

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

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

On Tuesday 14th February 2006, at 7.30 pm.

Present:

Cllr R Bartleet (Chairman), Cllr R Brewer, Cllr W Ford, Cllr R Traube, Cllr M Williamson.

Clerk: Mr D Williams and 1 member of public attending.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr Coy, Cllr Fairs, Borough Cllr Chillingworth

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – None.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.

The minutes of the last parish council meeting of 10th January 2006 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Cllr Brewer said that he is preparing a risk assessment for the village hall including an accident book, and he said that no hazards were found. Cllr Bartleet will investigate an accident recently reported.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

(a) Funds received – EDF Energy re wayleaves £46.92, Pump House Surgery Earls Colne – re village hall light £100.

(b) Cheques for payment

Chq. No.	Payee	Amount (£)/	of which VAT:-
100797	I W Dyer – handyman	£ 77.55	£ 11.55
100798	I W Dyer – handyman	£ 145.70	£ 21.70
100799	D Williams – clerk salary	£ 303.75	
100800	R Appleton – web site costs	£ 40.00	
100801	Original Landscape Design – new jubilee tree cost	£ 239.07	£ 35.61
100802	Identilabel Ltd – cost of plaques for tree	£ 49.00	£ 7.30

It was agreed that £1,000 be transferred from Business Premium Account to Community Account. The clerk advised that the grant of £6,043.81 has not yet been received from Essex County Council (Essex CC) but is expected shortly, and cheque number 100794 for £8,871.25 is to be released when these grant monies are received and outstanding items completed. This is mentioned further in minute 7. The resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr £1,275.31, and Business Premium Account Cr £10,976.99.

6. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications:

- F/COL/06/0019 Unit 1A Teybook Craft Centre, Brook Road – change of use of unit 1A to B1 & B8, variation of condition No 4 of COL/99/0210 and new additional office accommodation – no objections subject to neighbours' views.
- F/COL/06/0027 1 Thatchers Cottage, Chappel Road – proposed conservatory to rear – no objections subject to neighbours' views
- K/COL/06/0045 Elm Farm, Elm Lane – certificate of lawful use for existing use erection of classroom buildings for commercial purposes including light and general industry and storage and distribution – we have no comment on the factual evidence submitted
- C/COL/06/0195 East Gores Farm, East Gores Road – change of use for shed D from agricultural to storage of flowers and decorations and preparation of flower arrangements – no objections subject to neighbours' views.

Approvals

- F/COL/05/2011 Hilbre, Chappel Road – demolition of existing single storey rear extensions and construction of new single storey rear extension, demolition of existing garage and construction of new garage with pitched roof - approved subject to 2 conditions
- F/COL/05/2108 5 Langleys Cottages, Chappel Road – erection of a two storey side extension and a two storey rear extension – approved subject to 3 conditions
- F/COL/05/1970 Whytegates, East Gores Road – single storey rear extension and window replacement – approved subject to 2 conditions.

7. VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Traube reported that the builder's snagging list is nearly complete and there are 9 items outstanding. The cheque for £8,871.25 is to be released when these items are completed. It was agreed that a transfer be made from Deposit account when the cheque is released if the Essex CC grant monies have not been received. Cllr Traube said that the notice boards inside the village hall had been defaced and a ceiling tile damaged. It was agreed that Cllr Ford place a note in Round and About Great Tey (R&A) expressing disappointment with this damage and asking users to be aware of vandalism. A note is also to be placed in R&A reminding parents that skateboarding is not to take place in the village hall car park and that there is an area constructed for this in the recreation ground.

The Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee will take place on Friday 24th February, and the Parish Council will be represented.

Members reviewed the current insured values for the village hall and contents, details of which had been circulated beforehand. It was agreed that they are satisfactory. The current values are – buildings £450,000, contents £23,106, water colour painting £536, and oil in tank £880. These values are index linked and are automatically uplifted on 1st March.

8. WEB SITE REPORT

Cllr Bartleet reported that he met with the web site designer Mr Rob Appleton together with Cllr Fairs and the clerk, and proposed that the council pay costs of £40 for hosting the web site and the domain names of www.greattey.com and www.greattey.net. The site for www.greattey.co.uk has already been bought elsewhere. He also proposed that design costs of £360 be paid to Mr Appleton for the considerable work required in designing the web site. These costs were agreed. The various site pages are being drawn up and we will need to consider how these are updated. Cllr Bartleet said that one of the conditions of the grant of £750 from Essex CC was that the grant be spent by 31st March. He proposed that with the remainder of the grant monies, the council purchase a digital camera at a cost of £150 and that £200 be allocated towards the purchase of further software for development of the web site. This was agreed and the clerk will advise Mr Appleton accordingly.

9. LITTER PICK

It was agreed that the parish will have a litter pick on Saturday 1st April, and that Cllr Ford will contact Cllr Coy to place a note in R&A advertising the event and seeking volunteers. Cllr Coy has agreed to co ordinate and it was agreed that he be asked to liase with Colchester Borough Council concerning the loan of the equipment, and Cllr Williamson has agreed that the rubbish can be collected from outside her house.

10. COLCHESTER ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Cllr Brewer said that he attended a recent meeting of the Association, and it was agreed that the committee would be reformed with the support of the Essex Association of Local Councils, and new officials elected. Matters such as the expansion of Stansted Airport, the improvements to the A120, and the Regional Council will be tackled. The next meeting will be on 20th March and it was agreed that this matter be an agenda item at the next parish council meeting to decide who would attend.

11. CORREPENDENCE NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE

From Mr I Dyer stating that there will be no price increase for the 2006 grass cutting season, and he will remark the football pitch from time to time. This was accepted with thanks.

From Allianz Cornhill Engineering stating that the inspection for the playground will be due shortly. It was agreed that they are instructed to proceed with this inspection, as this is different to the ROSPA inspection which we have in addition.

From Colchester Borough Council confirming the arrangements for the free travel bus pass from 1st April for residents aged over 60. These will be posted on the village notice board.

From Essex County Council stating that they intend to place a Traffic Regulation Order on the school Keep Clear markings in Christmund Way. An offence will be committed by stopping on these areas during peak periods when pupils are expected to arrive and leave.

From Calor Village of the Year inviting applications. It was agreed that we would enter and the clerk will deal with it.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The meeting was suspended for public questions and statements.

Was the council aware that the government does not intend to renew the contract with the Post Office regarding the payment of pensions in 2010. This will affect the viability of local shops and post offices in Great Tey and the surrounding villages. It was agreed that the clerk write to Bernard Jenkin MP expressing our concern with the difficulties that this would cause for parishioners in having to travel outside the village each week with the cost and the inconvenience, together with our concern at the reduction in village life and facilities with the disappearance of the local shop and post office.

The meeting resumed.

12. OTHER BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION

Cllr Traube reported a water leak at the top right hand side of New Barn Road at the junction with Tey Road. There is also a leak south of the entrance to the sewage treatment plant on Brook Road between the entrance to Warrens Farm and Teybrook Craft Centre. The clerk was requested to write regarding these leaks to Anglian Water.

Cllr Brewer said that the arrangements for the annual parish meeting should be made, and this will be an agenda item in March. He also expressed concern with the increased level of articulated lorries causing damage to roadside verges, and this should be monitored.

Cllr Bartleet mentioned that the council had received a request to trim the hedge on the Harold Fairs Recreation Ground that backs on to 7 Christmund Way to a height of 20 feet and it was agreed that the houseowner's contractor could do this and remove the rubbish. He had the necessary public liability insurance.
Cllr Brewer said that a parishioner had queried whether the reflectors on the railings around the jubilee tree at the top of Coggeshall Road were too low. From subsequent examination it was agreed that they were satisfactory.

Date and time of the next meeting – Tuesday 14th March 2006 at 7.30 pm. The clerk gave his apologies for absence due to holiday and alternative arrangements were made for the minutes to be taken for this next meeting.

The parish council meeting was closed at 8.55 pm.

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