

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held

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

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

Clerk Mr D Williams, Borough Cllr Chillingworth and 2 members of public attended.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr Fairs

2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** – Cllr Bartleet declared an interest in minute 6 (b) as he has submitted an invoice for hedge cutting.

3. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** - The minutes of the last parish council meeting of 12th February 2013 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES - None

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The meeting was suspended for public questions and statements:-

(i). The transport representative said that he had advised bus users in the village of the bus meeting with Colchester Borough Council (CBC) and Essex County Council (ECC) and thanked the parish council for arranging this. He said that it was not clear who was responsible for health and safety at Colchester bus station, and that access to the bus station for the disabled and the infirm is not good because of poor road crossing facilities and poor car park crossing facilities. Cllr Brewer said that he would write to CBC and ECC regarding this.

(ii) A parishioner said that she was concerned with the state of Lamberts Lane, which is a single track no through road which serves 14 properties. The road has numerous potholes which are dangerously large and deep and impossible to avoid. This means that the residents, many of whom are elderly and in poor health, are not able to easily access their properties and neither are the health professionals being carers, nurses who have to visit the properties.

Highways contractors have yesterday started repairing some potholes, but they say that they will not repair all the lane, and we doubt that the repairs will last more than a few weeks.

Cllr Brewer asked for more details and said that he will then write to Highways regarding this. Cllr Veash said that this again shows that there is a poor system of reporting potholes, poor workmanship and poor supervision of contractors.

The meeting was resumed.

5. REPORT FROM COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

Borough Cllr Chillingworth said that there are some Section 106 monies due to the Parish Council relating to a recent planning application. £1,918 is due for Open Spaces and £551 for Community Buildings. The parish council should consider the use of these monies. This will be an agenda item next month.

He said that an Affordable Housing Scheme is being considered in Wakes Colne, but instead wondered whether a scheme for the Ward would be worthy of consideration. He asked whether the Affordable Housing Survey report that was prepared for Great Tey could be used in this connection. Councillors approved this if the Rural Community Council of Essex, who undertook the survey, agreed to this.

Borough Cllr Chillingworth left the meeting.

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) The following credits have been received:-

Allotment rentals	£ 50.00
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(b) The following cheques were approved for payment:-

Chq.No.	Payee	Amount (£)	of which VAT:-
101329	JE & FA Bartleet – hedge cuts in Chappel Rd & Moor Road	£ 90.00	£15.00
101330	D Williams-clerk net sal £355.26 & printing & post exps £78.03	£ 433.29	£ 6.44
101331	HM Revenue & Customs - PAYE for clerk salary	£ 88.82	
101332	I Dyer – handyman	£ 272.03	£45.34
Youth Activity Club Account			
100057	Gt Tey Village Hall Management Committee – hall rental	£ 34.00	

(c) An authority to transfer £700 from Business Saving Account to Community Account was completed. The resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr £936.58, Youth Activity Club Account Cr 806.23 and Business Saver Account Cr £11,618.12. The bank statements were signed by the chairman in evidence.

7. PLANNING MATTERS - None

8. VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Brewer said that the village hall door lock had been repaired by welding it for a cost of about £30.
Cllr Williamson said that the Village Hall Management Committee Annual General Meeting is on 19 March. The Treasurer has advised that he is to retire after many years’ service and a replacement is sought. Cllr Brewer said that users will have to be advised that the hall is being refurbished in August. The contractor will be asked to work around the Post Office and the doctor’s surgery. This will be an agenda item in April to discuss planning for the refurbishments, and also in May to structure the finance for the works.
The issue regarding the insurance of the village hall was considered, and as the next step the clerk was instructed to ask Mr D Smith of Percivals to indicate the cost of a professional valuation of the hall for insurance purposes.

9. HIGHWAYS

The response from ECC Highways regarding the parish council’s request for improved speed activated signs was discussed. It was agreed to ask for the existing sign to be replaced by a Speed Indicator Sign, and that a site meeting is arranged so that we can have advice on the best location nearest to the southern entrance to the village. If this is not possible then as an alternative we would ask that the existing sign is moved nearer the southern entrance to the village, and that also a similar device is placed at the northern entrance to the village. Again we ask for a meeting for advice regarding the location. The clerk was asked to write to Highways accordingly.
Cllr Brewer said that he would prepare a report to Highways regarding Lamberts Lane – as mentioned in Public Questions, the state of road repairs and the inspection, prioritisation and completion of repairs of potholes.

10. ALLOTMENTS

The clerk reported that one allotment rental which was originally due last October, has still not been paid and he was asked to write to the plotholder and advise him that unless payment was received within 28 days, the parish council would take back the plot and relet it.

11. CORRESPONDENCE NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE

From Essex Heritage Trust advising that they have funds available for worthy public heritage projects in Essex. It was agreed that this would be an agenda item at the next meeting.

12. OTHER BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION

Cllr Veash raised Neighbourhood Watch issues which were considered.
Cllr Brewer said that arrangements were in place for the litter pick on Saturday 23rd March.
It was agreed that an update on the damage to the wall surrounding the parish council owned pump would be considered at the next meeting.

There being no further business the parish council meeting was closed at 9.15 pm.

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