

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

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

On Tuesday 11th January 2005, at 7.30 pm.

Present:

Cllr R Bartleet (chairman), Cllr R Brewer, Cllr A Coy, Cllr R Fairs,

Cllr W Ford, Cllr R Traube, Cllr M Williamson,

Clerk: Mr D Williams

2 members of public attended.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. – Borough Cllr P Chillingworth
The Chairman welcomed the new councillor R Fairs to the meeting.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST - None

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING.

The minutes of the last parish council meeting of 14th December 2004 were agreed as a true record, and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Cllr Traube handed correspondence concerning the new bus shelter to the clerk. Cllr Bartleet asked the clerk to clarify whether or not there are any allotment vacancies. This is in hand. Cllr Bartleet referred to the recent application by Elm Farm, Elm Lane for continued use of land for haulage yard and production and distribution of asphalt products. He advised that neighbours had said that they were unsure what activities were taking place with planning approval, and without approval. The Council were also unsure of existing permissions. The planning enforcement officer at Colchester Borough Council has recently advised that there is an enforcement file, and that they await the outcome of the current application for continued use. It was agreed that the clerk would write to Planning Department Colchester BC seeking a summary of all existing planning approvals, and details or a copy of their enforcement file regarding the current activities. Cllr Coy joined the meeting at 7.50pm. The clerk has written to residents in Farmfield Road, Christmund Way and Greenfield Drive concerning the proposed cutting of the hedge to a height of approximately 6 ½ feet along the southern boundary of the Harold Fairs Recreation Ground, and it was agreed that these proposed works be an agenda item next month. The clerk confirmed that Colchester Borough Council have renewed the grant scheme for 2005/06 whereby £150,000 would be available to councils in the borough for projects which would have to meet certain criteria. Applications must be submitted by 30 April 2005 and councillors will consider this.

5. FINANCIAL MATTERS.

i. The clerk reported that the audit for the year ended 31 March 2004 had now been completed by the external auditor, who commented that the total fixed assets figure should not be nil, which had been the case for some years. They said that the figure for 2003/04 should be £28,793, taken from the insurance policy details. The balance sheet was duly amended and signed by the chairman and clerk. This does not affect the income and expenditure, nor cash flow.

ii. The budget for the year from 1 April 2005 to 31 March 2006 was discussed, together with the level of precept. It was agreed that the precept be increased by 3.1% from £8,629 to £8,896. This would necessitate a Council Tax of £23.29 a year per band D property, an increase of £0.83 a year. The budget was agreed showing estimated income of £14,237 which includes the precept and grant from Colchester BC; and estimated expenditure of £12,320. It was agreed that the clerk's annual salary be increased by 3.1% to £3,645 in line with the increase in inflation.

iii. It was resolved that the following payments be made:-

Chq. No.	Payee	Amount (£)/ of which VAT
100715	D Williams – clerk's salary	£ 294.67
100716	Great Tey Village Hall Mgmt Comte – hall hire	£ 37.50
100717	Great Tey Village Hall Mgmt Comte - subsidy of users of Village Hall	£ 416.00

The clerk reported that after payment of these cheques a transfer of £1,500 was required from Business Premium Account to Community Account. The resultant balances were £7,377 on Premium Account, and £1,172 on Community Account.

6. PLANNING MATTERS

Applications:

- F/COL/04/2332 East Gores Farm, East Gores Road – extensions and alterations including demolition of two detached single storey sheds – no objection subject to neighbours' views.
- F/COL/04/2288 6 Farmfield Road – two storey rear extension – no objection subject to neighbours' views.
- AG/COL/04/2241 Tey Brook Farm – erection of glasshouse with timber lean-to – no objections subject to neighbours' views.
- F/COL/04/2348 Gull Cottage, Broad Green – erection of small screen fence, summer house and garden shed to eastern side of property – no objection subject to neighbours' views.

Approvals

- F/COL/04/2088 3 New Cottages, Brook Road – erection of detached double kennel at foot of garden to house 2 working border collies – approved subject to 3 conditions
- F/COL/04/2046 1 Windmills – first floor extension and conversion of garage to dining room, also single storey front extension to lounge – approved subject to 2 conditions
- F/COL/04/1959 Toccia, Chappel Road – extension above garage – approved subject to 3 conditions

7. CORRESPONDENCE.

From the Treasurer of Great and Little Tey Parochial Church Council, thanking the parish council for the donation of £500, and advising that the PCC spent a total of £1,457.02 this financial year on grass cutting in the Churchyard in order to keep it tidy, and the contribution was gratefully received.

From the Monitoring Officer of Colchester Borough Council, advising that he will investigate less serious allegations of misconduct rather than the Ethical Standards Officer of the Standards Board.

8. ARRANGEMENTS TO MARK THE PLANTING OF THE JUBILEE TREE

It was agreed that a ceremony be arranged for the Village Weekend to place a plaque on the railings surrounding the tree at the junction of Coggeshall Road and The Street. The Village Weekend Committee will be meeting shortly, and when the Committee have agreed the details of the ceremony, we can then complete the arrangements. Cllr Williamson agreed to research the cost of a plaque/sign writer, and will propose the wording.

9. VILLAGE HALL ALTERATIONS AND FUNDRAISING

None discussed.

10. OTHER BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION

Cllr Traube expressed concern with the sale of 12 ½ acres of agricultural land in Moor Road, and the possible future use. This will be monitored. Cllr Brewer referred to the recent request from Colchester BC for details of community requirements in the possible development of Great Tey. The request emphasised that no development had been considered or agreed. As the Village Hall is a focal point in the village, it was agreed that we would submit the development plan for the Village Hall which Cllr Brewer has updated, with the comment that the Village Hall is being renovated and any funds available would be appreciated.

The following committees were agreed:-

- Planning - full council
- Finance - full council
- Highways - Cllr Brewer, Cllr Traube, Cllr Coy
- Housing - Cllr Bartleet, Cllr Ford, Cllr Traube
- Recreation - Cllr Fairs, Cllr Williamson, Cllr Coy
- Footpaths - Cllr Brewer
- Village Hall - Cllr Traube, Cllr Williamson
- Transport - Cllr Traube

Date and time of next meeting: Tuesday 8th February 2005 at 7.30pm .
The parish council meeting was closed at 9.15pm.

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

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

It was requested that the village hall users attended the Village Hall Management Committee Annual General Meeting. They do receive invitations.