

LITTLE CLACTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY 11TH JUNE 2012 AT 7.30PM.

PRESENT

Cllr P Watson (chairman)

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

There were 2 residents present

APOLOGIES: Cllr Mrs M Balbirnie.

Resignation of Cllr Land, received by Clerk. Acknowledgement to be sent and necessary paperwork to be set in motion.

MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON 14th May 2012

These were approved and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Watson thanked Cllr Cutting and his Team for the very well organised Village Day held last Monday, to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and read out a letter from the Parish Vicar. Cllr Watson stated that he felt the fireworks were a fitting end to this special day and it appears were appreciated and enjoyed by many.

MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD:

(a) Highway Matters Cllr Watson enquired about the removal of the 7.5 tonne limit on Weeley Bridge, Cllr Smith had been in contact but not yet had a reply with this regard. New paperwork provides two new names involved in bridge/highways works; Mark Bridges and Robert Overall, new contacts for Cllr Smith.

b) Parish Business

Cllr Watson reported that our Declarations of interest register must be updated. New forms will be sent out for updating.

c) Village Development Boundaries At the meeting with Gary Ashby, he outlined their proposals and explained they had calculated that a 6% increase across the board would be needed in Tendring to meet the government figures. Six properties have already been approved from this quota leaving 53 yet to be found. This is greater than the requirement made last year – 40 new dwellings over the next 20 years. He felt confident that the Holland Road/ Sladburys Lane development would not go ahead but felt that the North West area of Little Clacton – Thorpe Road/ Business Park would be considered in preference to extending the South East development – Bocking Elm /Clacton Road. Mr Ashby then presented a new version, that is under consideration of our “Village Envelope”. In principal, those present at the meeting, did not have too many concerns except for the areas we have shown in GREEN on the plans that had been distributed to each Councillor. **1.** We expressed our very strong objections to Area 1 encroaching onto the green area to the East and down to Centenary Way. We would agree, in principal, if the Eastern boundary was moved West in line with the edge of the existing brown field area. He also agreed to consider and implement and maintain a 15/20 metre Green wedge to the Centenary frontage. **We recommend that the whole of the Green area is removed.**

2. We explained how Area 2 had been involved in several development applications resulting in them being rejected by the Planners and how the resulting refusals had been upheld by the Inspectorate at appeals. To go back on these decisions was really negative and would create extreme concern with many of our residents. **We recommend that**

the whole of the Green area is removed.

3. We were concerned that this increase would permit further encroachment into the Green area to the rear of the garage site. It would not provide any significant improvement or assist with our housing needs.

Retain existing boundary line.

4. We were unsure what would be gained by permitting further development along the frontage of The Street by joining the small commercial units to existing residential properties.

Retain existing boundary line.

5. In general there were no concerns with this area being included within the envelope other than a personal issue and even then the person did not consider it important.

No real problems if included in the Envelope.

POLICE/CRIME PREVENTION

Cllr Cutting reported that there was no response from PC. Haycroft as he is on annual leave. Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie requested that the van which has broken down outside the Village Hall since 2nd June, be reported. Cllr Watson reported an untaxed Sherpa Van abandoned in London Road near to Leys Drive.

WORKING PARTY REPORTS

(a) Maintenance and services

Cllr Watson reported that the new Oak tree has been planted and looks impressive. A ceremony is to be arranged to commemorate the newly planted tree and the new bench seat. We could provide some light refreshments in the Youth and Community building afterwards.

Cllr Watson raised the issue of the Parish Field pedestrian entrance and exit gateways to the car park, which due to the weather are in a very poor state. A discussion with contractors was held and the following actions are to be considered: 1) For the entrance gateway, evacuate the area either side of the existing tarmac and form edges with curbs/sets to provide a wider sweep into the car park. The extended area to be surfaced with tarmac including a speed hump.

2) The exit gateway currently has a loose topping, which has been displaced into the road leaving a series of potholes. The proposal is to raise the existing road curbs, excavate and form a solid edge across and between the gate posts. Lay edging down either side of the driveway from the gate posts down to the road. Lay a tarmac surface over the area, with a built in speed hump.

Due to the extended holiday, confirmed prices have been unobtainable, however, Cllr Watson estimates that the work will cost approximately £3,000 to £3,500. Cllr Watson proposed that the work be carried out if the cost is within the budget expected, and it was seconded by Cllr Mrs A Wood, and agreed.

The annual inspection and certificates for the electrical installations and equipment at both the Pavilion and Youth and Community Building are due. Cllr Watson is currently seeking quotations for this inspection, as it is a legal requirement, and will place an order with the contractor who is considered to be the best value.

Cllr Watson enquired about the progress on the skate park. Cllr De-Vaux Balbirnie said that he will gather information to be presented at a later meeting. Cllr Dunnett stated that the Village Hall Committee were agreed to it in principal, and he asked how much area was needed. The members of the Parish who made the initial request are yet to return with the suggestions for funding.

i) Street lights Cllr Ward stated that there was nothing to report this month.

ii) Footpaths Cllr Gray reported that the 2002 footpath map had turned up, but asked if enquiries could be made of Highways to see if a more recent one is available.

(b) Planning and Development

i) Applications to date

Cllr Wood reported on the following applications:

12/00530/FUL- Detached replacement dwelling with integral garage (extension of time of previously approved 09/00710/FUL) 27 Weeley Road

Cllr Cutting declared a personal interest. It was agreed with no objections by the Parish Council.

12/00241/FUL – The Apple Tree Public House - Approval Full

It was agreed with no objections by the Parish Council.

ii) Determinations : None

(c) Finance and Organisation of Business

i) Annual Accounts – Cllr Bellamy reported that the 2012 Accounts had been examined by the Finance Working Party and copies have been distributed to Councillors.

We will endeavour to answer any questions in respect of these accounts.

It was noted that included in the Debtors figure are two amounts, £1,292 – Youth Club and £1,000 – Millennium Green. Both these amounts date back many years and were probably given as grants rather than loans. In any event the Youth Club advance was repaid as part of a donation towards the cost of the first stage of the pavilion extension. In view of the age and circumstances Cllr Bellamy proposed that these items be reversed during the current financial year. This was agreed.

It was proposed by Cllr Bellamy, seconded by Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie and agreed by the Council that the Annual Accounts be adopted.

ii) Annual Governance Statement – Cllr Watson read out the Annual Governance statement which was agreed by the Council.

INTERNET

Cllr Bellamy reported that the new European 'Cookie' Directive came into force on the 25th May 2012. The Little Clacton Parish Council Home page has been amended together with relative links and it is believed that this is now fully compliant with the new regulations.

TDALC

Now that Cllr Land has resigned, a new representative will need to be found. There was no report this month.

LITTLE CLACTON PARISH FIELDS AND YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

Cllr Bellamy reported that despite the continuing unsettled weather we have had a very busy month on the playing field. The Classic Car Show, Football Tournament, Carnival Procession and start of the Car Boot season all went ahead as planned. Cllr Bellamy officially thanked Cllr Bush for all his hard work as groundsman, ensuring that the field was in excellent condition for these events to take place.

The Youth and Community Hall continues to be regularly used.

VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Dunnnett reported that the Village Fair went ahead at the end of May, all went very well and £400 was collected towards Hall funds. The Hall is fully booked for the next few months and some bookings have had to be turned away.

MILLENNIUM GREEN

Cllr. M Balbirnie wrote a report saying that the Highways Rangers still need to carry out the work on the verge on Elm Road, at the side of the Millennium Green. Unfortunately, the money has not yet been released for the work to be done. The seats have now been returned to the Green and the pathways have been cut.

Cllr M Balbirnie could not arrange a meeting with Mrs Darnell as she was too busy this week, but will organise a meeting soon to decide what needs to be done at the Millennium Green following the grass cutter receiving his notice. The hedge can be trimmed back as soon as nesting is at an end.

Cllr M Balbirnie is still waiting to hear from the Ecologist, as information about the types of notice board is now to

hand. Hopefully, the local school can then be approached about groups of children spending time on the Green to learn about items of interest.

Cllr M Balbirnie's report also mentioned the importance of fund raising, so that the Millennium Green is self funded and can meet projects which can be carried out for the enjoyment of the local people.

TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL

Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie reported the following issues:

LDF – After the meeting with Gary Ashby, a wait is anticipated before the Council decides its course of action.

Pot holes in the Road – Although this problem was reported to Highways and they are going to repair some of the more serious pot holes, Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie has taken steps to supply tarmac locally where pot holes are a causing problems until Highways can carry out the work.

Travellers – Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie will update the Parish on this issue each month, and he reminded everyone to be vigilant and ensure open spaces are secure.

Swan Care and Keep Safe Card Scheme – Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie reminded everyone that Swan Care and Repair, Holland on Sea, have their open day tomorrow, 12th June, and the Keep Safe scheme is to be launched on 20th June at Oakwood Crafts at Plough Corner.

Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations – Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie thanked Cllr Cutting and the Team for the wonderful success of the Jubilee celebrations. He is still being asked if another celebration can be arranged for next year to bring the villagers together. Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie suggested that this is worth considering as it can be a showcase for local organisations that are in the village which not everyone is aware of.

CORRESPONDENCE

ECC

Making the links

Diversion Order Footpath 3 (part)

Tendring District Council

Forward plan 128

Audit Commission

Appointment of External Auditor

The Community Care Annual Report was read out.

FINANCE AND CHEQUE AUTHORISATION

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

Cheques issued :	£
E.ON (April)	282.28
RB Design Solutions	100.00
Family Support, Clacton	125.00
Kendall Commercial Services	524.66
Mr J Cutting (Jubilee)	600.00
EPFA (Ann. Sub)	25.00
Original Landscape Design (Jubilee Oak)	786.00
TDALC (Ann. Sub)	15.00
E.ON (May)	291.68
DCK Beavers Ltd (annual accounts)	<u>432.00</u>
	<u>3,874.27</u>

ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

None

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Cutting said that a report will be forthcoming regarding the Jubilee Fete finances.

Cllr Bellamy asked for names for the Boot Sale collections rota.

Cllr Bellamy reported that now that Essex County Council Blue badge assessment clinics were to be held on Saturdays between 9am and 6pm, a request had been passed to him asking if the gates can be left open all day.

Cllr Bellamy declined this request due to previous troubles and asked if they could work with time specific appointments instead.

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, 2nd July 2012.

Chairman
2nd July 2012