

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

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

On Tuesday 14th June 2005, at 7.30 pm.

Present:

Cllr R Bartleet (chairman), Cllr A Coy, Cllr R Fairs, Cllr R Traube, Cllr M Williamson,

Clerk: Mr D Williams, 5 members of public attended

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr R Brewer, Cllr W Ford, Borough Cllr P 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 May 2005 were agreed as a true record, and signed.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Cllr Traube said that the bus shelter is expected to be delivered very shortly.

5. FINANCIAL MATTERS.

a) It was resolved that the following payments be made:-

| Chq. No. | Payee | Amount (£)/ | of which VAT:- |
|----------|---|-------------|----------------|
| 100733 | I W Dyer – grasscutting - new & old playing fields 4/05 | £ 141.00 | £ 21.00 |
| 100734 | D Williams – clerk’s salary | £ 303.75 | |
| 100735 | A Dann t/a F Percival & Sons – parish paths ptnership | £ 159.80 | £ 23.80 |
| 100736 | I W Dyer – grasscutting – new & old playing fields 5/05 | £ 94.00 | £ 14.00 |
| 100737 | I W Dyer – handyman | £ 173.90 | £ 25.90 |
| 100738 | Campaign to Protect Rural England – subscription | £ 25.00 | |
| 100739 | Playground Management Ltd | £ 129.84 | £ 19.34 |

It was agreed that a transfer of £1,000 be made from Business Premium Account to Community Account. The resultant balances after payment of cheques approved is £893.41 on Community Account, and £10,403.10 on Business Premium Account.

b) The clerk presented the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2005. All the expenditure and income was detailed, and showed total income of £17,084.25 and total expenditure of £16,134.83. Current assets are bank balances of £6,890.32 and VAT recoverable of £854.75. Fixed assets were a further £28,793.50. The accounts were approved and signed by the chairman and clerk on page 5, and page 6 will be considered when the accounts for Great Tey Village Hall Trust to 31 March 2005 are completed. It was agreed to submit these accounts to the internal auditor L Tippett, and that the VAT will be reclaimed after the internal audit is completed and VAT checked.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The meeting was suspended for public questions:-

i) Concern was raised with the planning application for Elm Farm and the history of planning applications made there. This application is for outline planning permission only for a large industrial area and does not hold them to the detail in the application. The traffic report for the A120 used is before the new carriageway from Braintree to Stansted was opened, and traffic has increased since then.

ii) Will the village hall be formally reopened after the refurbishments?

The meeting resumed.

6. PLANNING MATTERS Applications:

O/COL/05/0946 Elm Farm, Elm Lane – demolish former agricultural & prefabricated office buildings & erect suite of class B1/B8 buildings and lay out parking and circulation areas. Cllr Bartleet said that this application was for Outline Planning Permission. Concern was expressed by councillors and the response agreed was:- We do not approve this application on the grounds of -

1. Increased traffic on a very dangerous road junction. Traffic volume has risen substantially since their survey in June 2004 with the opening of the new dual carriageway section between Braintree and Stansted.

2. Some of the buildings to be replaced are temporary and we believe do not have planning consent.

3. It is not a farm and so farm diversification arguments under PPG13 are not relevant.

F/COL/05/1007 2 Buxton Cottages, Coggeshall Road – two storey rear extension – no objections subject to neighbours’ views.

Approval

F/COL/05/0725 Cuckoo’s Farm, East Gores Road – proposed cartlodge and garage including first floor storage space – approved subject to 5 conditions.

7. VILLAGE HALL ALTERATIONS AND FUND RAISING

Cllr Traube said that the alterations started on 6 June, and the small hall and toilets will be open until 15 July. The main hall will be shut. The doctors surgery will be closed until 12 August. The halls will reopen for a function on 20 August and then both halls will be closed from 22 August until 12 September. Cllr Coy will put a note of the dates in Round and About Great Tey and user groups will be informed.

£10,000 has been raised by a grant from Essex Environment Trust, £3,000 by a grant from Cory, and the Village Hall Management Committee are to contribute £3,500. Funds are also anticipated from the Village Weekend.

8. THE ROAD FROM A120 TO CHAPPEL CORNER.

This item is to be carried forward to next month's agenda.

9. SPECIAL GRANT OF £1,000 FROM ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL.

This grant has been made available for IT or for community projects. Approval was given for the clerk to purchase a photocopier for £166.84 and be reimbursed accordingly. Further consideration will be given to utilising the balance of £833.16.

10. THE ROSPA REPORT FOR 2005 FOR THE PLAY AREA

The report was considered and it was agreed that the clerk would prepare from the report a list of items needing attention and ask Mr I Dyer to quote if the cost was over £100, and to proceed as soon as possible if the cost was below £100. The bark is to be turned now. The Disability Discrimination Act report for the play area was also considered, and it was agreed that the clerk obtain a quote only for the widening of the gate in accordance with the report and councillors would consider further.

11. THE ROAD JUNCTION OF TEY ROAD AND CHAPPEL ROAD

Essex County Council have responded to our request that they review the road signage by saying that the road markings are clear with both the no entry wording and the double give way signs. They wonder whether the council would support the removal of the island and make it a standard T junction. It was agreed that the clerk reply, agreeing with these findings in daylight hours but pointing out that there are no visible signs at night and requesting a no entry fluorescent sign. It was agreed that there is no benefit in removing the island.

A complaint had been received concerning the overgrown hedge on the corner, and it was agreed to write to the occupier at Marshalls Cottages referring to the recent serious road traffic accident asking them to cut back the hedge on the side and top to improve the visibility at the junction, which is presently dangerous.

12. GREAT AND LITTLE TEY PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

The treasurer of the Parochial Church Council has written advising that they had placed a contract for grass cutting maintenance and that the grass is cut at least every two weeks during the growing season. The Church is a significant focal point of the village and in the past the parish council has assisted with a grant. It was agreed to approve a grant of £500, and to ask if the first cut of the season could be gathered to improve the appearance.

13. THE GRASSCUTTING OF THE VERGES AND GREENSWARD

Essex County Council have responded to our enquiry concerning the non cutting of the road verges and greensward. They advise that funding issues between Essex County Council and Colchester Borough Council have meant that there has been a delay with cutting, and as this has now been resolved they are working to clear the backlog as soon as possible. A parishioner had written to the parish council regarding a road accident on a road with overgrown verges, and the clerk is to reply advising her of the situation.

14. CORRESPONDENCE NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE

From Great Tey Pre School asking if they may use the Old Playing Field for their sports day between 10.30am and 2pm on 6th July, or if wet the 13th July. This was agreed and the clerk is to ask Mr Dyer to ensure that a cut of the Old Playing Field is done before the 6th July.

From Mr Simon Hall on behalf of the Great and Little Tey Planning Group formally requesting permission to use the Old Playing Fields and the New Playing Fields for the Village Weekend. The clerk has replied confirming, saying that the parish council cannot be held liable for injury to persons or damage to property and understanding that they have insurance.

From Mr Simon Hall on behalf of the Great and Little Tey Planning Group acknowledging receipt of the cheque of £500 from the Parish Council towards the costs of the village weekend which had over £450 additional costs not paid before due to supervision costs for rides for which they could not obtain insurance.

From Mr & Mrs Dyer referring to the parish council's letters requesting the removal of obstructions on the pathway down The Chase. They say that the recent village weekend puts paid to the suggestion that there are any obstructions of the pathway down The Chase. They also say that the container 'on the Old Playing Field' is not theirs, neither is it in the Old Playing Field. The clerk was instructed to reply, agreeing the wording with the chairman.

From Mr M Gurton, Inspace Partnerships, referring to previous correspondence concerning the removal of tree and shrub growth from the Harold Fairs Recreation Ground adjoining 13 Lower Langley. He expresses concern

that nothing had been done to remove the growth. The clerk has replied expressing surprise as the handyman had poisoned the area, and has since cut back the growth. Mr Gurton has been invited to inspect the area. From Colchester Borough Council. The clerk reminded councillors that applications under the Town and Parish Councils Grant Scheme had to be submitted by 30th June. Councillors confirmed that they support the application being made by the Trustees of the Village Hall, which is in hand. From Colchester Borough Council advising that the Attended Refuse Freighter Scheme will be coming to the Harold Fairs Recreation Ground on Saturday 9th July at 9.45am to 10.45am. Cllr Coy will arrange for a note to be placed in Round and About Great Tey and the clerk will place a notice on the parish notice board.

15. OTHER BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION - None

Date and time of next meeting: Tuesday 12th July 2005 at 7.30pm .
The parish council meeting was closed at 9.20 pm.

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