

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held remotely by Zoom on Tuesday 12th January 2021 at 7.30pm
Present: Cllr Bartleet, Cllr Fairs (Chairman), Cllr Frost, Cllr Hamer, Cllr Suff, Cllr Warnes (later), Cllr Williamson
Clerk Mr D Williams and 3 members of the public attended.

1.APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Colchester Borough Council (CBC) Cllr Chillingworth

2.DECLARATION OF INTERESTS REGARDING THESE ITEMS

Cllr Fairs declared an interest in the planning application for Bracks Cottage as a work colleague provided the drawings for the application. He will not take any part in this item.

Cllr Hamer said that she is to receive a cheque from the parish council for partial reimbursement of the Zoom subscription for this meeting.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of the last remote parish council meeting of 8th December 2020 were agreed as a true record, and signed remotely by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES AND SUMMARIES NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE - None

5. CO OPTION OF A PARISH COUNCILLOR TO FILL THE VACANCY

The chairman advised that the vacancy had been advertised locally during December and two applications had been received from Mr A Warnes and Mrs C Hill. Members said that both applicants were good candidates and both would be welcome to join the parish council. After discussion it was agreed by a vote of 4 to 1 with the chairman not casting his vote to co opt Mr Warnes to join the parish council. He was in attendance and Cllr Warnes duly took his remote seat. He confirmed that he would complete the necessary documentation which will be sent to him by the clerk. The clerk was asked to telephone Mrs Hill and advise her that whilst she was unsuccessful this time, her application at the next vacancy would be welcomed.

The meeting was suspended.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

(i).Are there any developments on the New Barn Road development. Will CBC listen to the results of the neighbourhood plan survey? Cllr Fairs said that the neighbourhood plan will be discussed later in the agenda.

The meeting resumed.

6. REPORT FROM COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

In the absence of Borough Cllr Chillingworth, Cllr Fairs read out his report.

He referred to the Covid pandemic and the lockdown and the difficulties seen in Essex.

He then said that CBC is holding an Extraordinary Meeting on 1st February, to consider the adoption of part 1 of the Local Plan. The continuing inclusion of the Tendring Borders Garden Community is still controversial with those from East of the Borough, but if adopted they can move forward with the Inspector considering part 2 of the plan. This contains all the other housing and industrial allocations, planning policies, etc, including proposed housing off New Barn Road, Great Tey and south of Swan Grove in Chappel. Some, like the Brook Road development and the Eight Ash Green site for 150 houses have been brought forward early and approved to help maintain the 5-year land supply, hopefully to protect the Borough from speculative developments. With the removal of West Tey Garden Community, amendments will be made to part 2 to include new allocations to rebalance the required numbers, and no doubt will be subject of a further consultation before going to the Inspector.

Finally he said that he was not able to cover the full cost of fencing work to the recreation ground and the allotments. He gave some money for Covid-related causes and has now spent the full amount.

7. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Hamer said that the comments received with the public consultation survey replies are still being collated.

She said that it is problematic to include any later pockets of land being offered for inclusion in the neighbourhood plan at this stage.

The neighbourhood plan committee will not apply for new funding until the new financial year. The unused funding which has to be returned to Groundworks will be returned when the neighbourhood plan committee instruct the parish council to do so at a meeting it holds, duly minuted.

The consultants for the proposed developer are waiting for the results of the public consultation survey following which they will discuss the plans further with CBC. A discussion then followed on whether or not the summaries of the figures should be presented. It was agreed to put the figures including the summaries and the narrative onto the web site and to publish in Round and About Great Tey. Cllr Hamer said that she would advise the consultants for the proposed developer.

8.PLANNING MATTERS

(a) Applications received

200661 - Great Tey Community Swimming Pool – to consider revised plans for swimming pool - We are aware of considerable neighbours' objections to these revised plans and we are therefore unable to support these revised plans. We would suggest that the applicants discuss any revision of these plans with the objectors to hopefully agree the way forward.

Cllr Fairs declared an interest in the following item and withdrew from the meeting. Cllr Williamson took the chair.
202728 - Bracks Cottage, Bracks Lane, Coggeshall - Removal of french doors, a window and some blockwork and replacement with patio doors or bi-fold doors in the western elevation – No objections.

Cllr Fairs returned to the meeting and took the chair.

(b) Applications approved by Colchester Borough Council

202252 - The Granary, Flories Road - Replace 2 sets of French windows on ground floor on rear of house - approved subject to 3 conditions.

9. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) Cheques for payment

Chq.No.	Payee	Amount (£)	/ of which VAT:-
101854	Great & Little Tey PCC - churchyard grasscuts donation	£ 450.00	
101855	D Williams-clerk salary £499.83 less PAYE £99.80	£ 400.03	
101856	HM Revenue & Customs - PAYE for clerk	£ 99.80	
101857	M Hamer – partial reimbursement of Zoom meeting sub	£ 13.50	
101858	R Cottis- defib pads&batteries(inc lost chq no 101838- £40.29)	£ 106.08	
101859	BeDot Media Group – web domain and web hosting	£ 124.31	£ 20.72
101859	Great & Little Tey PCC – donation for Church building works	£1,000.00	

(b) Bank statements show Current Account Cr 31,772.06, Business Premium Account Cr 22.48. These were seen and confirmed on the screen by the chairman.

(c) The budget for the year to 31 March 2022 was considered. Expenditure was reviewed and a total of £21,158 was agreed. Income of £20,245 including precept and grant was agreed. Colchester Borough Council (CBC) has decided to maintain their total grant at £972. Last year's precept was £18,927, and it was agreed to keep this at the same figure. Thus the precept for 2021/22 was unanimously agreed at £18,927, and as the tax base has reduced, Band D council tax has increased from £49.97 to £51.52, which is an increase of 3.1%.

(d) Members agreed to the purchase of a printer at a cost of £50 +VAT for the clerk as the previous printer is no longer available.

10. ST BARNABAS CHURCH

Cllr Fairs said that the Parochial Church Council (PCC) had asked the Parish Council to donate funds towards church repairs costing £26,670. Cllr Suff said that the Rectory was for sale for £800,000. Cllr Fairs said that the parish does not have a vicar, the churchwardens were running the church, and the Diocese were proposing that the Glebe land is considered for development. He wondered what the Diocese plans were for the Grade 1 Church in the middle of our village. After discussion members agreed to make a donation of £1,000 towards the church repairs and asked the clerk to write to the Diocese saying that we have been asked to donate towards the church repairs, have donated £1,000, also donate towards the churchyard grasscuts, are aware that the Rectory is for sale at £800,000 and the Glebe land proposed for development, and ask for views of funding for repairs and plans for the Church. The clerk was asked to advise a churchwarden of this so that he is aware.

11. HAROLD FAIRS RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Fairs said that the play area bridge was in urgent need of repair, and after discussion it was agreed that he would obtain a quotation for fencing off the area, which may well have to include the skate park. A longer term solution was also discussed, and Cllr Frost said that he would investigate a quotation for boarding off the rotten posts holding the bridge.

Cllr Bartleet said that he would look at the drain at the Recreation Ground to see what needs to be done.

Cllr Hamer said that she will print off and display a notice regarding Covid restrictions for the playground, using the government web site for specimen notices.

12. HANDYMAN REPORT

The clerk was instructed to ask the handyman to concentrate on completing the replacement of the play area fence posts by the end of January.

13. VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Fairs said that there had been a problem with the outside lights causing a nuisance to nearby residents, but that it was hoped that this had now been resolved.

The clerk was asked to arrange for a notice to be placed in Round and About Great Tey stating that the post office and prescription collection are still available at the village hall during the latest Covid lockdown.

14. HIGHWAYS

Cllr Fairs said that Essex County Council Highways had advised that the request to site a tyre in front of the tree at the junction of Chappel Road and Moor Road cannot be agreed as it does not meet their requirements, being too near the road. The parishioners proposing this have been advised.

15. ALLOTMENTS

The handyman has submitted a quotation to install 10 new fence posts, leaving in the existing posts, and all members agreed to this quotation.

There being no further business the parish council meeting was closed at 9.44pm.

Chairman..... Date.....