

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held

at the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 8th October 2013, at 7.30 pm

Present:- Cllr Beesley (Chairman), Cllr Langthorne, Cllr Veash, Cllr Williamson

Clerk Mr D Williams and 3 members of public attended.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr Bartleet, Cllr Brewer, Cllr Fairs.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – None.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - The minutes of the last parish council meeting of 10th September 2013 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The meeting was suspended for public questions and statements

(i). A parishioner asked if any clarification had been received from Essex County Council (ECC) regarding their support for bus services.

The clerk said – yes, they advise that there is no legal requirement for a minimum bus service.

(ii). The parishioner said that this advice is in contravention of previous statements from ECC in particular bus policy number 5 of the ECC bus strategy dated August 2001.

It was agreed that the clerk should write to ECC and advise them of this.

(iii). A parishioner said that the bus survey's questions will not give a clear view of villager's bus service requirements.

(iv). A parishioner said that the parish council should link up with other local parish councils to counter any forthcoming bus service cuts.

It was agreed that the clerk writes to the parish councils of Colne Engaine, Bures, Chappel, Fordham and Eight Ash Green suggesting a meeting to unite against any possible bus service cuts as a result of this survey.

The meeting was resumed.

(v). A parishioner said that rural buses will not have automatic vehicle location.

(vi). A parishioner asked why the wall outside the village hall was not rendered in accordance with the original quotation.

Cllr Beesley said that the wall was not constructed to accept render and so it was repaired and painted.

4. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) The following credits have been received:-

Trustees of Great Tey Village Hall – donation for village hall works	£ 7,500.00
Colchester Borough Council – second half of precept and grant	£ 8,059.50

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

Chq.No. Payee	Amount (£)/ of which VAT:-	
101370 Cheque Destroyed		
101371 PKF Littlejohn – external auditor's fee	£ 120.00	£ 20.00
101372 D Williams- clerk salary £448.50 less PAYE £89.60	£ 358.90	
101373 HM Revenue & Customs - PAYE for clerk salary	£ 89.60	
101374 Gt Tey Village Hall Management Committee – hall rental	£ 57.00	
101375 I Dyer – grass cutting HFRG & OPF	£ 158.40	£ 26.40
101376 I Dyer – handyman	£ 198.00	£ 33.00
101377 RH General Builders Ltd – refurbishment to village hall	£ 15,918.00	£ 2,653.00
101378 Tey Farm Systems Ltd – village hall refurbishment materials	£ 100.87	£ 16.81
101379 Tey Farm Systems Ltd – village hall refurbishment materials	£ 19.54	£ 3.26

Youth Activity Club Account

100063 Gt Tey Village Hall Management Committee – hall rental	£ 34.00
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(c) It was agreed that cheque number 101377 for £15,918 be released for payment when confirmation has been received that all the snagging works had been done.

(d) The resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr £ 13,955.89, Youth Activity Club Account Cr 602.23 and Business Saver Account Cr £ 22.38. The bank statements were signed by the chairman in evidence.

(e) The clerk presented the audit report from the external auditors for the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2013 which had been signed with the only comment that the Annual Return had not been submitted by the date requested. The clerk advised that the Return had been submitted two days after the June meeting and was asked to respond to the auditors accordingly.

5. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) Applications

131679 Bramley House, East Gores Road – new one and a half storey single residential dwelling with associated Garage – no objections subject to neighbours' views.

6.VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Langthorne said that there had been a good number of applicants for the post of a salaried village hall manager to run the hall, and an appointment has been made and he will start shortly. He will be employed by the Village Hall Management Committee. Cllr Langthorne said that he will put a note in Round and About advising of the appointment, and also seeking support of parishioners interested in the future of the village hall. He said that a meeting of the management committee will be arranged to ask user groups to become involved through regular management committee meetings.

After discussion it was agreed that the clerk writes to Rural Community Council of Essex and ask for their advice regarding the legal position of the management committee and the responsibility for running the hall.

The clerk was asked to write to Mr Springate and thank him for his many years of public service in his voluntary role as treasurer of the hall.

7.HAROLD FAIRS RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Williamson said that quotations have been received and circulated to members for repairs to equipment in the play area. After discussion Cllr Beesley said that he would source the materials on the web sites of the manufacturers and then report back with prices. Then the council could seek a quotation for their fixing from the handyman.

In the meantime the clerk was instructed to ask the handyman to weed kill the play area.

8.ALLOTMENTS

The clerk said that three requests had been received from present allotment holders asking that action is taken regarding seven unused plots. He was asked to write to those plot holders offering to weed kill those plots after agreement has been received from the other plot holders. The holders of the unused plots are to be advised that the council will take back the plots if they are not used after a further one month.

The clerk was also asked to place a note in Round and About seeking new plot holders.

9. HIGHWAYS

Cllr Beesley said that responses are required from Essex County Council (ECC) Highways regarding several outstanding Highways deficiencies. The clerk was asked to write to ECC Cllr A Brown regarding the way forward with the council’s request for an improvement to the junction of Earls Colne Road and Chappel Road.

10. GREAT TEY SCHOOL

Cllr Williamson read out letters received from Oak Class which gave suggestions regarding improvement to the youth shelter at Harold Fairs Recreation Ground. These were discussed and the clerk was asked to reply saying that the parish council are pleased to agree to the suggestions that the shelter should be improved, and would be delighted to see their plans when they are ready.

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

Chairperson.....

Date.....