

LITTLE CLACTON PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE ON  
MONDAY 4<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2016 AT 7.30PM.

**PRESENT**

Councillor J Cutting (chairman)

Councillors De Vaux Balbirnie, Mrs M Balbirnie, Miss L Gray, Mrs J Lovell, D Reed, M Reed, S Rowland, Mrs H Smith, R Smith, J Smith-Daye and B Ward.

Essex County Councillor Erskine, District Councillors J Bray and M Brown

5 Residents

Before proceeding began, the Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

The Residents were given time to talk before the meeting began.

**Residents Issues**

A resident expressed their concern regarding a planning application which the Chairman explained would be discussed under the Planning Section of the meeting. Another resident expressed concern over a Planning Application in which the area was already being cleared prior to being permitted. Their concern was regarding an asbestos roofed garage which was also on their boundary. The Chairman recommended that the Clerk and they also contact Tendring District Council Environmental Health Team.

**1. APOLOGIES**

Councillor Mrs J Rowland

**2. DECLARATIONS**

There were no declarations made.

**3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7<sup>th</sup> December 2015**

The Chairman proposed the updated minutes, Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie pointed out that under 'any other business' the previous minutes omitted to say that the vehicle parked in the turning bay at Galloway Drive, was not only inconsiderately parked but was up for sale. The Chairman added the extra text 'and car sales' and following agreement from the other Councillors signed the minutes as a true record.

**4. URGENT MATTERS ARISING**

The Chairman reported that the trees which are located near to Dunnetts have been taken on by Cochraines, who are going through the process for those with tree preservation protection, so that their crowns can be lifted.

The Chairman asked for progress on the flooding at Tan Lane as the ditches looked very unkempt and like they needed attention. He had no information as yet to report.

**5. MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD**

**(a) Highway Matters**

Councillor R Smith reported that he had worked with Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie to sort out the Village Gateway signs. The signs have now been ordered and will be reinstated when delivered.

Essex County Councillor Erskine reported that red lines along Holland Road were from Essex County Council and indicated imminent works to the roads. The Chairman enquired about 30 mph repeater signs through the Village, and Essex County Councillor asked him to apply with a Local Highway Panel (LHP) form. Measure distance between lamp posts to see if rural area, and put nearest yard for sign to go.

Councillor R Smith reported earlier that water was running out from the Nursery access at Cooks Green, this had been reported previously but there was no news from Essex County Councillor Erskine yet.

The Chairman mentioned other items like the pavement in Amerills Road and pot holes reported in Weeley Road. He also stated that the keep left signs across the area are in a terrible state.

**(b) Parish Business – Precept**

Before the precept was set, a Personal Interest was declared by Councillors De Vaux Balbirnie, Mrs M Balbirnie and L Gray in connection with the Village Hall Grant. Councillor Smith-Daye proposed that the precept was set at the same level as last year. A show of hands was requested. 3 abstained and all others were in favour. The Chairman declared that the motion was carried and a precept of £74,500 was agreed for the following year.

**6. POLICE/CRIME PREVENTION**

The Chairman read out a report for Councillor Mrs J Rowland.

The crime figures for Nov were 19 in total;

7 x anti social behaviour,

5x violence and sexual offences ( 3 of which were on Parish Fields )

4 x burglary, 1 x vehicle crime,

1 x Criminal Damage, 1 x Drugs related

Councillor J Rowlands has not heard from PC Bradley Haycraft regarding his position yet.

She wished all Councillors a Happy New Year.

a) FOI – The Chairman read out the reply received from the Police Service. He requested that it is added to the website for all to see. The reply is added as an attachment at the end of the minutes.

b) Speed Signs – This will be reported next meeting.

**7. WORKING PARTY REPORTS (a) Maintenance and services**

Councillor S Rowland reported that two quotes have been received for work, and at this stage they seem a bit high. Councillor S Rowland is to make enquiries and report back. The Chairman requested that he is copied in to any email correspondence with the contractor. Councillor S Rowland asked if perspex could be used to replace the glass that was broken on the shelter in the Village, all agreed and so he is to pass on the information and report back.

i) **I. Street lights** Councillor M Reed reported that the lights in Harwich Road once done would complete all lights working within the village, this is due to be the end of March. The whole process is very slow, with all the different teams that must coordinate. UK power have to disconnect and connect any lights. A and J Lighting pull out the lights and take them away.

i)II. Councillor M Reed asked A&J Lighting if they could tender a contract similar to the last one in terms of cost. He asked the Clerk to watch out for an email from them.

**ii) Footpaths**

Councillor Gray reported that she had no news to report yet and was waiting for communication due tomorrow.

**b) Planning and Development (i) Applications:**

15/01801/FUL Mr S Richards	Proposed single storey rear extension following demolition of existing extension.	70 St Osyth Road East Little Clacton  <b>No Objection</b>
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15/01838/FUL Mr & Mrs Williams	Rear extension and loft conversion with dormer windows.	69 Harwich Road Little Clacton  <b>Recommend no objection subject to conditions.</b>
15/01853/OUT Little Clacton Lodge Trust	Outline application with all matters reserved for the erection of 4 detached bungalows with associated access, parking landscaping and ancillary works.	Bell Elm Tan Lane Little Clacton  <b>Recommend refusal on 6 points.</b>
**See appendix at end of minutes for Full Planning Committee comments		

(ii) Determinations :

<b>15/01561/OUT</b>  Mr P Hart Approval - Outline 7/12/15 Delegated Decision	<i>Erection of dwellings and minor access way off modified existing highway access.</i>	<i>Stone Hall, 55 London Road, Little Clacton</i>
<b>15/01565/FUL</b>  Mrs L Lawrence Approval – Full 7/12/15 Delegated Decision	<i>Hard Standing</i>	<i>77 Holland Road, Little Clacton</i>
<b>15/01573/DETAIL</b>  <b>Approval – Reserved</b> Matters/Detailed 7/12/15 Delegated Decision	<i>Erection of 3 dwellings (1 house and 2 bungalows) with garages and associated parking facilities.</i>	<b>Balkerne Gate Developments (South East) Ltd</b>  <i>Land to south west junction Homing Road and Talbot Road Little Clacton</i>

(iii) Local Plan

The next meeting will be held at Weeley Offices on 21/01/16 at 6pm. Note the change of venue.

(iv) Neighbourhood Plan

Councillor M Reed had no news on the Neighbourhood Plan at present. It was decided that we leave the Neighbourhood Plan on the agenda.

**8. INTERNET** Nothing to report this month. As we enter New Year we would ask all clubs and societies to check that all their contact details are correct and up to date.

Councillor S Rowland enquired about saving money by taking back the responsibility of running the Website. The Chairman was not keen to pursue this route as he felt that it would give the parishioners the opinion that the Councillors were looking for their own gain and may introduce bias. The Chairman also said that all sections were worth looking at to save costs for the Parish.

**9. TDALC** Councillor M Reed reported that the next meeting would be held on 20th January and he requested that the Chairman could attend this time. The Chairman agreed.

#### **10. LITTLE CLACTON PARISH FIELDS**

The Chairman stated that there was little to report from Plough Corner as Hall users and football teams take a break for the Christmas and New Year holiday period.

All users expect to recommence normal activities from this week.

**11. VILLAGE HALL** Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie reported that Father Christmas had visited the Lunch Club, and the reindeers were happy to chew the field! He reported that there wasn't much to report at the moment. The Waste bins will be concreted in and the road improvements including height barrier had been installed. Mostly everyone was happy with the changes, but there was a complaint from one.

#### **12. MILLENNIUM GREEN**

Councillor M Balbirnie reported that following her report last month, she can now advise that the Big Lottery have collated all the paperwork for the grant we have been offered and given us permission to go ahead with the work on the boundary and pond fencing.

The contractor will be commencing with the work as from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January, and the residents of Elm Road to the end of the Millennium Green and The Street have been advised, as cars parked against the boundary fencing will need to be parked elsewhere whilst the work is being carried out.

Councillor M Balbirnie has also spoken to Mr Wagstaff and advised him of the work that is planned.

As soon as the boundary fencing has been replaced the whips obtained from the Woodland Trust will be planted and the Millennium Green will once again become a secure area.

On behalf of the committee, Councillor M Balbirnie would like to thank the Parish Council who were prepared to step in with financial help if the grant application was not successful.

#### **13. ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL**

Essex County Councillor Erskine reported that Tan Lane was a challenge as it had been flooded and closed twice. He has send an email re: ditch clearing. The Bus Shelters LHP (Local Highways Panel) will be moving forward at the end of the month. Pavements in The Street, Amerells Road and Plough Corner have each been reported individually. The Signs were inspected and do not meet the criteria presently so have been put on hold for this time. The Keep Left signs were inspected, they gave apologies for the late attention, they will be fixed in 6-8 weeks. The road sign on Plough Corner has been fenced off for safety, the Power network are scheduling work within 21 days. Light no. 1 was inspected. They know it is a priority due to its proximity to the corner and road. There has been no response on the Trees along Harwich Road yet, we enquired about ownership. It may be possible to apply for a CIF grant for the work. There is no further news about flooding at the Nursery in Holland Road.

#### **14. TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL**

District Councillor Brown and District Councillor Bray read out their reports, which are included as attachments at the end of the minutes.

District Councillor Brown drew attention to the free dog chipping service, phone no. 686338.

## 15. Correspondence for December Meeting

EALC	e- bulletins
SLCC	Society of Local Clerk Paperwork
LCPAS	Local Council Public Advisory Service Courses
EALC	Training Bulletin

The Chairman confirmed that there had been £100 for each Councillor for Training allocated from the budget. In addition, they were told that they could claim for printing ink and paper due to the quantity of paperwork that is now sent out by email.

## 16. FINANCE AND CHEQUE AUTHORISATION

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

Cheques issued:	£
EON (Dec)	381.32
PJB Architects	1,488.00
A&J Lighting Solutions	274.08
GB Maintenance	110.00
TDALC (Subs)	15.00
R Bellamy (Website Oct /Nov)	200.00
Tony Nash (2 <sup>nd</sup> Payment)	591.50
Abacus Build	7,656.26
Viking Stationery	86.35
Tendring Eldercare (Nov)	<u>100.00</u>
	11,513.77
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## 17. ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman enquired if anyone had heard from Mrs Owens the previous Clerk. Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie promised to call round for a visit.

## 18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor M Reed asked if we had a contract with Viking or if we could use other stationery suppliers. The Chairman confirmed that there was no contract as such, it was just convenient to have an account

with them as next day delivery is generally free, and they accept cheque payment on account. Councillor M Reed stated that there were many road closures coming up due to the amount of outstanding repairs. He asked if residents were aware of the extent of works. Councillor H Smith enquired about banking on the Railway Bridge along Holland Road, Councillor Gray reported that the area had been surveyed.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:25pm.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016 at 7.30pm at the Youth and Community Building, Parish Fields, Plough Corner.

**Chairman**  
**1<sup>st</sup> February 2016**

**Attachments :**

**Report by District Councillor J Bray**

**Report by District Councillor M Brown**

**Planning Report by Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie**