

## LITTLE CLACTON PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY, 9th May 2016 AT 7.30 PM

#### PRESENT

**Chairman : Councillor J Cutting**

**Councillors M Balbirnie, J Lovell, D Reed, M Reed, J Rowland, S Rowland, H Smith,  
R Smith, L Gray, B Ward**

**Tendring District Councillor Brown**

**9 residents**

#### **Residents were allowed to speak before the meeting began.**

One resident reported that he had designed a new website for Little Clacton Parish Council and would be willing to manage it for a minimal sum per year. The Chairman said that the Business group would look into his claims and report back to the next meeting.

#### **1. Election of New Chairman**

Councillor Cutting welcomed everyone to the meeting, then made enquiries regarding Chairman Nominations and as there were no other nominations, Councillor M Balbirnie proposed Councillor Cutting and all agreed.

Councillor Cutting was duly elected as Chairman for the forthcoming year.

#### **2. APOLOGIES**

Councillors P De Vaux Balbirnie and J Smith-Daye, District Councillor J Bray and Essex County Councillor Erskine sent their apologies.

#### **3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 11th April 2016**

The Chairman proposed and all agreed the previous months Parish Council minutes, which were then approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

The Annual Parish Meeting minutes were also agreed by all and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

#### **4. MATTERS ARISING**

No new matters.

#### **5. APPOINTMENTS**

**As no one had stepped down, the Chairman enquired if all the Councillors were happy to continue in their current appointments, then proposed that the Appointments and Working Party Memberships were agreed en bloc. This was agreed unanimously.**

**(a)Vice Chair** Councillor M Balbirnie will continue as Vice Chair

**(b)TDALC** Councillor M Reed will represent the Parish at the TDALC.

**(c)Community Care and Passenger Transport**

Councillor Gray is to continue as representative,

**(d)Village Hall**

Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie to be the Parish Councils Village Hall representative.

**(e)Parish Fields**

The Chairman is to read a report each month, prepared by the Parish Fields Committee.

**(f) Millennium Green (4)**

Councillor M Balbirnie will report to the Parish each month, with Councillor B Ward, Councillor J Lovell and Councillor M Reed.

**(g) Hubbard's and Harvey's Charities**

Mr Peter Watson is to retain responsibilities for the Charities until such date that the paperwork is able to be passed over to the Parish.

**6. Working Parties Membership**

**(a) Finance and Organisation of Business**

Clerk, Chairman and Vice Chairman plus 2 others.

Councillor Lovell and Councillor Smith-Daye will continue

**(b) Planning and Development (4)**

Councillor H Smith, Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie, Councillor D Reed and Councillor M Reed will continue in the role

**(c) Maintenance and Services (3)**

Councillor S Rowland, Councillor J Rowland and Councillor J Lovell will continue

**(d) Crime Prevention (1)**

Councillor J Rowland is to stay

**7. Responsibilities**

**(a) Highway Matters** - Councillor Rob Smith

**(b) Footpath Lights** - Councillor M Reed

**(c) Footpaths** - Councillor L Gray

**8. WORKING PARTY REPORTS**

**(a) Maintenance and Services**

Councillor S Rowland reported that the bus shelter opposite the McColl's /Post Office in The Street, was rotten at the base. In his opinion it is not structurally safe. Also the seating has rotten slats. In future, it may be wise to replace all seats with maintenance free ones. Now that the maintenance contract has been terminated, Councillor S Rowland suggested that for the meantime, the Maintenance working party with volunteers from the village, take on the task of washing down the benches and bus shelters themselves. The Parish needs to write to Tony Nash to return all property belonging to the Parish or face consequences. Councillor S Rowland thought we should arrange with the groundsman to detail all the assets we own in a new inventory. The Chairman reported that he had spoken to the grass cutters regarding the cuttings that were left when they had finished, and he stated that the contract that they had signed agreed that they would clear all cuttings and trimmings. They must clear them away as per the contract.

**(b) Footpaths** - Councillor L Gray reported that she was still chasing Essex County Council. The weeds had grown up and had thick stems now, making it harder to keep trim.

**(c) Footpath Lights** - Councillor M Reed reported that the LED lights were going in currently. He said now that the cheque had been sent to UK Power the Harwich Road Lights should be decommissioned very soon. New Light 'Outs' were being looked at, with the ones near to footpaths being the priority.

**(d) TDALC**

Councillor M Reed reported that they hadn't had the meeting yet. There is to be an AGM in May. He will report next month.

**(e) Highway Matters** -Councillor R Smith said although there wasn't much to report, there had been a car chase along Holland Road, 7 police attended. It was 1:30am and the police had already had over a hundred calls since midnight.

Speeding is still a problem, but police are still doing speed checks in the area. They have been seen by the fire station and Harwich Road. Some drivers along Holland Road are crazy. The Parish should send an email to report Holland Road speeding and The Street.

**(f) Millennium Green** – Councillor M Balbirnie stated that following the information in last month's report, there is very little to advise this meeting.

We are waiting for the TDC Rangers who have agreed to complete the soakaway ditch by using their digger to move the top soil along the ditch which will of course be much easier than the job being done by hand.

TDC have also agreed to supply more chippings for the car park area and they will distribute these at the same time as working on the soakaway.

Otherwise, the Millennium Green has looked pretty whilst the spring flowers have been in bloom and the pond is full of wild life including newts.

Councillor M Balbirnie will find out from the grass cutter when he is next scheduled to cut the meadow and as soon as this is done, there is meadow flower mix to be scattered. Councillor M Balbirnie will let the committee know when help will be kindly required for this.

**(g)Planning and Development** Councillor M Reed reported on the following:

**(1). Applications:**

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| 16/00489/FUL<br>Mr & Mrs Pearce                          | Proposed rear extension to form Kitchen and living room – modification to design approved under 15/01944/FUL.                  | 152 The Street, Little Clacton<br><b>No Objections</b>  |
| 16/00421/FUL<br>Mr M Rockall – Sole Bay Developments Ltd | Construction of development of 81 predominately single storey retirement dwellings (following demolition of existing dwelling) | Chicken Farm, Thorpe Road, Little Clacton<br><b>No Objections – but must have highway works to ensure safe access</b> |
| 16/00525/OUT<br>Mr C Estall                              | Proposed new dwelling  | Land adj. to 266 Harwich Road, Little Clacton<br><b>Refusal – due to Highway Grounds and cramped site</b>             |

|                               |   |  |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| 16/00590/FUL<br>Mr C Benstead | Demolition of existing single storey conservatory to rear elevation.<br>Addition of single storey extension to side, with new pitched roof added over existing flat roof. Addition of second storey over top of existing single storey to rear and construction of new pitched roof over. Internal alterations. | St. Chads Nurseries,<br>Harwich Road, Little Clacton<br><b>No Objections</b> |
| 16/00593/FUL<br>Mr I Senchell | Construction of a new recreational conservation lake and dipping pool.  | Firs Camp 29-31 London Road, Little Clacton<br><b>No objections</b>          |

**(2).Determinations:**

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| 16/00191/FUL<br>Approval - Full<br>5/4/16<br>Delegated Decision    | Proposed replacement of existing stable block with B1 Business Units   | Swains Farm Buildings,<br>The Street,<br>Little Clacton |
| 16/00331/FUL<br>Approval full<br>28.04.2016<br>Delegated Decision  | Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 15/0074/FUL to increase roof pitch to allow for Acme clay Plain Smooth red tile. Window widths increase for bedrooms 1200mm to 1770mm. | Little Paddocks, The Street,<br>Little Clacton          |
| 16/00193/FUL<br>Approval - Full<br>25.4.2016<br>Delegated Decision | Reserved matters for Plot 1 of the residential development of 0.09ha of land to create two detached dwellings with associated garaging and parking.                                    | Bay trees, Harwich Road<br>Little Clacton               |

3) **Local Plan** – Three Councillors went to the meeting at the Princes Theatre. The Chairman tried to meet with Catherine Bicknell from Tendring District Council to put forward the concerns of Little Clacton Parish Council. We want the Village to remain a Village.

4) **Neighbourhood plan** – Councillor M Reed reported that once our Neighbourhood Plan is in place, the Planning Department will have to keep to it.

**9. VILLAGE HALL**

Councillor M Balbirnie read out a report stating that the Party for the Queens 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday will be held on Sunday the 15th May at the Village Hall. Bonnie Hill is to attend to present the commemorative medals to the children.

Earlier in the year, the Hall was booked for one person, but another took the booking and advertised on face book, and it got out of hand. More care will be taken with bookings in future. The Village Hall have created their own mixed football team. The Trainer also trains other teams which seem to be doing well.

## **10. PARISH FIELDS COMPLEX**

Councillor Cutting read out a report from the Parish Fields Committee.

The football season is coming to a close. There is to be a classic car show on 15<sup>th</sup> May. Boot sales are to commence from 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2016. Could Councillors put their names forward to go on the collection rota, to collect pitch fees? The Hall is still being used regularly. There are flyers to give out, to advertise the boot sale. Please could everyone take some and give them out.

## **11. ECC**

No report this month.

## **12. TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL**

District Councillor Brown reported that the new Tendring District Chairman is to be Jane Chapman. She takes over from Fred Nicholls.

On the Queens official 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday, restaurants, pubs, bars and clubs are to be given an extension to opening hours; they will not have to close until 1am. Off-Licences and fast food outlets however, do not get the extension.

There has been another split in the Council Groups, with two councillors split from Coastal independents to solely independent. At least it saves leadership money from the Coastal Independent leadership.

A clampdown on unlawful use of Council house sub-letting continues with prosecutions. A boxing club used the Princes Theatre for three title fights. It was well attended and will now become a yearly event.

## **13. CORRESPONDENCE**

National Animal Welfare Trust

Posters for their Open day

EALC (Email)

e-Bulletins

Little Clacton Parochial Church

Donation request re: Churchyard

## **14. FINANCE AND CHEQUES AUTHORISATION**

### **Cheques issued:**

|                           |                 |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| R Bellamy (April Website) | 100.00          |
| EALC & NALC subs          | 562.29          |
| GB Maintenance            | 110.00          |
| Viking (stationery)       | 293.61          |
| Viking (printer ink)      | 31.02           |
| UK Power Networks         | <u>4,447.20</u> |

## **15. ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman reported that previously a resident had complained that ivy was growing up the Jubilee Oak. To remove the Ivy and lift the crown will cost £550 plus VAT. The Chairman proposed that the work was done now rather than leave it to get worse, all agreed.

The Chairman enquired what was happening about Councillor training. The Clerk had not had any responses yet. The dates were not good for everyone, most Councillors could not make any of the dates. The Clerk is to enquire about further dates.

**16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Councillor J Rowland read out the crime statistics. There was an unusually big increase in car crimes.

Traffic calming issues seen in Norfolk include kerbs set such as one end must give way to the other side then the opposite at the other end. The Chairman will make enquiries through Essex County Councillor Andy Erskine.

As there was no other business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00 pm.

**The next meeting will be held at the Youth and Community Centre at 7.30pm on Monday, 6th June 2016**

**Chairman  
6th June 2016**