

# GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held  
at the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2015, at 7.30 pm

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

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Cllr Bartleet, 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 8<sup>th</sup> September 2015 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

None

## PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

(i). A parishioner referred to the bus service consultation and said that he was concerned with the proposed alterations to the bus service to and from our village. He said that not enough questionnaires have been distributed and that the consultation period is not long enough. He also said that he would ensure that details are distributed to the friendship and bowls club.

Cllr Beesley said that the consultation will be put on to the web site, and that the questionnaire can be responded to on the web site and by telephone. He said that the parish council will write to Essex County Council (ECC) and ask for an extension to the consultation period as we are concerned that the consultation period is too short and not everyone had received the questionnaire. We are also to ask if the questionnaire had been handed out on the buses. It was also mentioned that an ECC bus representative attended a meeting at a nearby village, and we are also to ask ECC if a representative would attend a meeting in our village. The clerk was asked to write accordingly.

(ii). A parishioner said that the Annual General Meeting for the Village Hall Management Committee is to be held in November, and that he had not seen the minutes for the previous meeting in 2013.

## 5. REPORT FROM COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

Borough Cllr Chillingworth said that the Essex Rural Partnership are consulting the public on rural strategy and he encourages as many people as possible to complete it. Chappel and Wakes Colne WI are holding a global warming meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> November with speakers and people are encouraged to attend. There is a new policing structure for Colchester area. ECC are making a bid for increased devolution passing down authority to perhaps parish councils who may get more responsibility.

Borough Cllr Chillingworth left the meeting.

## 6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

Chq.No.	Payee	Amount (£)	of which VAT:-
101510	Great Tey Village Hall Committee – hall rental	£ 57.00	
101511	D Williams-clerk salary £458.33 less PAYE £91.60	£ 366.73	
101512	HM Revenue & Customs - PAYE for clerk salary	£ 91.60	
101513	Richard Fordham – tree work at HFRG	£ 2,880.00	£ 480.00
101514	G & J Barron – ground works at HFRG	£ 3,720.00	£ 620.00

(b) The following credits were reported:-

Colchester Borough Council - £ 1,831.75 – grant towards tree work at HFRG

Colchester Borough Council - £ 596 – grant towards village hall external lighting.

(b) The resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr £12,685.23, Business Saver Account Cr £ 22.38. The bank statements were signed by the chairman in evidence.

## 7. PLANNING MATTERS

### Applications

Footpaths 30,32 (part),37,38(part),50(part) – application to upgrade these footpaths to restricted byways - We support the landowners in their objections to the upgrading of this footpath to a restricted byway. We are concerned with the destruction of the habitat of protected wildlife, flora and fauna in upgrading the footpath.

### Refusal by Colchester Borough Council

151839 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 - Refused

### Other Planning Matters

Footpath 11 Order issued re Upgrade of footpath to a bridleway – Letter received from Essex County Council (ECC) Legal Services regarding the parish council's recent letter stating that our concerns remain, asking if the parish council still objects to the order. The clerk was instructed to confirm that the council still objects.

**8. HIGHWAYS**

Cllr Beesley said that ECC Highways have responded to the parish council’s request to repair the carriageway on the road through Great Tey from A120 to A1124 which was a result of the poor quality of the contractor's work which they acknowledged. They advise that it may take a number of years to improve all of this route. Members decided not to take any further action at present as ECC Cllr Anne Brown is in contact with ECC Highways on our behalf.

The clerk was asked to write to Earls Colne Parish Council to ask if the severe potholes on Tey Road have been reported to Highways, and whether they have been advised if they are to be repaired.

The clerk was asked to report fly tipping on Earls Colne Road on both sides of the road between the junctions of New Barn Road and Chappel Road.

**9. VILLAGE HALL**

Cllr Williamson said that together with Cllr Hamer and the clerk she had attended a meeting with the solicitor acting and the village hall management committee as other trustees, regarding the merging of the two village hall trusts and the new constitution, and further information is awaited.

The Annual General Meeting for the village hall management committee has been arranged for 17th November. She will attend this together with Cllr Hamer.

**10. HAROLD FAIRS RECREATION GROUND**

Cllr Williamson said that the trees have been removed around the tennis court, and the ground works regarding the removal of the tree stumps have been done and the area reseeded. She said that councillors will have to consider whether to remove the tennis court surface or to leave it there as it may be used for a new activity, and possible activities were discussed.

Members said that they would wait for Cllr Fairs’ report once he has met with the handyman to discuss his quotation to repair the bridge and timber walkway.

All members expressed concern and disappointment regarding the continued vandalism to the play area, and the clerk was asked to report the criminal damage to the police. Cllr Williamson said that she will ask the school to mention the vandalism, and the Youth Activity Club and other youth organisations will also be asked to mention the vandalism. The clerk was asked to arrange for another article to be put in Round and About, asking for it to be on the front page. Also to be included in Round and About is reference to the bus survey, the rural strategy survey, and reference to the preferred option for proposed development sites in the Borough which is to be released by Colchester Borough Council in January for further consultation.

Cllr Beesley said that a quotation to reduce the trees and hedging to 12 feet at the rear of the properties which borders with the recreation ground from the entrance to the recreation ground to Farmfield Road has been received. This was discussed and the clerk was asked to obtain a further quotation to coppice the trees and hedging to ground level, with logs to be stacked and the remainder shredded.

**11. OLD PLAYING FIELD**

Letter received from a consultant for the church regarding ownership of a plot of land between the churchyard and the Old Playing Field, and the plans with the deeds will be examined.

Members discussed the access to the Old Playing Field down The Chase and that it should be kept clear with the gate locked when not in use, and that no items should be stored on the Old Playing Field. It was agreed that the clerk should write accordingly.

**12. ALLOTMENTS**

The clerk advised that plot rental invoices will be issued at the increased figure agreed last year. There were some plots which were not being worked and the plottolders will be asked to use them or they will be reallocated.

**13. CORRESPONDENCE NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE**

Copy of a letter sent by a parishioner to ECC Highways regarding the repairs required to the local roads was read out.

There being no further business the parish council meeting was closed at 10.10 pm.

Chairperson.....

Date.....