

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held
at the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 13th November 2007, at 7.30pm

Present:

Cllr R Bartleet, Cllr R Fairs, Cllr A Maxwell, Cllr C Nice, Cllr R Traube (Chairman) and Cllr M Williamson
Clerk Mr D Williams, 4 members of the public, Colchester Borough Cllr P Chillingworth

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - Cllr Coy

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – None

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.

The minutes of the last parish council meeting of 9th October 2007 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Cllr Maxwell said that he attended the recent Neighbourhood Action Panel (NAP) meeting when there was 1 member of the public present. The NAP have therefore asked that when it is held next in our village that the meeting is before the parish council meeting. This was agreed. No items on the agenda of the NAP meeting affected our parish.

5. COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Borough Cllr Chillingworth referred to the closure of Moor Road in December for 4 weeks due to road and bridgeworks. Access will be maintained for residents and for emergency vehicles. He advised that the Borough had complained to central government on the delays in the improvements to the A120 road. He said that a consultation on the local development framework site specifics will be issued shortly. This will be an opportunity to make suggestions to amend the village envelope for planning purposes. The Planning Department now have a duty officer to respond to telephone enquiries.

The meeting was suspended to allow a public question that the bus station appears to be too small for requirements and it is not clear who has duty of care. The meeting was resumed. Borough Cllr Chillingworth said that the contract with the developer has just been completed and the bus station is part of a large development which will be worked through and these issues addressed.

He then left the meeting.

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) The following cheques were authorised for payment

| Chq. No. | Payee | Amount (£)/ of which VAT:- |
|----------|---|----------------------------|
| 100915 | D Williams - clerk salary | £ 322.16 |
| 100916 | B Challis – Best kept small front garden prize – to replace 909 destroyed | £ 20.00 |

(b) The resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr £726.44 and Business Premium Account Cr £15,841.71. No transfer was made. The bank statements were signed by the chairman in evidence.

(c) The clerk reported that Barclays Bank had confirmed that the Business Premium Account was receiving Instant Access Saver interest rates as we had requested, and they were trying to amend the title of the account to Instant Access Saver Account.

7. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

- 072631 Homagen, Chappel Road – demolition of existing bungalow and construction of a new 4 bedroom house - no objections subject to neighbour's views.
- 072658 4 Buxton Cottages, Coggeshall Road – single storey rear conservatory extension – no objections subject to neighbours' views
- 072721 2 Saucelands, Coggeshall Road – two storey rear and single storey side extension – no objections subject to neighbours' views.
- CC/COL/153/07 Great Tey CofE Primary School, Chrismund Way – retention of 1 relocatable classroom until 31.10.2012 without time limit attached to planning permission – we support this application

Approvals

- 072269 East Gores Farm, East Gores Road – change of use from redundant agricultural to storage – approved subject to 2 conditions
- 072274 East Gores Farm, East Gores Road – change of use from storage/workshop to office B1 – approved subject to 2 conditions

8. VILLAGE HALL

The meeting was suspended to allow public statements and questions. A local resident said that as chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee he had received many complaints about youths making noise and causing disturbances. A discussion followed and the meeting then resumed. It was agreed that we invite the Community Police Officer to the next parish council meeting advising that we have these issues and asking for suggestions to

solve these problems. It was also agreed that an article is placed in Round and About advising that the police have been invited as we are concerned at issues raised by local residents. It was agreed that Cllr Fairs arranges for the two signs for the car park to be made with the previously agreed wording.

9. HAROLD FAIRS RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Fairs said that he had met the representative of Monster Play Systems (Monster) at the play area site and it was agreed that the installation of the all weather surface be started on 19 November. It will take between 2 and 4 weeks to finish depending on the weather. Cllr Williamson said that she would advise the school of this. The contract with Cory regarding their funding of £10,000 was signed on behalf of the council, and as they had asked for confirmation that planning permission was not required the clerk will obtain this from Monster. The contract with Monster was also signed on behalf of the council.

The clerk advised that the handyman has confirmed that all the deficiencies outlined in the engineer’s report on the play area have been rectified. It was agreed that a councillor will inspect and confirm.

10. ALLOTMENTS

The clerk advised that plot 8 was now vacant, and it was agreed that this be split into two plots and offered to the top two village residents on the waiting list. It was also agreed that rental reminders can be sent out to all tenants advising that tenancy agreements are to be reviewed this year.

11. OLD PLAYING FIELD

The parish council has received an enquiry regarding the hiring of the Old Playing Field for a marquee for a wedding reception next year. It was agreed that we would be interested in renting the Old Playing Field, but before formally agreeing we would wish to agree the amount of rent of £500, clarify insurance cover, the timing of the event, possible licensing arrangements, removal of rubbish from the site, supervision re excess noise and disturbance, parking arrangements and the right to approve the catering and marquee companies. This will be communicated and we await a response.

Correspondence has been received regarding recently agreed access across the Old Playing Field to allow access to the rear garden of a property in Brook Road. The issues raised were discussed and it was agreed that access would still be allowed in this case.

12. WEB SITE

The clerk gave an update on work on the web site. There had been no handover from the site designer and it had been difficult to follow the guides that he had prepared. However some progress was now being made and it was agreed that this would be an agenda item in January, when consideration would be given to seeking outside assistance if the site had not been updated.

13. CORRESPONDENCE NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE - None

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The meeting was suspended.

A parishioner asked whether the parish council have any plans for the tennis courts. – Cllr Traube said that there are no plans at present as the costs to resurface the courts have to be considered. We would welcome any plans for the use but would need to see confirmation of interest or need in the village. We could then look at any grants that may be available.

A parishioner said that there is to be a Village Weekend next year on the last Saturday in June.

A parishioner asked if there is anything being done to the play equipment when the surface is being relaid. Cllr Traube said that an engineer from our insurance company reviews the equipment annually and any deficiencies are repaired by the handyman and a councillor then confirms that the deficiencies have been completed.

A parishioner said that the hedge from the school to Lower Langley requires cutting. It was agreed that the clerk asks the handyman to do this.

A parishioner said that the road sign on the road from the village to A120 stating that there are bends is on the wrong side of the road. Cllr Traube said that we are shortly to meet with Highways Department regarding issues in the parish and this will be mentioned.

A parishioner said that the number 83 bus service is a ‘hail and ride’ service and if requested will stop in the lay by opposite Lower Langley without the need for a formal bus stop.

The meeting was resumed.

12. OTHER BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION

The clerk advised that a footbridge on FP4 east of Lamberts Lane was rotten. This footpath is not covered by the parish paths partnership scheme and it was agreed that he would write to Essex County Council and establish that the repair cost would be covered by them and if so ask them to proceed with the repair.

There being no further business the parish council meeting was closed at 9.35 pm.

Chairperson.....

Date.....