

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 8th March 2022 at 7.30pm
Present: Cllr Bartleet, Cllr Fairs (Chairman), Cllr Frances, Cllr Frost, Cllr Warnes.
Clerk Mr D Williams, Colchester Borough Council (CBC) Cllr Chillingworth and 2 members of the public attended.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr Hamer

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS – Nil

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - The minutes of the last parish council meeting of 8th February 2022 were agreed as a true record, and were signed by the chairman.

The meeting was suspended.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

(i). A digital access course has been arranged by CBC for 10 people in June and will be held on Friday mornings at East Gores, with details to be published in Round And About Great Tey.

(ii). Is there any update on the application to build on the field off New Barn Road?

Cllr Fairs said that this matter will be covered in the report from the Colchester Borough Councillor.

The meeting resumed.

4. REPORT FROM COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

Borough Cllr Chillingworth said that the Borough Council meeting to adopt the local plan has been delayed until at least June as the inspector's report has been delayed. There is no progress on the planning application for the development at New Barn Road. He referred to the requested approval to the works to the tree on the Moor Road and Chappel Road junction, and said that this enquiry had been passed from Essex County Council (ECC) Highways to CBC Planning, to ECC Highways and now to CBC Tree Officer. He will seek a decision. This matter has been outstanding since before September 2021. Members agreed that the above ground work should be done, and the clerk was asked to arrange this. Cllr Chillingworth left the meeting.

5. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Hamer submitted a report which was read out. The last committee meeting was attended by the Planning Consultant. Group members had compiled draft Visions and Objectives for the Plan, and he advised how to amalgamate the Vision and Objectives into a logical format. At our next meeting we will look at producing evidence from our community engagement, and technical evidence to support our Vision and Objectives, from which we will be able to write our policies. We have received a further draft of the Design Code report from AECOM, and have returned to them with our comments.

6. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) Applications received

220191 Summerside, Moor Road – roof raised loft conversion with front and rear dormers. Single storey front and rear extension. Demolition of garage. – No comment subject to neighbours' views.

(b) Applications approved by Colchester Borough Council

213487 – Baldwins Farm, Baldwins Lane - Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed change of use of agricultural building to dwellinghouse.

(c) Applications refused by Colchester Borough Council

213466/7 – Wellmans, Lamberts Lane - Proposed single storey rear extension to existing garden room.

(d) Cllr Fairs said that a parishioner had asked whether planning permission was required for a brick porch built at the front of Cherry Garden, Earls Colne Road, as it is a listed property. An enquiry was made to Planning Department at CBC who confirmed that it probably is required, together with listed building consent. Members agreed therefore to submit a form to Planning Department at CBC asking them to investigate further.

(e) Cllr Fairs said that a parishioner had said that the planting scheme on the ground between the new Brook Road development and the village has just seven unstaked unguarded trees and no shrubs, and the area is still full of weeds. The clerk was asked to write to the developers, thank for the trees and ask when the planting scheme will be finished, to include stakes and guards and shrubs, and if there is no response refer the matter to CBC.

7. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) Cheques for payment

	Amount	/ of which VAT
101940 D Williams- net salary & arrears £483.27, exps inks,paper,post £112.00	£ 595.27	£ 12.47
101941 HM Revenue & Customs - PAYE for clerk	£ 120.60	
101942 Anglian Water Business (National) Ltd – allotments' water	£ 31.49	
101943 Navigus Planning Ltd – consultant fees	£1054.44	£ 175.44
101944 Round and About Great Tey – donation	£ 250.00	
101945 I Dyer – handyman re HFRG hedge cut	£ 70.50	£ 11.75
101946 I Dyer – handyman	£ 183.30	£ 30.55

(b) The resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr £ 34,444,89, Business Saver Account Cr £ 22.48. The Neighbourhood Plan allocated fund included in the Community Account is £ 5,321. The bank statements were signed by the chairman in evidence.

(c) Members agreed to increase the annual salary for the clerk by 1.73% with effect from 1st April 2021 which is in line with the recent national agreement at LC2 23 level. The new figure is £6,102 per annum.

7.(d) Members discussed funding opportunities. Cllr Warnes said that he would advise Mr Alec Brooks and advise him of a possible funding opportunity from Enovert for the Swimming Pool Project.
Cllr Warnes said that a change to the scheme for the Climate Action Fund enables an application to be submitted. This was agreed and the clerk was asked to liaise with Cllr Warnes to submit an application for solar panels for the village hall using a deposit of 20 to 25% and including battery purchase and extended warranties. This is to be in the name of the owners of the village hall, the Trustees of Great Tey Village Hall.
(e) Members agreed to submit a grant application for £300 to Active Essex on behalf of the Bowls and Friendship Club to enable the club to purchase a new carpet and other improvements at a total cost of £1,186.
(f) Members agreed to complete a form from Barclays Bank regarding an update of Cllr Bartleet's signature. This is regarding the change of signature mandate form submitted to Barclays last September which had not been accepted. Members expressed disappointment that Barclays had taken 5 months to respond despite chasing by us.

8. HAROLD FAIRS RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Frost said that a draft proposal/tender document regarding the play area extension will be refined with Cllrs Warnes and Frances, after including a site walk, with the aim of submitting it for approval at the next meeting.
Members agreed to leave any bridge cutting work for the time being as the area may be used for site access before being restructured. It was also noted that Playquip are dealing with the ROSPA report deficiencies.
Cllr Bartleet noted that a commemorative oak had been offered to the parish to mark Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee, and it was agreed to accept this, with it being planted in either the Harold Fairs Recreation Ground or the Old Playing Field.

9. HANDYMAN

Jobs outstanding are the youth shelter roof tiles that need replacing, the allotment fence posts, and the allotment gate post. The clerk was asked to write and ask that the jobs are to be completed by 12th April failing which we reserve the right to appoint an alternative contractor to complete the jobs, and we will pay for posts bought.
Members discussed the annual review of the handyman contract and agreed that it should be restructured. The clerk will circulate a draft restructured contract prior to next month's meeting where it will be an agenda item. The handyman hourly rate was agreed by members to be increased from £11.75 to £12.00 with effect from 1st April 2022.

10. VILLAGE HALL

The village hall manager has requested a window clean, members agreed. She has also requested a laptop for the job holder rather than use her own family computer. This can then be passed on to the next job holder in due course. Members agreed as long as it can be accommodated within her hall budget. Cllr Frances and Cllr Warnes asked that she liaise with them regarding this purchase, as they wish to see Google Drive utilised.
Members considered that a Home Cinema facility for the village hall is a potential resource, however with other plans being considered at present this is something that could be considered at a later date. The village hall manager advises that the water tank work will be done on 6th April.

11. HIGHWAYS

Cllr Fairs said that the parish council have been asked whether we support signage to reduce HGV vehicles on Moor Road leading to Tey Road, Aldham. After discussion members agreed that they would not support any such signage.
The clerk advised that we await guidance on the wording for any potential plaque in The Street regarding the old cartwheel base.

12. LITTER PICK

Members agreed to hold this year's litter pick on Saturday 2nd April, meeting at the village hall at 10am. The clerk was asked to arrange for CBC to deliver hi vis jackets, gloves, different types of refuse bags and bag openers, requiring 15 of everything. The full bags to be collected from the usual location on Coggeshall Road.

13. CORRESPONDENCE NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE

From Colchester Association of Local Councils advising details of the next meeting. The clerk was asked to try to obtain a recording of the Section 106 presentation which is on the agenda as we are struggling to attend.

14. ANY OTHER MATTERS

The clerk advised that he has received complaints regarding the new arrangements made by the Earls Colne doctors' practice for parishioners to collect regular prescriptions. They now cannot be ordered by telephone but online, and a number of our elderly parishioners do not have access to on line services. Members asked him to write to the doctors' surgery advising of this and seeking clarification.

There being no further business the parish council meeting was closed at 9.56 pm.

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