

# GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held

at the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2011, at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr R Bartleet, Cllr S Beesley, Cllr R Brewer, Cllr S Brook, Cllr R Fairs (Chairman),

Cllr R Traube, Cllr M Williamson

Clerk Mr D Williams, Essex C Cllr A Brown (later), and 12 members of public attended.

**1.APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - Borough Cllr P Chillingworth

**2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** – None

### **3.BEST KEPT FRONT GARDEN COMPETITIONS AND BEST KEPT ALLOTMENTS COMPETITION**

The chairman congratulated all the certificate winners and said that the time spent working in their garden was appreciated by the village. Cheques were presented to the Garden winners. Certificate winners were:-

#### Best Kept Large Front Garden

First Prize - Wellmans, Lamberts Lane                      Second Prize - Greenlands Farm, Lamberts Lane

Third Prize - Scenterfields, Chappel Road

#### Best Kept Small Front Garden

First Prize - 5 Rectory Cottages, Brook Road                      Second Prize - 16 Chrismund Way

Third Prize - 1 Saucelands Cottages, Coggeshall Road

Highly Commended - 1 Chappel Road                      Highly Commended-3 East Gores Road, Coggeshall

#### Best Kept Allotment

First Prize - M Hird and B Flack                      Second Prize - I Dyer

3 members of public left the meeting.

**4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** - The minutes of the last parish council meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> August 2011 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

### **5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Cllr Brewer and Cllr Traube said that work to the tree in the middle of Moor Road at the junction of Chappel Road had not been done and the clerk was asked to contact the handyman regarding this.

### **6. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

(a) The following credit has been received:-

Trustees of Great Tey Village Hall – donation for pest control strips to play equipment    £ 196.75

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

Chq.No.	Payee	Amount (£)/ of which VAT:-	
101222	I Dyer – grasscuts, 4 x HFRG, 3 x OPF	£ 290.40	£ 48.40
101223	I Dyer – handyman	£ 87.76	£ 14.63
101224	I Dyer – pest control strips to play equipment	£ 196.75	£ 32.79
101225	D Williams – clerk salary £358.33 less PAYE	£ 286.73	
101226	HM Revenue & Customs - PAYE for clerk salary	£ 71.60	
101227	Gt & Little Tey PCC – donation for churchyard grasscut Q1&Q2	£ 600.00	
101228	J Burton – winner, Best Kept Large Front Garden Competition	£ 20.00	
101229	H Sears – winner, Best Kept Small Front Garden Competition	£ 20.00	

(c) A transfer from Business Saver Account to Community Account for £2,000 was approved, and the resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr 1,069.47, Youth Activity Club Account Cr £1,312.23, and Business Saver Account Cr £8,108.88. The bank statements were signed by the chairman in evidence.

### **7. PLANNING MATTERS** - Applications

111560 The Forge, Chappel Road – erection of first floor extension and internal alterations to form larger kitchen and dining area and alterations to external appearance-no objections subject to neighbours' views.

111335 Orchard Place, Vernons Road, Chappel – change of use of land to form 3 pitches for gypsy/traveller caravans and the erection of associated utility sheds and boundary fencing planting – We object to this planning application for the following reasons:- 1.The site is outside the village envelope, 2. There is poor road access, Vernons Road is narrow, with a sharp bend beside the site, and there is no pavement. 3. The site is in a rural area and should thus prohibit development in the countryside.4. The present local amenities such as sewerage, refuse collection, and parking spaces are insufficient to support this development. If the Borough Council is minded to approve this application, will a request for payment under Section 106 guidelines be made.

Approvals

101732 Land Rear of Bellevue House and Toccia, Chappel Road – change of use of land to extensions of gardens of Bellevue House and Toccia – approved subject to 3 conditions and 1 informative.

Withdrawn

111357 Berryfield, Broad Green – proposed hay barn/turkey rearing shed – application withdrawn.

Essex C Cllr A Brown joined the meeting

## **8. HIGHWAYS**

Cllr Fairs said that the state of the roads in the parish was poor following the extra usage because of the closure of the Chappel road bridge for 6 months. There are many potholes and the parish was assured by Highways that the roads would be reviewed and repaired. Cllr Traube said that the standard of workmanship was poor, the choice of potholes was poor and when filled they were not compressed. He said that Highways had refused to renew the white lines on the road to the A120 even though it is a County Route.

Essex C Cllr Brown was invited to respond. She said that she would arrange for an engineer from Highways to review the parish roads with her and parish councillors. She also said that the Highways Panel at Essex County Council (ECC) which decides highway priorities in the Borough, has a majority of Colchester Borough Councillors, and she suggested that the parish council contacts Borough Cllr Chillingworth regarding this.

Cllr Brewer asked if a change to the car parking charges at Colchester Hospital is being considered. Essex C Cllr Brown said that this was a decision for the NHS and not ECC, but the park and ride scheme for £2.50 may assist. Cllr Brewer said that Great Tey was on the wrong side of Colchester to benefit from park and ride.

## **9. FUNDING FOR VILLAGE PROJECTS**

Cllr Fairs said that Cory had sent details of requirements for funding. He proposed that the council considers clearing the tennis court to return it to grass, remove the trees and reinstate the basketball court. It was agreed to obtain quotations and then put the details in Round and About for consultation.

Cllr Traube said that the village hall needs redecorating, and he was asked to obtain quotes. The clerk was asked to establish Cory's requirements for grant funding.

## **10. WINTER SALT BAG SCHEME**

It was agreed to participate in the ECC salt bag scheme, and Cllr Bartleet said that Abrahams Farm could hold the stock of salt bags, and distribute as necessary. The clerk was asked to respond to ECC.

## **11. OLD PLAYING FIELD**

Cllr Fairs said that UK Power Network may well prune the tree near the boundary of the OPF and Nuts End, The Chase, and the clerk was asked to enquire accordingly. It was agreed that Cllr Fairs advises Mr Fordham not to proceed with the pruning work to the tree.

## **12. VILLAGE HALL**

The clerk advised that he is in contact with the contractor who installed the pre school fence, asking them to reduce the gap in the fence near the rear hall door in accordance with the original specification.

## **13. HAROLD FAIRS RECREATION GROUND**

(a) It was agreed to accept the quotation of £65 from the handyman for the repair of the shelter seating.

(b) The quotation of £215 plus VAT for the replacement of 7 rotted posts in the play area was considered, together with the quotation of £345 plus VAT to replace 12 posts as the handyman said that a further 5 would need replacing in 12 to 18 months. Cllr Traube said that he had inspected the site and considered that 6 posts needed replacing, and he will mark these for Cllr Fairs to meet with the handyman to discuss the repair. The clerk was asked to obtain the guidance on repairs from the installer. No quote was agreed at this stage.

(c) The quotation from Mr R Fordham to remove the conifers around the tennis court is £1,500 plus VAT, and to remove the conifers and hard woods is £2,000 plus VAT. The stumps would be left 1 foot out of the ground for removal by mechanical digger. It was agreed that these quotations could be included in the quotations for the funding project discussed in minute 9.

(d) Cll Traube said that 2 items of play equipment, being the spring chickens, need replacing. Cllr Williamson agreed to investigate the costs involved.

## **14. PARISH EMERGENCY PLAN**

Cllr Brewer said he had received 7 responses from parishioners advising the services that they can offer. He said that he will now complete the emergency plan and circulate it to parish councillors.

## **15. WEBSITE REVIEW**

Cllr Beesley said that he had contacted the web site designer to review and improve the updating of the web site. He confirmed that he would be able to update the minutes of parish council meetings, and that new pages could be added for clubs and societies. He also said that the emergency plan could be added to the site, and that the Village Directory could be added after amendments had been made. It was agreed therefore not to transfer the web site to a new Wordpress system at present whilst these amendments were being made.

## **16. CORRESPONDENCE NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE**

From Colchester Borough Council (CBC) acknowledging the parish council's response to the consultation by CBC regarding the future distribution of the revenue grant.

From CBC advising that the tree planting initiative requires planting requirements by the end of October. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

From Essex Air Ambulance asking for a contribution. It was agreed that regrettably there are no funds available for this charity.

From CBC Finance Manager asking for a copy of the parish council accounts for the last financial year. The clerk was asked to reply and advise him that the accounts are available on the web site.

From CBC Street Services Zone Manager asking to attend a meeting to give a presentation. The clerk was asked to respond and ask his remit before inviting him.

From The Rural Housing Enabler at Rural Community Council of Essex asking to attend a meeting to give a presentation on affordable housing. The clerk was asked to invite her to a future meeting.

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

The meeting was suspended for public questions and statements:-

(i)A parishioner said that the rose garden at the village hall has 5 tree saplings growing in it.

(ii)A parishioner said that there is a volunteer who would like to tend the rose garden. This was agreed and the clerk was asked to advise the handyman that we have a volunteer to tend the garden.

The meeting resumed.

**17. OTHER BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION**

Cllr Bartleet said that requests for information for the electoral roll from CBC were found in a ditch on 2 separate occasions. The clerk was asked to advise CBC and Borough Cllr Chillingworth.

Cllr Brewer asked councillors to copy each other in with any email communications, and also it would be helpful if as many councillors as possible could respond to emails.

There being no further business the parish council meeting was closed at 9.25 pm.

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