

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held

at the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 9th September 2014, at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllr Barron, Cllr Bartleet, Cllr Beesley, Cllr Fairs (Chairman), Cllr Hamer, Cllr Williamson.

Clerk Mr D Williams, Borough Cllr Chillingworth and 16 members of public attended.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – None

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 - Smythers Farm, Earls Colne Road

Second Prize - Braziers, Dowsland Green

Third Prize - Wyndells Farm, Earls Colne Road

Best Kept Small Front Garden

First Prize - 1 Saucelands Cottages, Coggeshall Road

Second Prize - Bidford, The Street

Third Prize - 3 New Cottages, Brook Road

Best Kept Allotment

First Prize - A Watson

Second Prize - J Appleton

The clerk was asked to put these results in Round and About Great Tey. 5 members of public left the meeting.

4. PRESENTATIONS FOR LONG SERVICE TO THE VILLAGE HALL

The chairman made a presentation to Mr and Mrs Cherry for their years of long service to the village hall with the grateful thanks of all the parishioners of Great Tey.

A presentation was also made to Mr and Mrs Springate for their years of long service to the village hall with the grateful thanks of all the parishioners of Great Tey.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - The minutes of the last parish council meeting of 12th August 2014 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Cllr Beesley said that he had contacted Network Rail regarding the unlocked gate at Aldham railway bridge, Moor Road, which leads down to the railway track. This gate has now been padlocked.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

The meeting was suspended for Public Questions and Statements.

(i). A parishioner said that the 88b bus service has been taken over by Hedingham Buses. A problem with the ticketing has now been corrected. He also said that bus service X16 has now stopped running through our village.

(ii). A parishioner said that he and his wife objected to the planning application for prior approval of the proposed change of use of an agricultural building to a dwelling house at Forrester's Farm, Lamberts Lane as it affected their property next door, and he read out a detailed statement of objection which will be forwarded to Planning Department Colchester. This was handed to the members.

(iii). The applicant made comments to support the application.

(iv). A parishioner who also lives close to Forrester's Farm said that he is also objecting to the application for prior approval and supports the comments made by the previous objector.

The meeting was resumed.

8 members of public left the meeting.

7. REPORT FROM COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

Borough Cllr Chillingworth said that the forthcoming changes to the structure of Borough Wards will mean a reduction of wards from 27 to 17 with 3 members per ward and a reduction of borough councillors from 60 to 51. The rural wards will be much bigger and this is being discussed.

He was asked if more information could be provided on how the Park and Ride buses will affect the bus station, and he said that he will enquire.

Borough Cllr Chillingworth left the meeting.

8. COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCIL'S LOCAL PLAN AND THE FORMATION OF A PLAN FOR GREAT TEY

An officer from Colchester Borough Council (CBC) Planning Department gave a presentation to members

Neighbourhood Plan or through the call for sites for the Local Plan. It was agreed that the Affordable Housing Survey undertaken in 2012 will be forwarded to CBC Planning Department.

5 members of public left the meeting.

9. PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Cllr Fairs said that no candidates had come forward in response to the advertisement by CBC and so the parish council can co opt a parishioner to fill the vacancy. Councillors were asked to consider any nominations.

10. FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

Chq.No.	Payee	Amount (£)/ of which VAT:-	
101441	C Partington -Winner of Best Kept Large Front Garden Competition	£ 20.00	
101442	N Veash - Winner of Best Kept Small Front Garden Competition	£ 20.00	
101443	D Williams- clerk salary £453.00 less PAYE £90.60	£ 362.40	
101444	HM Revenue & Customs - PAYE for clerk salary	£ 90.60	
101445	I Dyer – grasscutting	£ 249.60	£ 41.60
101446	I Dyer – handyman	£ 113.40	£ 18.90
101447	Essex County Council – tree survey	£ 345.00	
	Youth Activity Club Account		
100074	Gt Tey Village Hall Committee – hall rental	£ 21.00	

(b) The resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr £11,877.88, Youth Activity Club Account Cr £268.23 and Business Saver Account Cr £22.38. The bank statements were signed by the chairman in evidence.

(c) The clerk advised that an Expression of Interest form had been submitted to Essex County Council (ECC) CIF fund for matched funding for the removal of the tennis courts and the refurbishment of the area. Members confirmed this and agreed that a full application should be submitted to ECC following their acceptance of the Expression of Interest form. The clerk was asked to establish if the S 106 monies of £3,604 could be used towards the parish matched funding.

11. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) Applications

145698 Forresters Farm, Lamberts Lane – Prior Approval of proposed change of use of Agricultural Building to a Dwelling House (use Class 3) – The clerk left the meeting whilst this item is discussed as he lives next door. Comments agreed are - No objections subject to neighbours' views. We comment that the description in section 3.0 states block walls on all 4 sides, this is not evident in photographs, and a concrete floor was stated, but not seen in photographs. It was further agreed that local knowledge of the use of the site on 20th March 2013 or before would be added if this could be obtained other than from the objectors.

(b) Refusals

145000 Kings Arms, Broad Green - Erection of portacabin to run a small beauty treatment business

(d) Cllr Fairs said that Borough Cllr Chillingworth has advised the parish council that funds are due to the parish regarding the development at Chrymond Croft, Moor Road. The sum of £827 is available for the village hall, and £3,604 is available for leisure or open spaces. The parish council are seeking confirmation that these funds have been paid to CBC and are thus available to the parish.

12. VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Fairs said that a roof panel in the main hall has been badly damaged, and a light is failing in the small hall. The clerk was asked to advise the village hall manager of these issues.

13. TREE REPORT

The report sent by ECC was discussed, and members asked the clerk to write to ECC and thank for the report, and say that we believe that tree T7 on the Old Playing Field has honey fungus and ask for clarification and proposed action as page 9 of the report describing the disease of this tree has stopped.

14. HAROLD FAIRS RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Williamson said that the cost of anti wrap chains for the play area is £312.72 and a pigeon deterrent is £30 plus fitting fee. It was agreed to await the response for funding from the ECC CIF fund before considering further.

15. CORRESPONDENCE NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE

The clerk reported correspondence received regarding the Data Protection obligations of a parish council. It was agreed to place a notice on the parish web site outlining our policy.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Fairs said that a presentation to parish councils is shortly to be made by CBC Planning Department and asked if any members wished to attend. It was agreed that the clerk would be advised shortly of the arrangements to be made.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

The meeting was suspended while a member of the public made it apparent that they felt aggrieved at the way in which the council discussed the Prior Approval and made their feelings known that they did not agree with the decision of no objections that was reached, and that it should be no comment.

The meeting was resumed.

There being no further business the parish council meeting was closed at 10.05 pm.

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