

GREAT TEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall, Great Tey on Tuesday 12th July 2022 at 7.30pm
Present: Cllr Fairs (Chairman), Cllr Frances, Cllr Frost, Cllr Hamer, Cllr Hill, Clerk Mr D Williams and 1 member of the public attended.

1.APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr Bartleet, Cllr Warnes, Colchester Borough Council (CBC) Cllr Sunnucks

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - None.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of the last parish council meeting of 14th June 2022 were agreed as a true record, and were signed by the chairman.

The meeting was suspended.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

(i). There are overhanging trees on the Essex Way where I hit my head and had to have emergency treatment at Colchester Hospital. The trees need to be pruned and removed where necessary. The footpath group has contacted the landowner asking him to attend to this. Cllr Fairs said that he would make enquiries.

(ii) I am happy to agree to the parish council's request to have a small plaque on the wall outside my house referring to the hooping plate set in the pavement. Members asked the clerk to proceed with a listed building consent application form free of charge as the clerk has established from Colchester Planning Department that this is required. **ACTION - clerk to proceed with listed building consent.**

(iii). Are you aware of any progress with the development of the County Broadband service in Great Tey, I have not heard from Borough Cllr Sunnocks. Cllr Fairs said that he understood that County Broadband is bringing infrastructure to the village in the next month.

The meeting resumed.

4. REPORT FROM COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

Borough Cllr Sunnucks sent a report which was read out by Cllr Fairs. He said that:-

1. Section 2 Local Plan: it has now been adopted by the Colchester Borough Council and stands with full force.

2. New Barn Road: this site now has outline planning permission for 30 dwellings and a S106 agreement is being drafted. He has been pushing for education contributions to be collected but is told that it is too late. He has met with Great Tey Primary School which is asking for funding and is highly organised about its priorities, so this situation is disappointing.

He has asked for the whole subject of S106/S278 collections to be looked at by the CBC scrutiny committee. In addition Lewis Barber is organising a meeting with the responsible person at Essex County Council but our chances of changing anything for New Barn Road are now minimal.

3. Future grants: it would be helpful to have a wish list of shovel ready projects for Gt Tey. Lewis Barber is good at picking up on grant opportunities, and it would be helpful to be able to match them immediately to local requirements. This may be something for the Parish Council to co-ordinate.

Members agreed that a list has been completed and will be forwarded to Borough Cllr Sunnocks with a proposal that the parish council meets him together with the primary school, village hall representatives, and the swimming pool committee representatives together with other interested village clubs. Would he host such a meeting and if so propose a date and time, and should we advertise in Round and About for other village clubs to join the meeting? **ACTION – clerk to write to Borough Cllr Sunnocks.**

4. Digital access training : efforts to get together a group of 10 people for digital access training have stalled, hopefully only temporarily. He needs two more people with an interest in improving their IT skills in 2 hour sessions on Friday mornings. If you know of anyone who is struggling please encourage them to get in touch with him by email. Members suggested that the clerk writes to him to ask if we should advertise this initiative in Round and About? **ACTION-clerk to write to Borough Cllr Sunnocks.**

5. Pylons: the consultation closed on 16th June, and National Grid must now be wading through hundreds of objections, many of them promoting the offshore grid alternative. National Grid published its Holistic Network Design on 7th July.

1 member of public left the meeting.

5. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Hamer said that the committee have sent records to the planning consultant for him to draw up a draft neighbourhood plan. A funding application has been submitted for £8,000.

6. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) Applications received

221472 Braziers Cottage, East Gores Road, Coggeshall - Demolition of an existing wood store and the erection of a new ancillary workshop/store on broadly the same location. Resubmission of 220225. – We object to this planning application as we are concerned that the site plan shows the annex as a separate dwelling to Braziers and therefore the proposed workshop is a dominant and incongruous building within that context.

221601 15 Greenfield Drive - Double storey extension to front, side and rear. - No objections subject to neighbours' views.

(b) Applications approved by Colchester Borough Council

221125 Tey Barn, New Barn Road - Application for an Existing Lawful Development Certificate for the installation of a tennis court.

220989 34 Greenfield Drive - Proposed single storey rear extension – approved subject to 3 conditions.

(c) The clerk reported that CBC Planning Enforcement have advised that they are awaiting a report from the Historic Buildings Officer following their site visit to Cherry Garden, Earls Colne Road to clarify whether or not listed building consent and/or a planning application are required regarding recent works done.

(d) Members confirmed that the completed S106 project list which includes village hall renovations and a village hall community hub can now be forwarded to Colchester Borough Council and a copy sent to Borough Cllr Sunnocks.

7. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) Cheques for payment	Amount (£)	of which VAT
101974 D Williams- clerk salary £508.50 less PAYE £101.60	£ 406.90	
101975 HM Revenue & Customs - PAYE for clerk	£ 101.60	
101976 Mrs R Stone – notice board annual rental	£ 10.00	
101977 Great & Little Tey PCC – donation re churchyard grasscuts	£ 475.00	
101978 Round and About Great Tey – donation	£ 750.00	
101979 I Dyer – grasscuts	£ 97.80	£ 16.30
101980 I Dyer – handyman	£ 180.00	£ 30.00
101981 LC Tippett – internal auditor fee	£ 180.00	
101982 Rural Community Council of Essex – subscription	£ 72.60	£ 12.10

b) The resultant balances after all items are paid and received is Community Account Cr £26,664.26, Business Saver Account Cr £ 22.48. The Neighbourhood Plan allocated fund included in the Community Account is nil. The bank statements were signed by the chairman in evidence.

(c) The internal auditor's report for the year 2021/22 had been circulated to members and it was noted that the internal auditor stated that (1) the Council has properly assessed and managed the significant risks which they have identified, (2) no other areas of risk had been identified, (3) tests in areas suggested by the Practitioners Guide have been undertaken, and proper practices have been met throughout the year, and (4) The Annual Internal Audit Report 2021/22 of the Annual Return was completed. The AGAR 3 and supporting documents for the review can now be forwarded to the External Auditor. **ACTION – clerk to forward documents to external auditor.**

8. HAROLD FAIRS RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Frost said that two quotes and plans for the playground development funded by the S106 monies for the Brook Road development are to be presented to the public at a village hall presentation on 16th July. After the results of the meeting and the online views have been considered, he said that he expects to present the final quote and plans to the parish council at the next meeting.

The request by the football club to locate a container and mobile toilets at the Recreation Ground, and to move the football pitch and goal posts was considered. After discussion it was agreed to withhold any decision on the moving of the goalposts as the play area extension arrangements are near conclusion and we can then revisit the question. Members said that we should confirm that the agreed use of the pitch is for training use only for a 1 hour slot on Tuesday evening between 6pm and 8pm. We consider this does not warrant the use of a container or mobile toilets which therefore we cannot agree. Once a decision has been made regarding the extension of the play area we will review the current arrangements. **ACTION – clerk to write to the football club.**

9. HANDYMAN

(a) The clerk advised that a monthly report had not been received. The outstanding job is to correct the ROSPA report deficiencies.

(b) Members considered the amended handyman contract and agreed it subject to two amendments. The role is now renamed as maintenance contractor. **ACTION – clerk to send revised contract to maintenance contractor.**

10. VILLAGE HALL

(a) Members considered the response from Great Tey Pre School regarding the hall rental increase and agreed that the Pre School had received the benefit of the greatly discounted rate for the last few years and this had not been reviewed. We understand that a high proportion of the pre school clients are not residents of Great Tey, but we are not removing the preferential rate for residents of Great Tey. As a compromise we agreed to defer the second increase from January next year to April next year. The village hall was loss making last year and has substantially increased overheads this year. **ACTION-clerk to write to Great Tey Pre School.**

(b) A parishioner has asked that the village hall notice board is changed as it is too small and the perspex is making it difficult to read the notices. Members agreed that the perspex should be changed and that the notice board should be varnished as it was considered that the notice board was not too small. **ACTION – clerk to ask the maintenance contractor for a quotation.**

11. HIGHWAYS

The clerk reported a recent road accident at the junction of Earls Colne Road to Chappel Road, and said that the parishioner involved had been advised by Essex Police that they do not have any record of other accidents at this junction. Cllr Fairs said that he would contact the parties involved in arranging to restructure the junction, and also contact the householder regarding the cutting back of the hedge on the corner.

Cllr Hill said that she had received a complaint regarding the overgrown vegetation on the pavement at Chrismund Way. Members agreed that this should be reported to CBC for action. **ACTION-clerk to write to CBC and ask them to clear overgrown vegetation.**

12. OLD PLAYING FIELD

Members considered the goal located here, and said that if it is not used it should be put away, and if it is used it should be put to one side when not in use to facilitate grass cutting. **ACTION – clerk to write to owner of goal accordingly.**

13. ALLOTMENTS

Following a complaint from an allotment holder, members agreed to ask the maintenance contractor to clear the ditch between the allotments and the Essex Way. **ACTION – clerk to write to maintenance contractor.**

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

An email received from a parishioner asking for assistance in finding a wooded area to be used for well being sessions. Members suggested Chalkney Wood, but said that permission from the owners, Essex County Council, would be required beforehand.

ACTION – clerk to reply to the parishioner accordingly.

The clerk reported a response from ECC regarding our request that the bus timetable be amended to accommodate students and workers needing to be in Colchester by 9am. ECC advise that timetables are the responsibility of the bus operator. The current bus operator, Heddingham Buses, advise that timetables are the responsibility of ECC and we have asked ECC to check and advise who we should approach. As a complication the bus operator is to change to First Essex. **ACTION - clerk to follow for a response.**

A parishioner has complained of dog fouling on the Harold Fairs Recreation Ground, and the clerk was asked to put a suitable note in Round and About. **ACTION – clerk to put a note in Round and About.**

There being no further business the parish council meeting was closed at 10.38pm.

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