

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held remotely by Zoom on Tuesday 9th February 2021 at 7.30pm
Present: Cllr Bartleet, Cllr Fairs (Chairman), Cllr Frost, Cllr Hamer, Cllr Suff, Cllr Warnes, Cllr Williamson
Clerk Mr D Williams and 4 members of the public attended.

1.APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – None

2.DECLARATION OF INTERESTS REGARDING THESE ITEMS

Cllr Fairs declared an interest in minute 10 regarding a quotation received from a work colleague regarding temporary fencing at the play area at Harold Fairs Recreation Ground (HFRG).

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 12th January 2021 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

The meeting was suspended.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

(i).The Chequers Inn is a community asset for value and this expires in April 2021. Members agreed that this asset should be renewed and the clerk was asked to action this.

(ii). A question about planning procedures. The parish council seems to uphold some objections to planning applications but the the Borough Council passes the plans. How did this come about?

Cllr Williamson said that regarding the application for the Swimming Pool, we asked that the objectors discuss their issues with the applicants.

Cllr Frost and Cllr Fairs said that the parish council is a consultee asked for a response, and on occasions there is a disconnection between the parish council views and the Borough Council decision.

Borough Cllr Chillingworth said that decisions by the Borough Council are made on policy whereas objections may not be planning objections but personal objections.

(iii).In the past the parish council has supported the planning application for the Brook Road development yet objections were received from parishioners.

(iv).There will be objections to a planning application for the New Barn Road development. Can I have assurances that the parish council will support objections.

The meeting resumed.

5. REPORT FROM COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

Borough Cllr Chillingworth gave an update on Covid 19 issues in Colchester. He said that the Extraordinary Full Council met last week and adopted Part 1 of the Local Plan. This means the proposed Tendring/Colchester Borders Garden Community will go ahead and housing numbers are confirmed at 920 p.a. until the Plan is reviewed in 5 years, thus removing the fear they could rise in line with new government requirements. This now opens the way for Part 2 of the Plan to be considered by a new Inspector during April. Tendring's Plan will be considered shortly and Braintree's inspection will follow Colchester. Part 2 contains housing allocations, including the two proposed sites in Great Tey, although the Brook Road development was given early permission. Details of the Inspection will be announced shortly and all objections will be considered by the Inspector.

Borough Cllr Chillingworth said that at a previous meeting a question was asked with regard to why S.106 money was being spent on the school swimming pool. On enquiry, he was told this arose from previous discussions with the Parish Council on what facilities might benefit when money was available. If the New Barn Road development does go ahead, there will be a significant amount coming to the village at some stage and you are probably already giving thought on how this might be spent.

This winter is the wettest for many years and I am asking that Highways erect emergency signage where roads are flooded to stop drivers risking being marooned and causing damage by their actions.

Cllr Warnes asked if the S 106 legal agreement on the Borough Council web site is binding. Borough Cllr Chillingworth said that it was.

Borough Cllr Chillingworth left the meeting.

7. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Hamer said that a report on the public consultation survey figures has been released on Round and About Great Tey, the web site and to the agents for the proposed developer for New Barn Road. The unused funding which has to be returned to Groundworks can now be returned as this was authorised at the last neighbourhood plan committee meeting and the minutes of that meeting have been circulated to the committee members confirming this.

8. PLANNING MATTERS (a) Applications received - None

(b) Applications approved by Colchester Borough Council

200661 Great Tey Primary School, Christmund Way – To reinstate the community swimming pool (currently open air) extending it to 12.5m long, 5m wide, 1.2m deep providing the following: Permanent 'Galaxy' enclosure for all year round use, changing facilities, showers, disabled toilet, reception building – approved subject to 9 conditions

9. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) Cheques for payment

Chq.No.	Payee	Amount (£)	/ of which VAT:-
101861	D Williams-clerk salary £499.83 less PAYE £99.80	£ 400.03	
101862	HM Revenue & Customs - PAYE for clerk	£ 99.80	
101863	M Hamer – partial reimbursement of Zoom meeting sub	£ 13.50	
101864	D Williams – reimbursement for printer purchase	£ 59.99	£ 10.00
101865	Groundwork UK – repayment of grant underspent	£ 8300.00	

(b) Bank statements show Current Account Cr 31,792.74, Business Premium Account Cr 22.48. These were seen and confirmed on the screen by the chairman. These balances do not include cheques 101864 and 101865.

10. HAROLD FAIRS RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Frost said that he is awaiting the quotation for boarding off the rotten posts holding the play area bridge.

Cllr Fairs suggested that we wait for this quotation within the next two weeks before we fence off the area. His work colleague has provided a quotation for the temporary fencing. Cllr Bartleet suggested that we also ask for a quotation to board off all the side of the bridge. Cllr Warnes suggested that we put a time limit of 2 weeks for these quotations and all agreed.

Cllr Bartleet said that he would obtain a quotation to extend the drain at the Recreation Ground. This was agreed.

11. PLAY AREA

Cllr Warnes suggested that he arranges for an alternative quotation to repair the play area posts as the handyman has advised that he is unable to do this job at present unless the play area is closed. Members said that they did not wish to close the play area as it is well used at present because of Covid restrictions, and so agreed to obtain the alternative quotation.

Cllr Fairs said that we should await the S 106 monies due relating to Parsonage Court before we consider a permanent replacement of the fence using hooped fencing.

Cllr Hamer asked if the parish council is happy that the notices put up in the play area cover the Covid 19 regulations. Cllr Fairs said that we consider that it is important to keep the Recreation Ground and the play area open for as long as possible. All members agreed that the notices suffice.

12. HANDYMAN

The clerk was instructed to ask the handyman to proceed with the allotment fencing, and to advise him that we are obtaining an alternative quotation for the play area fencing as he is unable to complete the job without the closure of the play area.

13. VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Fairs said that he was sorry to receive the resignation of the village hall manager and thanked Sally Brooks and Alec Brooks for their tremendous efforts over the last six years. The clerk said that applications for the post have been received and Sally Brooks said that she can give further information to applicants if required. She said that she will remain in post until a replacement has been appointed.

14. HIGHWAYS

The clerk was asked to establish from Earls Colne Parish Council whether or not the large potholes on Tey Road have been reported to ECC Highways, and if not to report them.

ECC Cllr Anne Brown has asked that a form is completed for ECC Highways to confirm our request for the extension to the footway/pavement from the bus shelter to the road junction with The Street.

15. EMERGENCY PLAN - Members agreed to remove this item from the agenda whilst the emergency plan is being reviewed.

16. CORRESPONDENCE NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE

Cllr Fairs said that an email had been received from the organisers of the swimming pool project which had been circulated to members, requesting funding from the Section 106 monies that are due from the developers of Parsonage Court. The clerk was asked to reply and say that the Section 106 agreement between Colchester Borough Council and the developers agreed the sum of £25,000 for the swimming pool, and until we have the clarification of the monies due we cannot consider any request for further funding until that time.

17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The clerk said that Mr Fordham has not yet responded to the request for a method statement and insurance details following his accepted quotation for the works required to the tree at the junction of Moor Road and Chappel Road.

There being no further business the parish council meeting was closed at 8.51pm.

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