

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held
at the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 12th June 2007, at 7.30pm

Present:

Cllr R Bartleet, Cllr A Coy, Cllr R Fairs, Cllr A Maxwell, Cllr C Nice,
Cllr R Traube (Chairman) and Cllr M Williamson
Clerk Mr D Williams, Colchester 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 10th May 2007 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with Cllr Williamson and the handyman to discuss the location of the two wooden bench seats at Harold Fairs Recreation Ground (HFRG) so that he can prepare the concrete bases.

5. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Cllr Fairs was proposed as vice chairman by Cllr Williamson and seconded by Cllr Bartleet. There were no further nominations and Cllr Fairs was duly elected vice chairman.

6. ELECTION OF SUB COMMITTEES

The following sub committees were agreed:-

Planning - full council
Finance - full council
Highways - Cllr Coy, Cllr Nice, Cllr Traube
Housing - Cllr Bartleet, Cllr Maxwell, Cllr Traube
Recreation - Cllr Coy, Cllr Fairs, Cllr Williamson
Footpaths - Cllr Bartleet, Cllr Traube
Village Hall - Cllr Nice, Cllr Williamson
Web Site - Cllr Bartleet, Cllr Fairs
Transport - Cllr Traube

The transport representative will continue to be Mr J Bland. He was thanked by the council for his involvement.

The clerk was asked to advise the chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee of the members of the village hall sub committee.

Cllr Coy joined the meeting.

7. COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT.

Borough Cllr Chillingworth said that the venue for the recent Neighbourhood Action Panel (NAP) meeting had been changed to Marks Tey with little notice and no public attended. Mention was made of the community action speed scheme whereby parishioners become involved with speed monitoring. The NAP meeting for August was scheduled for 1st August at 7.30pm at Great Tey Village Hall. The council agreed that a note will be placed in Round and About advising parishioners of this.

The next Attended Freighter visits will be on 30th June and 18th August, and it was agreed that a note regarding this will also be placed in Round and About.

A new waste management plant to serve North Essex is to be built in either Rivenhall or Stanway, with a decision yet to be made.

8. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) Funds received – Virgin Balloons – landing fee in HFRG £ 50.00

(b) The following cheques were authorised for payment

Chq. No.	Payee	Amount (£) /	of which VAT:-
100861	EALC – administration book (previously £55), amended to	£ 51.60	
100880	Claire PB & Jonathan PR Ltd – village directory printing	£ 240.00	
100881	D Edwards – village directory design and artwork	£ 230.00	
100882	D Williams - clerk salary	£ 322.16	
100883	Playsafety Ltd – ROSPA report on play area	£ 91.65	£ 13.65
100884	Round and About Great Tey – donation	£ 240.00	
100885	H J Fairs & Son parish paths partnership footpath cuts	£ 305.97	£ 45.57

Mention was made of errors in the recent Village Directory, and it was agreed that these would be notified in Round and About.

It was agreed that a transfer be made from Business Premium Account to Community Account of £1,400, and the resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr £1,045.18 and Business Premium Account Cr £13,453.39. The bank statements were signed by the chairman in evidence.

The clerk was asked to write to Barclays Bank to establish if there is an immediate access account with them that pays a higher rate of interest than the existing Business Premium Account.

The annual insurance policy levels were reviewed. It was noted that the mandatory covers of public liability, employers liability, money and fidelity guarantee were based on a population up to 5,000. Our village has a population of approximately 1,000 and the clerk was asked to write to establish that the figure of 5,000 quoted was the minimum population. Subject to that, it was agreed that the levels of cover were adequate.

9. PLANNING MATTERS - Applications

- 071424 4 Rectory Cottages, Brook Road – first floor side extension – approved subject to neighbours' views.
- 071527 Allendale, Lamberts Lane – single storey extension to form porch - approved
- Approvals
- 071056 Kalina, Brook Road – garage to the side, single storey extension to rear – approved subject to 2 conditions.

10. VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Williamson said that the pre-school has asked for approval to move a storage box from the garden to outside the garden under the tree where no vehicles can go near it. This was agreed subject to the box being used only by helpers and not by the children as well.

Cllr Williamson said that the pre-school had requested that the side door by the main stage be adapted for disabled access as the main door with disabled access is locked by them for security purposes. It was agreed that whilst the council wished to be helpful, this request could not be agreed as the door referred to is a fire door and should not be adapted for disabled access. The village hall has two disabled access doors at present. Cllr Williamson will advise the pre school accordingly.

11. HAROLD FAIRS RECREATION GROUND

The clerk reported that four quotations for an all weather surface to the play area to replace the bark had now been received, of which two were for wet pour rubber surfacing, and two were for artificial grass surfacing. It was agreed that the Recreation Sub Committee considers these quotations, and reports back to the parish council at the next meeting. Funding requests to Cory and to Colchester Borough Council have been submitted, and it was agreed that the Lottery funding request also be submitted now.

Referring to the flooding and drainage issues, Cllr Fairs will establish whether there are any drainage plans.

The annual reports on the play equipment from Allianz Cornhill and ROSPA were considered, and it was agreed that the clerk writes to the handyman sending the list of works, asking for clarification whether or not these works can be done by mid July, if not advising us now so that alternative arrangements can be made, as we may have to consider closing the play area if the works cannot be done by the children's school holidays.

A discussion followed regarding the use of the tennis courts.

12. CORRESPONDENCE NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE

From Colchester Borough Council advising of a training workshop for councillors involved in planning.

From Essex County Council advising of no stopping restrictions on traffic west and east of the school in Christmund Way between numbers 7 and 9 on Monday to Friday between 8.30am to 9.30am and 2.45pm and 3.45pm.

From Allianz Cornhill regarding the subsidence claim at Farmfield Road, advising that the Loss Adjusters did not suggest a course of action. They say that a tree surgeon should be asked to appraise the situation and carry out any work they feel necessary. It was agreed that we would reply stating that tree surgeons are concerned with the health of trees not the possible effect of trees on buildings. We request direction from them as insurers and presumably loss adjusters as well as to how we should proceed.

From AMG loss adjusters regarding the subsidence claim at Farmfield Road enclosing a copy of the minutes of March 2007 asking when the tree mitigation works are to be completed. It was agreed that this letter be forwarded to our insurers for their reply.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

It was stated that the operator for the 88b service is to be changed to First Bus Company at the end of August and a note will be placed in Round and About.

Two parishioners had asked whether the 83 bus service could stop in the layby opposite Lower Langley. It was agreed that the costs of installing a formal bus stop, including a raised kerb, would not justify this.

It was asked whether the developer cuts the grass bank in front of Old Warrens. The reply was that they did not to our knowledge cut this grass.

13. OTHER BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION

The trees in the electricity sub station in Greenfield Drive opposite Farmfield Road require trimming and it was agreed that the clerk would write to EDF Energy asking that they arrange for this to be done.

Cllr Williamson asked whether the council would like to run the Best Kept Front Garden Competition this year. It was agreed that this would be run again, and a prize of £25 would be awarded to the first place. She will arrange for judges to proceed with the judging of the competition.

Cllr Coy said that the allotment holders were considering the formation of an association, and he will arrange a quotation to put water onto the site.

Cllr Traube said that it had been reported that ball games were being played in the village hall car park, and that children were climbing onto the hall roof. Councillors expressed concern at the hazardous climbing on the roof. There is a notice in the car park stating that ball games were not allowed, and it was agreed that a note would be placed in Round and About regarding both these activities, drawing this to the attention of parents. An outside light in the village hall car park has been broken and it was agreed that the clerk arranges for an electrician to repair it.

The parish council meeting was closed at 9.50 pm.

Chairperson.....

Date.....