into the worked plots, and the clerk was asked to send the plan of the plots to Cllr Williamson for investigation.

Allotment holders have suggested a work party to tidy up the edges of the allotment, and Cllr Fairs said that he would arrange the disposal of rubbish from the plots if it was done in early August. Members again suggested that plot holders form an allotment association. The clerk was asked to respond to these issues raised.

15. OTHER BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION

Cllr Hamer said that concern has been expressed by parishioners regarding the West Tey development. Cllr Fairs suggested that interested parishioners should attend the regular updates that CBC give at Marks Tey.

There being no further business the parish council meeting was closed at 10.02 pm.

Chairperson.....

Date.....