

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held at the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 12th December 2006, at 7.30 pm.

Present:

Cllr R Bartleet, Cllr A Coy, Cllr R Traube (Chairman), and Cllr M Williamson
Clerk Mr D Williams, Borough Cllr P Chillingworth and 1 member of public attended.

1.APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr R Brewer, Cllr R Fairs and Cllr W Ford

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – None

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.

The minutes of the last parish council meeting of 14th November 2006 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The clerk confirmed that the result of the application for a £5,000 grant to Awards For All will be advised within the next two weeks. He also confirmed that Colchester Borough Council Street Services will be in contact with us regarding our request for new and repaired street signs, and that no reply had been received from the parishioner following our letter concerning his boundary with the old playing field. Cllr Traube said that contact had been received from EDF Energy who had requested permission to access the Harold Fairs Recreation Ground this month before 19th December to undertake essential works. They were advised by the clerk that we were having the car park resurfaced and that we preferred that they delayed access until January. However if it was essential that they had access in December then they were asked to access as late and as near to 19th December as possible, but if they caused damage to the newly laid car park then they would be liable for the cost of repairs. They would consider this.

5. COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Borough Cllr Chillingworth advised that :-

- (i) Approval has been given to the western bypass around Tollgate and Stanway
- (ii) The recent meeting of the Neighbourhood Action Panel was with the public attending at Copford, and the next meeting will be at Chappel & Wakes Colne Village Hall on 1st February.
- (iii) The Barker report on planning puts the green belt under threat. Also the proposals should speed up domestic planning applications as long as neighbours do not object.
- (iv) The Colchester Christmas lights were put up, and then they collapsed and taken down as they were unsafe. Borough Cllr Chillingworth then left the meeting.

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) The following payments were approved:-

Chq. No.	Payee	Amount (£)/	of which VAT:-
100851	D Williams – clerk salary	£ 312.83	
100852	Lubbock Fine – external auditor's fee	£ 293.75	£ 43.75

(b) The resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr £224.58 and Business Premium Account Cr £18,460.76. It was agreed that no transfer be made from Business Premium Account to Community Account, but that if a transfer was required before the next meeting, then two bank signatories could complete an authority. The bank statements were signed by the chairman in evidence.

(c) The clerk advised that the audit certificate had been returned from the external auditor with no comment nor matters giving cause for concern, and the audit was now closed.

7. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

- AG/COL/06/1901 Warrens Farm, Coggeshall Road – new machinery store/general purpose – no objections subject to neighbours' views.
- F/COL/06/1890 1 Rose Cottages, The Street – single storey rear conservatory extension – no objections subject to neighbours' views
- F/COL/06/1648 Site Rear of Kalina, Brook Road – removal of condition 3 of planning permission
C/COL/06/1141 – amendment to proposal received – the council object to the size of this building which is much larger than a garden shed.

Approvals

- F/COL/06/1622 East Gores Farm, East Gores Road – proposed new access driveway and landscaping – approved subject to 5 conditions

8. THE OLD PLAYING FIELD

Nothing to report.

9. VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Traube proposed that the previously discussed maintenance and redecoration be undertaken in the week that the pre school is shut for half term in February. It was agreed in principle to costs of up to £1,000 to cover this and that the council would seek a contribution from the Trustees of the Village Hall. The clerk is to establish how many estimates are required for this work. Cllr Traube advised that the flooring sub contractor is to inject adhesive into the hall floor to try to repair the bubbling of the floor.

10. HAROLD FAIRS RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Traube advised that the resurfacing of the car park was complete and said that four lorry loads of vegetation were removed instead of the one lorry load that was estimated in the quotation. He is seeking confirmation that the levels in the car park are satisfactory. The invoice is awaited and the clerk was asked to advise Colchester Borough Council and Essex County Council that we will be shortly drawing the grant of £8,950.

The clerk advised that contact had been made with local parish councils and providers of play area surfaces, and it was agreed that he obtain three quotations for the replacement of the bark with a maintenance free surface, and that this be considered for a grant application to Colchester Borough Council next year.

11. CORRESPONDENCE NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE

From River Colne Countryside Project seeking a donation. As the parish council does not have a budget for this, it was agreed that a note be placed in Round and About Great Tey by Cllr Coy so that parishioners may be aware of the request.

From Colchester Borough Council asking whether we require a copy of the electoral register. This was agreed.

From Essex County Council (ECC) Highways and Transportation advising that the service 88B is under review as it does not meet the subsidy level and it may be withdrawn. Cllr Traube said that this was the return service in the afternoon, and it was agreed that the parish council would write to Essex County Council and strongly support retention stating that this service is directly linked with service 83 in the afternoons. The 88B service is well supported by students and senior citizens, and without service 88B they cannot return to the village. Copy correspondence is to be sent to Eight Ash Green and Fordham parish councils.

From The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA) asking whether we required the annual inspection of the play area next year. This was agreed and the clerk was asked to confirm this with ROSPA.

From ECC Highways inviting the chairman and clerk to a meeting to discuss issues of concern to Parish Councils in relation to County Council policies and strategies. This is to be passed to Cllr Brewer.

From ECC Library Service advising that the mobile library service is being reviewed, and that our service would be fortnightly in future. Comments were requested, and it was agreed that the parish council would object to these changes as all users, and in particular school and senior citizens, could not access the static library at Earls Colne by public transport.

From The Highways Agency advising that the Preferred Route Announcement for the alternative route for the A120 from Braintree to Marks Tey would be made in autumn 2006, and that the scheme has been given priority and they hope to start work by 2015 or 2016.

From Great and Little Tey Parochial Church Council advising that the PCC is forecasting a year end deficit for 2006 and inviting the parish council to share the cost of maintenance of the churchyard which for 2006 will amount to £1,993. This does not include the cost of collection of £176.25 after the first cut which the parish council paid in full. The PCC therefore request an increase in the basic grant from £500 to £1,000 for 2007.

It was agreed that the parish council considers this request in January when the 2007/08 budget is considered.

From Colchester Borough Council enclosing an updated copy of the Borough Emergency Response Plan. This is to be passed to Cllr Brewer to review.

From Cory plc, a funder of the village hall works, requesting a report on the village hall works for their annual report. Cllr Williamson agreed to respond.

12. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The meeting was suspended for public questions and statements.

Two cars are for sale on the grass verge in Brook Road just before the speed restriction signs on the entrance to the village from the A120. It was agreed that Cllr Bartleet makes enquiries to the nearby landowner before the parish council writes to Colchester Borough Council.

The meeting resumed.

13. OTHER BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION

Cllr Coy asked that we establish the date of next year's litter pick from Colchester Borough Council Street Services, and it was agreed that the clerk would enquire. It was also agreed that the costs of the barbeque for the litter pick be included in the budget to be considered next month.

Cllr Traube apologised that he could not attend next month's meeting.

Date and time of the next meeting – Tuesday 12th December 2006 at 7.30 pm.

The parish council meeting was closed at 9.10 pm after which Cllr Coy kindly offered refreshments.

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Chairperson.....

Date.....