

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held remotely by Zoom on Tuesday 9th March 2021 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Bartleet, Cllr Fairs (Chairman), Cllr Frost, Cllr Hamer, Cllr Suff, Cllr Warnes, Cllr Williamson

Clerk Mr D Williams, Colchester Borough Council (CBC) Cllr Chillingworth and 6 members of the public attended.

1.APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – None

2.DECLARATION OF INTERESTS REGARDING THESE ITEMS - Cllr Fairs declared an interest in minute 7 regarding the approved application for Great Tey Business Centre as he is a director of Tey Farm Systems Ltd.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Cllr Bartleet said that an amendment should be made to line 4 of minute 10 changing the word “bridge” to “cutting”. This was done and then the minutes of the last remote parish council meeting of 9th February 2021 were agreed as a true record, and will be signed remotely by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES AND SUMMARIES NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE

The clerk advised that the application to renew The Chequers Inn as an Asset of Community Value has been submitted to CBC who has responded stating that this will be considered by 30th April, being a statutory 8 week timescale. We have replied and said that the 8 week response time is not published on the CBC web site, and as the existing tenant advises us that her tenancy finishes on 5th April we have asked CBC to process the application as soon as possible, and in the meantime to retain the existing entry on the Asset of Community Value register beyond the expiry date of 1st April as other entries are also overdue and not removed. Cllr Warnes asked if the application for a footpath from the bus stop to the junction of The Street and Chappel Road had been sent to Essex County Council Highways. The clerk confirmed that it had been sent but no response has yet been received.

The meeting was suspended.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

(i).At the Brook Road development the contractors are parking in the road, and a telehandler has been at right angles over the road and blocking the road.Cllr Fairs said that he had spoken to the contractors in the past who have been helpful.He said - if you see the road blocked again or parking by contractors and do not wish to speak to them, please let me know and I will contact them.

(ii). The results of the neighbourhood plan survey have now been published, how much level of support will the parish council give when the planning application for the proposed development at New Barn Road is submitted. Cllr Hamer said that the neighbourhood planning committee (the committee) are arranging a meeting with the proposed developers to discuss the outcome of the survey. The committee is hoping to carry out a design statement but it is not the platform to challenge the planning application. This site is to be in the forthcoming Local Plan proposals.

(iii). It is disappointing that CBC want to proceed with Option 1 rather than Option 2 for the New Barn Road development. Cllr Hamer said that the parish council is not supporting Option 1 but CBC is. Cllr Fairs said that if and when a planning application is submitted we will all have our say.

The meeting resumed.

5. REPORT FROM COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

Borough Cllr Chillingworth noted the rapid decline in Covid cases both locally and in Essex. Local elections will go ahead on May 6th and campaigning is to be allowed as long as social distancing and other rules are followed. Political parties will be able to deliver leaflets and carry out door-to-door canvassing from 8th March. Masks must be worn in polling stations, and you must bring your own pencil or pen! In Colchester Borough, we shall have three elections, for County where Anne Brown’s successor will be elected, CBC where Christopher Arnold’s successor will be elected and for the Police and Crimes Commissioner.

Following the adoption of the Council Budget for the next financial year, the Locality Budgets for Councillors will be halved for 2021, meaning I shall only have £1000 to allocate, with £3000 for the whole ward. The bid for improvements to the town under the government’s Town Centres Fund has been partially successful as Colchester will receive £18.2m of the £26m requested.

Cllr Warnes asked for and was given clarification of the Locality Budgets.

Borough Cllr Chillingworth left the meeting.

6. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Hamer said that the committee are in contact with the planning consultant and have asked him for a revised scheme of work as the committee want to submit another funding application. One of the committee has done a lot of work preparing a draft neighbourhood plan. The CBC planning officer linked with the committee has given the reasons why CBC want to develop the southern end of the plot. If a green space is put between the new dwellings and the old it will split the community and also the existing road plan lends itself to this. The committee are to have a meeting with the landowner and the developer when we will express our concerns and try to agree a scheme. CBC will not alter their views unless we have an alternative view in the neighbourhood plan.

7. PLANNING MATTERS (a) Applications received

210319 Kalina, Brook Road - Proposed garage conversion and front porch.- No objections subject to neighbours’ views.

210380 Tocia, Chappel Road - Convert the existing garage to ancillary accommodation to the main building (annexe). The proposals include omitting, enlarging existing fenestrations to the existing building and adding new windows & door – We object to this planning application for conversion from a garage to residential use as the present garage is outside the village envelope, and this is contrary to the decision of planning application 160597. We also note that a lawful development certificate was refused under 202761.

210415 Cuckoo Farm, East Gores Road, Coggeshall – Removal of existing oil tank, oil boiler and flue and then to install & 210416 Air-Source-Heat-Exchangers for the purpose of domestic heating and hot water – both applications response - No objections subject to neighbours' views

210495 Bracks Cottage, Bracks Lane, Coggeshall - Ground mount solar array - No objections subject to neighbours' views.

210504 The Birches, Lamberts Lane - Single storey rear/side extension. Resubmission of 201540 - No objections subject to neighbours' views.

(b) Applications approved by Colchester Borough Council

192940 Great Tey Business Centre - Change of use of former agricultural building to workshop and stores and conversion of end bay to offices with extension for welfare facilities for Tey Farm Systems. – Approved subject to 4 conditions.

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 of a modern extension to a Grade II listed cottage. – Approved subject to 4 conditions.

8. FINANCIAL MATTERS (a) Cheques for payment

Chq.No.	Payee	Amount (£)	/ of which VAT:-
101866	D Williams-clerk net salary £400.03 & expenses-inks paper £63.13	£ 463.16	£ 5.95
101867	HM Revenue & Customs - PAYE for clerk	£ 99.80	
101868	Round and About Great Tey – donation	£ 400.00	
101869	Anglian Water Business (National) Ltd – allotments water	£ 39.86	
101870	I Dyer – handyman	£ 191.10	£ 31.85
101871	I Dyer – repair of play area posts	£ 432.00	£ 72.00

(b) Bank statements show Current Account Cr 22,489.92, Business Premium Account Cr 22.48. These were seen and confirmed on the screen by the chairman. These balances do not include cheques 101870 and 101871.

10. HAROLD FAIRS RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Frost advised a quotation for moving soil under the play area bridge turning it into a bank. Cllr Warnes advised a quotation for boarding off the rotten posts holding the play area bridge.

Cllr Fairs advised that a quotation had been received from the handyman also boarding off the rotten posts, together with a second quotation for £1,475 plus VAT from the handyman for a more permanent solution to remove and replace the posts in the cutting. Another quotation has been received in excess of this figure. After discussion the quotation from the handyman was agreed subject to a strict completion of the job by the end of April. Cllr Fairs said that together with Cllr Frost he would like to meet with the handyman and suggest amendments to the materials. They would also like to meet on site the day the job starts. The clerk was asked to liaise with the handyman concerning this.

Cllr Bartleet said that he has not yet obtained a quotation to extend the drain at the Recreation Ground as he is unsure of the system and will research this further.

11. HANDYMAN

The clerk advised that the allotment fencing is to be done after the play area bridge sleepers. The clerk was instructed to ask the handyman to do a test roll of the Harold Fairs Recreation Ground which was previously arranged if the ground conditions are now more suitable.

12. VILLAGE HALL

The clerk said that applications for the post of village hall manager have been received, and arrangements concerning the interviews were agreed. The clerk was asked to arrange the remote interviews.

13. HIGHWAYS

The clerk said that Essex County Council (ECC) Highways have reported that the footbridge on footpath 11 will not be repaired at present as it is not considered dangerous. Cllr Bartleet said that he considers it now dangerous as there is no handrail and it is missing at least one plank. The clerk was asked to reply and ask for reconsideration of this repair.

Cllr Hamer said that the signpost on the junction of Earls Colne Road and Chappel Road is rotten and in danger of falling down.

The clerk was asked to report this to ECC Highways and ask for a replacement signpost.

Cllr Suff said that there was a pothole at Garden Fields, and this has been reported by Mrs C Hill.

Members noted that Tey Road, Earls Colne is to be closed for 2 months from the end of March.

14. CORRESPONDENCE NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE

Cllr Fairs said that following ECC Highways' refusal to the request to site a tyre in front of the tree at the junction of Chappel Road and Moor Road as it is too near the road, the parishioners requesting this have suggested another location, and also asked the parish council for proposed locations. After discussion members agreed that the other location was again not suitable for the same reasons, but wondered whether the pre-school may want it for the sandpit, and asked the clerk to respond accordingly.

Email from a parishioner saying that there has been an increase in dog mess in the village, and asking the parish council to erect signage and put articles in local media outlets asking parishioners to clean up after their dog, pointing out the health and anti social issues. All members agreed that this important, and Cllr Hamer agreed to prepare wording for media, and Cllr Warnes agreed to prepare signage. The clerk was asked to reply to the parishioner thanking him and advising the action being taken.

There being no further business the parish council meeting was closed at 9.35pm.

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