

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall, Great Tey

On Tuesday 8th February 2005, at 7.30 pm.

Present:

Cllr R Bartleet (chairman), Cllr R Brewer, Cllr R Fairs, Cllr W Ford, Cllr R Traube, Cllr M Williamson,

Clerk: Mr D Williams,

5 members of public attended, and Borough Cllr Chillingworth.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. – Cllr Coy

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST - None

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING.

The minutes of the last parish council meeting of 11th January 2005 were agreed as a true record, and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The clerk confirmed that there were no vacant allotments as all were in use or to be used. Cllr Traube reported that Essex CC had confirmed that financial authority had been given for the new bus shelter, and that they were hopeful it would be installed by the end of March.

5. FINANCIAL MATTERS.

The clerk reported receipt of £45.74 from EDF Energy re wayleaves. He was instructed to ask them what period this payment covers.

It was resolved that the following payments be made:-

Chq. No.	Payee	Amount (£)/ of which VAT	
100718	D Williams – clerk's salary £294.67 & expenses £88.97	£ 383.64	
100719	I W Dyer – handyman	£ 124.55	£ 18.55
100720	I W Dyer – concrete bases for picnic benches	£ 229.13	£ 34.13

The clerk was instructed to ask Mr Dyer to cut both sides of the hedge running along the path from the school to Lower Langley. The clerk reported that after payment of these cheques a transfer of £1,000 was required from Business Premium Account to Community Account. The resultant balances were £6,377 on Premium Account, and £1,435 on Community Account.

6. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications:

LB/COL/05/0068 East Gores Farm, East Gores Road – replacement of doors and windows on south west flank with specialist exact replacements – no objections subject to neighbours' views.

CC/COL/12/05 Great Tey Primary School, Chrismund Way – single storey, one classroom extension – no objection subject to neighbours' views.

Approvals

F/COL/04/2288 6 Farmfield Road – two storey rear extension – approved subject to 3 conditions

Refusals

K/COL/04/0819 Warrens Farm, Coggeshall Road – application for a Certificate of Lawful Use or Development for part of the land - refused as the Council is not satisfied that the buildings totalling 2,458 sq.metres have been used for industrial and storage purposes for a continuous period of at least 10 years.

C/COL/04/2257 Elm Farm, Elm Lane – continued use of land for haulage yard (area A) and production and distribution of asphalt products (area B) - refused as the proposals do not form part of the original authorised business site area and represent a significant and unacceptable visual intrusion of an industrial nature into the countryside and therefore conflict unacceptably with the policies. Also in the absence of a full noise assessment study, the authority is not satisfied that the proposal will not have an adverse impact upon residential amenity in the surrounding rural area, particularly by way of noise pollution. Also, in the absence of a transport assessment the authority is not satisfied that the proposal will not have an adverse impact upon highway safety in the vicinity of the site.

The Parish Council have received an update from Colchester BC Planning Department detailing a summary of all existing planning approvals.

7. CORRESPONDENCE.

From Colchester BC giving guidance on a reduction in Council Tax for certain groups – this will be placed in Round and About Great Tey.

From Colchester BC seeking information on events and services provided for children in the parish as they are compiling a directory. The clerk was asked to liaise with groups as necessary and reply.

From the Rural Community Council of Essex, drawing the council's attention to the lack of affordable housing for local people. The clerk was asked to reply and advise them that this subject had recently been reviewed, we had established that there was no demand in the parish, and that we would review this again in 2008.

From Colchester BC, referring to previous correspondence a few years ago concerning the growth of trees and hedges along the boundary adjacent to 13 Lower Langley, and asking the council to remove or poison these trees to prevent further damage to the property. The clerk was instructed to reply, asking for sight of previous correspondence, and also asking Mr Dyer to liaise with Colchester BC to arrange a site visit, and then attend to the trees as they have requested.

From Mr Dyer confirming that the price of grasscutting will remain the same as last season. The clerk is to reply and thank him for this.

From ROSPA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) confirming that they can undertake an inspection in May of the playground equipment to confirm that access of the play equipment and access to the site overall is within the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act. The cost would be £93 plus VAT. The Council confirmed that this was acceptable, and asked the clerk to confirm that ROSPA advise us when the inspection is made, so that a councillor could attend.

From Strutt and Parker, confirming that they are liaising with their client concerning the overhanging trees abutting Chappel Road and Moor Road, following the local authorities advice that they are the landowners' responsibility.

From Mr Roger Browning advising that following his attendance at the exhibition concerning the proposals for the improvements to the A120 from Braintree to Marks Tey, he considers that the preferred route is the shortest and probably affects fewer residents than any other alternative. However this comes at a time when the road from Godbolts Corner of the A120, through our village and to Chappel Crossroads on the A1124 is experiencing additional heavy traffic, and he requests that Colchester BC considers a 40mph speed limit where it is not already 30mph. Also the road needs urgent attention to repairs. The clerk was instructed to reply to Mr Browning and to forward the letter to Colchester BC and ask them to attend to the repair to the road, particularly to the verges, and ask them to consider the speed limit. The clerk was also instructed to write to the Highways Agency and advise them that the council supports the proposed favoured route for the improved A120.

From Rural Community Council of Essex, inviting the village to enter the Calor Village of the Year Competition. The Council agreed and asked the clerk to complete the entry forms.

8. ARRANGEMENTS TO CUT THE HEDGE ALONG THE SOUTHERN BOUNDARY OF THE HAROLD FAIRS RECREATION GROUND.

The clerk reported that letters had been delivered to the residents affected concerning the proposal to cut the hedge to a height of approximately 6 ½ feet, and he had received responses from 4 residents who had objected. The Council agreed to instruct the clerk to arrange for a tree expert from Essex CC to visit the site together with the chairman and clerk and then communicate his findings to the concerned residents.

9. ARRANGEMENTS TO MARK THE PLANTING OF THE JUBILEE TREE

Cllr Williamson reported that a plaque encribed 'in commemoration of Queen Elizabeth the Second Golden Jubilee 2002' could be made in aluminium with a bronze look for about £28. She will ask Mr Tatum to affix it to the railings, and she will ask the oldest inhabitant in the village to unveil this on Sunday 5 June at 11am.

10. VILLAGE HALL ALTERATIONS AND FUNDRAISING

Nothing discussed.

11. ARRANGEMENTS FOR A PROPOSED LITTER PICK

Cllr Coy had proposed a litter pick. The Council decided to arrange this on March 19th to coincide with the litter pick arranged by Colchester BC. Cllr Williamson agreed that the rubbish can be picked up from her property by Colchester BC. The clerk will request equipment for 20 people, and arrange for advice to parishioners to be placed in Round and About Great Tey.

12. OTHER BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION

The clerk reported that Mr Dyer had suggested that Colchester BC be requested to move the waste bin near the shelter on the Harold Fairs Recreation Ground as children are climbing onto the bin, then the roof of the shelter, causing damage and possible injury. He suggested that it be moved near the skate park. The council agreed that the clerk establish whether any cost was involved, and then refer back.

Cllr Ford expressed concern with the danger to road users and themselves caused by children on motorised scooters. The council agreed and Cllr Ford is to liaise with the Community Police Officer, and suggest that he place a note to parishioners in Round and About Great Tey.

Date and time of next meeting: Tuesday 8th March 2005 at 7.30pm .

The parish council meeting was closed at 8.45pm.

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

In the public question session the following matters were discussed:-

The Highways Agency takes no responsibility for the existing A120, and they confirm that no works are anticipated for the existing A120. It is noted that there is no proposed interim junction on the favoured route for the new A120 from Braintree to Marks Tey. - The clerk was requested to ask the Highways Agency what measures they are planning to implement to manage traffic before the new A120 is completed.

The road from Moor Road to Betts Farm needs resurfacing – the clerk is instructed to write to Colchester BC to arrange for this to be done.

Do we have a neighbourhood watch coordinator? - Cllr Ford is to ask the Community Police Officer if he is aware of one.

Concern was expressed that few village hall user groups attend the Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee. - Cllr Brewer advised that they do receive invitations, and he will ensure that the treasurer encourages users to attend when the invitations are despatched.

Does the Borough Council check that planning conditions are followed? Borough Cllr Chillingworth advised that they do not. Concern was then expressed that it was doubtful if all the conditions relating to the new kindergarden had been followed as it opens in two weeks time. – Open days will be held and inspections are expected to be done.

The bus tickets do not appear to be interchangeable with the different bus companies that serve the village. - Two are contracted services to Essex CC and are interchangeable.