

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held
at the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 9th October 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, 1 member 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 11th September 2007 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Cllr Fairs said that he had obtained a quotation for the signs for the village hall car park. It was agreed that the wording for the two signs be changed to 'Car Park for Village Hall use only' and 'No Games' and he will obtain a revised quotation.

The clerk reported that Allianz Cornhill had confirmed that Brian Stacey, Countryside and Arboricultural Manager of Essex County Council can prepare a report following an inspection of all trees for which the parish council are responsible. Mr Stacey has advised that the cost will be £300 and this was agreed. The trees to be included in the survey are those in Harold Fairs Recreation Ground, Old Playing Field and Allotments with particular attention to those trees around the border of those locations and their possible effect on nearby properties. The tree in the middle of Moor Road at the junction with Chappel Road is also to be included in the survey.

Cllr Fairs asked whether any replies had been received to the council's letters to allotment holders. The clerk advised that to date three replies had all said that they wished to retain their plot at the same size.

Cllr Traube said that the quotation for the rubbing down and revarnishing of the bus shelter and the parish council notice board outside the shop was £225. It was agreed that this quotation be accepted and the work undertaken.

5. COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Borough Cllr Chillingworth said that the government guidance to borough and district councils regarding planning applications for travellers' sites has changed, and whereas a previous application for a site in Turkey Cock Lane had been declined, a recent application had recently been granted for 2 years use under this new guidance.

The park and ride scheme for Colchester will not operate from Eight Ash Green and will be from the new stadium. The Local Development Framework gives guidance to the construction industry. There will be a consultation on Development Control policies. Rivenhall is the site chosen by Essex County Council for the new waste management site for north Essex.

He then left the meeting.

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) Funds received – Colchester Borough Council – grant/precept £ 6,741.00

(b) The following cheques were authorised for payment

Chq. No.	Payee	Amount (£)/ of which VAT:-	
100911	I Dyer – grasscuts: 2 at HFRG, 2 at OPF	£ 141.00	£ 21.00
100912	D Williams - clerk salary	£ 322.16	
100913	L C Tippett – internal auditor's fee	£ 160.00	
100914	Great Tey Village Hall Management Committee – hall hire	£ 48.00	

(c) It was agreed that £5,600 be transferred to the savings account and the resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr £1,058.60 and Business Premium Account Cr £15,827.84. The bank statements were signed by the chairman in evidence.

(d) The clerk reported that the application for an Everyday Saver had been sent to Barclays Bank who had suggested that the council open a new account, Instant Access Saver, which has the same terms but pays interest of 4.5% gross compared with 3.35% gross. This was agreed and the application forms completed. However it was unclear from the statement since received showing the above balance of £15,827.84 whether the account was designated Instant Access Saver or a Business Premium Account, and so it was agreed that the clerk would write to Barclays Bank for clarification.

(e) The clerk reported that the internal auditor had completed her audit and her report was circulated to members. The report said that some figures needed to be rounded up and down and so changed by £1. Subject to this being done Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Return are in accordance with her review and the Return can be forwarded to the External Auditor. This report was accepted and it was agreed that the amendments could be made and the Return was amended accordingly and initialled by the Chairman and Clerk. The Annual Return can now be sent to the External Auditor.

7. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

072383 15 Christmund Way – two storey rear extension – no objections subject to neighbours’ views.

Approvals

071989 Pippins, The Street – single storey extension to existing dwelling – approved subject to 3 conditions.

072072 Berryfields, Coggeshall Road, Broad Green – single storey rear extension – approved subject to 2 conditions

8. VILLAGE HALL

No issues

9. HAROLD FAIRS RECREATION GROUND

The clerk reported on fund raising developments for the installation of the replacement surface for the play area. Cory have confirmed that Entrust have agreed to the funding request of £10,000 and this funding is in addition to the previously advised funding agreement from Colchester Borough Council and Essex County Council for £13,000. However Awards For All have advised that they have not received our application for funding of £5,000. It was agreed that the council would proceed now with the installation of the replacement surface at a price of £29,850 with Monster Play Systems (Monster), and that the council would temporarily fund the shortfall of £6,850 plus VAT of £5,223. £5,000 of this would be repaid either by a replacement application for £5,000 to Awards For All which was completed and will be sent now, or if that application was unsuccessful it would be repaid by a grant of £5,000 from the Trustees of the Village Hall.

The clerk was asked to submit the replacement application to Awards For All and to contact Monster to obtain contract details, payment terms so that they can be considered at the next parish council meeting. It was also agreed that Cllr Fairs and Cllr Traube meet with Monster on site.

10. ALLOTMENTS

It was agreed to defer consideration of a best allotment competition.

A request to construct a garden shed measuring 8 feet by 6 feet on plot 7 was approved subject to the shed being dismantled and taken away upon vacating the plot.

11. CORRESPONDENCE NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE

From Essex Association of Local Councils, who sent details of forthcoming courses.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The meeting was suspended

A parishioner said that Moor Road was heavily used when the A12 was closed last week, and so can the road be repaired to a better standard. Cllr Traube said that this item will be on the agenda for the forthcoming meeting with Highways Department of Essex County Council when the annual inspection of roads and footpaths is made.

A parishioner asked if parents had been told to park near the new school entrance. Cllr Traube said that they have a choice where to park.

A parishioner asked if parking bays are to be designated, and Cllr Traube said that this will not control where parents park.

A parishioner said that the fence appears to have been moved towards the car park near the new school entrance. It was agreed that councillors would inspect the area.

The meeting was resumed.

12. OTHER BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION

Cllr Nice said that the Great Tey Post Office is on the current list to remain open.

Cllr Williamson said that the 30mph sign in The Street should be replaced, and it was agreed that this would be on the agenda for the forthcoming meeting with Essex County Council Highways Department.

There being no further business the parish council meeting was closed at 8.45 pm.

Chairperson.....

Date.....