

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held at the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 13th June 2006, at 7.30 pm.

Present:

Cllr R Brewer (Chairman), Cllr R Bartleet, Cllr A Coy, Cllr R Fairs, Cllr W Ford,
Cllr R Traube, Cllr M Williamson.

Clerk Mr D Williams, Borough Cllr P Chillingworth and 1 member of public attended.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Essex CC Cllr A Clover

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – None.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.

The minutes of the last parish council meeting of 9th May 2006 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The clerk advised that he had telephoned Skills Kindergarten who confirmed that they were to forward a cheque for the cost of the replacement of the jubilee tree and their plaque. Cllr Bartleet said that he had studied the information forwarded by Essex CC concerning the Health and Safety guidance for the parish path partnership scheme. He said that it was basic guidance only, and the farmers involved in the scheme were already aware of this, and so it was agreed that it would not be sent to them. It was considered that it was for use by volunteer members of the public.

5. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) The Annual Accounts to 31 March 2006 were considered. These show total income of £38,447.51, total expenditure of £30,928.01, bank balances of £15,264.57 and total reserves of £44,829.14. Cllr Bartleet proposed that they be accepted by the council, and Cllr Traube seconded. This was agreed and the accounts were signed. The Annual Return was completed in Sections 1 and 2. It was agreed that the clerk asks the internal auditor L Tippett to internally audit these accounts before they are sent to the external auditors Lubbock Fine.

(b) The following cheques for payment were approved

Chq. No.	Payee	Amount (£)/	of which VAT:-
100818	D Williams – clerk salary	£ 312.83	
100819	H J Fairs & Son – parish paths partnership	£ 305.97	£ 45.57
100820	R Hull – parish paths partnership	£ 45.12	£ 6.72
100821	J & C Rayner Farms Ltd – parish paths partnership	£ 361.67	£ 53.87
100822	I Dyer – grasscutting	£ 211.50	£ 31.50
100823	Playsafety Ltd – ROSPA report for playground	£ 131.01	£ 19.51
100824	Colne & Stour Association – subscription	£ 5.00	

Also cheque number 1008912 in favour of Aon Risk Services regarding the playground insurance annual premium has been amended to Allianz Cornhill at their request.

It was agreed that £1,500 be transferred from Business Premium Account to Community Account. The resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr £1,140.36, and Business Premium Account Cr £16,102.69. It was also agreed that for an additional internal control, a councillor would initial the bank statements monthly.

6. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

F/COL/06/0925 Oak Lodge, Moor Road – 2 x conservatories proposed to be erected to back of property- no objections subject to neighbours' views.

Withdrawn

O/COL/06/0300 Marshalls Farm, Chappel Road – outline application for replacement of residential twin unit caravan with a chalet bungalow – application withdrawn.

7. VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Brewer said that Mr Bob Dow had been appointed as chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC). Mr Dow has suggested that the village hall have a metal post box to receive suggestions and post. Members agreed in principle to this and Cllr Brewer will ask for a costing and suggestions for the location of the box. He will also suggest to Mr Dow that the VHMC consider how to deal with the opening of the box as it will be used for post. Cllr Brewer will also ask Mr Dow if he wishes to be interviewed by David Edwards for a future article in Round and About Great Tey.

8. WEB SITE REPORT

It was agreed that details of the web site be included in the August edition of Round and About Great Tey. Cllr Fairs is to arrange with Mr Robert Appleton, the web site designer to provide the printer with copy, and to ask him if he wishes to be interviewed by David Edwards for an article in Round and About Great Tey.

9. OLD PLAYFIELD FENCE WHICH ABUTS BROOK ROAD PROPERTIES

This fence has been cut and it was agreed that the clerk writes a letter to all residents whose properties abut the Old Playing Field advising them that there is no right of access from the rear of their properties onto the Old Playing Field, and secondly that the boundary fence of the Old Playing Field has been cut and that this will be repaired at the ratepayers' cost. The letter is also to ask residents not to cut the wire in future as it marks the boundary of the Old Playing Field which protects it for all parishioners.

The clerk was also instructed to ask Mr Dyer to repair and reinstate the two strand wire fence. Cllr Williamson said that the grass has not been cut around the beacon on the Old Playing Field, and the clerk is to ask Mr Dyer to attend to this.

10 PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

Cllr Brewer said that he would review the two reports recently received from Allianz Cornhill Engineering and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents and would report to the council in July.

11. COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCIL PARISH GRANT SCHEME

Cllr Williamson confirmed that the grant application for the sum of £13,950 had been made for the refurbishment of the Harold Fairs Recreation Ground car park surface at a cost of £18,950, and a decision is expected after 1st August.

12 COLNE & STOUR ASSOCIATION

Cllr Brewer read out the aims of this association and he recommended that the council join the association at an annual cost of £5. This was agreed.

13. CORRESPONDENCE NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE

From Colchester Borough Council inviting councillors to a planning course. Cllr Traube agreed to attend and to inform them accordingly.

From the Planning Investigation Officer advising that there is no breach of planning permission at 4 Teyfield Cottages where the caravan does not appear to be used as a separate unit of accommodation.

From Great Tey Friendship Club enclosing copy correspondence with Bernard Jenkin MP regarding the Post Office Card Account.

From Great & Little Tey Parochial Church Council thanking the parish council for the grant of £676.25 in respect of churchyard maintenance. They advise that the expenses in maintaining the churchyard in 2005 amounted to £1,777 and they ask whether we may be able to budget for a small increase in 2007.

From Essex Association of Local Councils advising details of the launch meeting of the Colchester Association of Local Councils. Cllr Brewer and Cllr Ford will attend and report back.

From Essex CC forwarding a copy of the Local Transport Plan 2006-2011.

From Colchester Community Safety advising the date of a forthcoming meeting. Cllr Brewer agreed to review the papers and then report back when the council's involvement can be considered.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The meeting was suspended for public questions and statements.

Bus X16 to Bury St Edmunds now runs 10 minutes early. Cllr Coy said that he would put a note of this in Round and About Great Tey. Phase two of the Colchester Bus Station development has started, and anything that affects the bus service to our village will be advised.

Borough Cllr Chillingworth advised that the Colne Valley Footpath has been launched, and that Simon Amstutz of the Colne Valley Countryside Project has booklets available. The clerk was asked to obtain some copies, and details can be placed in a later edition of Round and About Great Tey.

Borough Cllr Chillingworth also mentioned that the water storage project north of Halstead has now been finished and that this will improve the flooding problems in the Colne Valley. He also said that regional and county organisations have been set up to ensure that the area gets maximum benefit from the London Olympics in 2012. The meeting resumed.

14. OTHER BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION

The clerk advised that he had contact from the community police officer for our village who had expressed interest in attending some council meetings. Members welcomed this and invited him to any future meeting. Cllr Williamson asked if members wanted to see a best kept front garden competition this year. It was agreed to proceed and she agreed to arrange the judging.

The hedge between the Harold Fairs Recreation Ground and the rear of 8 Farmfield needs cutting, and it was agreed to ask Mr Dyer to attend to this.

Cllr Bartleet said that a van parked in Holliland Croft had caused issues for two households. It was considered that this was a matter to mention to the community police officer.

The clerk said that the property occupier in Brook Road that abuts the vacant allotment plot had advised that the overgrown allotment was encroaching into her property, and members agreed that the clerk asks Mr Dyer to trim and clear this allotment, after which we would again try to relet it.

Date and time of the next meeting – Tuesday 11th July 2006 at 7.30 pm. The chairman apologised that he could not attend the meeting, and Cllr Traube will chair the meeting.

The parish council meeting was closed at 9.15 pm.

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