

LITTLE CLACTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY 9TH JANUARY 2012 AT 7.30PM.

PRESENT

Cllr P Watson (chair)

Cllrs R Bellamy, Mrs E Ward, Mrs M Balbirnie, R Smith, J Cutting, M Joyce, P De-Vaux Balbirnie, G Bush, Miss L Gray, Mrs A Wood

There were 4 residents and a Police Officer present.

The Chairman welcomed and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Apologies: J Dunnett, D Land

ITEMS RAISED BY RESIDENTS

There were no items raised by residents.

ANY ARISING URGENT MATTERS

Cllr Smith reported that there had been an accident at the crossing near Church Corner on The Street. As cars approach, they have difficulty seeing the crossing as it is so faded and in need of refurbishment. Cllr Joyce suggested that the Parish Council write to Essex County Council to request a Pelican Crossing if possible, but if not then refurbishment of the existing Zebra Crossing with additional lighting. The attending Police Officer offered to write a letter and attach it to an email to ECC.

MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON 5th DECEMBER 2011.

These were approved and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

None

MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD

(a) Highway Matters

Cllr Smith reported that he was still unable to arrange a site visit with Highway Officers and there had been no further development on weight and speed restrictions in the Cooks Green area of Holland Road. It was agreed that the Clerk would write and copy to : the Chief Executive of Tendring District Council , our Member of Parliament, our Essex County Councillor and the Essex County Council Liaison Officer Mr Rob MacDonald explaining our concerns at the lack of response to our enquiries. Cllr Cutting reported that Essex County Council have now withdrawn the bylaw re: parking on greenswards. This causes concern regarding the damage that parked vehicles will cause to the verges. The attending Police Officer suggested that we take up the considerate parking scheme run by the police, and agreed to email PC Bradley Haycraft to forward us the relevant paperwork for us to sign to join the scheme.

(b) Parish Business

There is an introductory course for new Parish Clerks being advertised and The Chairman suggested that this would be beneficial for Ginette Loach, who has indicated that she is willing to attend. It is hoped that at the end of the six months trial period, if everyone agrees, that the full 6 or 8 week Clerks course should be attended, with travel expenses also paid. This was proposed by Cllr Balbirnie, seconded by Cllr Wood and agreed.

(c) Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Cllr Cutting reported that the Jubilee Steering Committee propose that the Carnival and the main events at Harold Lilley Playing Fields should open at 2pm. The first aid and firework display have been booked and enquiries still being made regarding events and activities that will take place during the afternoon. The Parish Council were asked to publish a second Round Robin letter in an attempt to encourage further involvement of Village Groups and Organisations. The next group meeting will be on 1st March 2012, and a sub-committee will be held during the interim period to confirm events. When more finalised details are available it is intended to do a leaflet drop to each house in the village.

POLICE/CRIME PREVENTION

Cllr Cutting reported that there were 24 reported incidents and 2 crimes reported.

WORKING PARTY REPORTS

(a) Maintenance and services

Cllr Watson reported that the conifer tree close to the War Memorial has been removed, allowing the Memorial to be more easily seen.

There has been some confusion over the purchase order for replacement bollards outside the shops. This has now been rectified and the replacements can be made following delivery.

A new wooden bus shelter has appeared in London Road near Leys Drive. Steps are being taken to find out who paid for the shelter and who will maintain and insure it.

Several residents including those that live near to the shop, are concerned about the amount of litter around the shop frontage now that their litter bin has been removed. Cllr Watson requested that the Clerk write to express concerns regarding the situation and to try to seek a solution.

Cllr Watson proposed that a donation of £40 be made to the Methodist Church re: Xmas Lights at Galloway Drive. Cllr Wood seconded and it was agreed.

i) Street lights

Cllr Ward stated that there were no lights reported unserviceable but there was concern over the cost of call outs and repairs. Due to these high costs it was agreed that we would only report and request repairs when there were two or more units needing attention.

ii) Footpaths

Nothing to report

(b) Planning and Development

i) Applications to date

Cllr Wood reported on the following applications:

11/01464/FUL The Apple Tree Public House - Proposed 4 flats and 2 bungalows. It was agreed to write to TDC with no objections but concerns over the number of parking spaces allocated to the four flats and the disposal of storm water from the site.

ii) Determinations

11/01331/FUL 124a St Osyth Road West	Approval – Full
11/01430/FUL 28 Sunnyside Way	Approval – Full
11/01440/FUL Green Finches, Betts Green Road.	Approval – Full

The Chairman said that following the submission of our comments on the future housing development plan, we had received a letter from Gary Ashby asking for further details of the Bray site and for Parish

Council suggestions on the number and type of units we would like to see on the site. As this was over the Bank Holiday period the information was returned together with a site/location plan. A Copy of our letter has been added to the file.

INTERNET

Nothing new to report. Cllr Bellamy requested that all Village clubs, societies and other organisations, which have a mention anywhere on the Parish Council website, could be checked and inform him of any changes etc.

TDALC

Cllr Cutting has made enquiries at the start of January regarding the agenda for the next meeting, but it is not yet available.

LITTLE CLACTON PARISH FIELDS AND YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

Cllr Bellamy reported that all use of facilities at Plough Corner are resuming following the Xmas break. Social Services are continually being reminded of the importance of locking the road gates on entering and leaving the site.

VILLAGE HALL

It was noted that a member of the Village Hall caretaker's family had been involved in a fatal incident in Trimley Close, Clacton.

MILLENIUM GREEN

The final grass cut had been carried out but not cleared up. Cllr. M Balbirnie is to contact Lynette Darnell regarding this matter. A card was received from Harold Wagstaff requesting that rubbish was removed from the ditch by the disabled entrance. The rubbish is to be removed.

Although a copy of the Trust Deed and Constitution had been requested by the Parish Council, Lynette Darnell reported that after checking with original members of the committee, there was no constitution, but a copy of other documentation would be sought from the solicitor. Cllr Watson had agreed with the Green Trustees that a letter be sent, from their solicitor to Mr Wagstaff telling him to stop attempting any work on the Green due to the dangers and risks carrying out unofficial work and being unaccompanied. It was requested that the letter included the Village appreciation for all the time, enthusiasm and effort the gentleman had put into the project over the years and he should use his time enjoying what had been achieved. The Parish Council are happy to provide any support, details, or information required by the solicitor. Eight small bags of narcissi had been planted recently, and Cllr M Balbirnie made enquiries to see if she could offer any help when the next phase of planting takes place.

TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL

Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie reported the following issues:

LDF – no further news.

Residents issues – there have been a number of issues raised, including a serious drainage problem reported last weekend. Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie has visited the site, and contacted Highways to report that water was running off the road onto the path and drives, making it difficult to access properties.

By Pass – The repairs have now been completed, resulting in less traffic through the village.

Martins Tip – Now that this facility has been closed, there has been an increase in the number of reports of fly tipping.

Salt Delivery - This is due any day and will be ready for use should the weather worsen.

CORRESPONDENCE

ECC	Making the Links Temporary Road Closure – York Rd – Monday 6 th February 2012
Tendring District Council	Forward plan 123 Housing Consultation Harwich Road Planning Services Development Control - User satisfaction Survey Precept comparisons Withdrawal of Permitted Development Rights for the change of use of dwelling houses to houses in multiple occupation by Article 4 Direction

Little Clacton Village Hall

Application for financial assistance with grass cutting, Harold Lilley Playing Field.

Regarding the Village Green Grass Cutting, Cllr Cutting proposed, Cllr R Bellamy seconded, and it was agreed that a grant of £500 would be given. Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie declared a personal interest.

FINANCE AND CHEQUE AUTHORISATION

The up to date balance of the Council's funds were noted.

Receipts:

Donation from Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie	£50.00
ECC – Car Parking	£1,000.00

Cheques issued:

Mrs A L Owens (salary etc.)	551.10
Mrs A L Owens (expenses)	40.30
Mrs G Loach (salary November)	109.68
May Gurney Ltd	296.34
RB Design Solutions	100.00
E.ON	570.96
Clacton Business Services Ltd	27.00
HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE)	126.23
GB Maintenance (WP117)	36.99
Leonard Lane Carpentry	128.00
GB Maintenance (MC5)	100.00
GB Maintenance (WP118)	120.00
Original Landscape Design	444.62
Ashby Metalworks (SF119) (PMC117)	1252.80
AT Design Stage	70.00
Mrs G Loach (salary December)	109.68
	<u>4,083.70</u>

ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

None

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Watson requested that Parish Councillors produce a written report, with a hard copy for the Clerk.

Cllr Watson reported that the Parish Clerk internet hacking problems were now resolved.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05pm.

The next meeting will be held at the Youth and Community Centre at 7.30pm on Monday, 6th February 2012.

Chairman

13th February 2012