

LITTLE CLACTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY, 6th June 2016 AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT

Chairman: Councillor J Cutting

**Councillors M Balbirnie, P De Vaux Balbirnie, J Lovell, D Reed, M Reed, H Smith,
J Smith-Daye, R Smith, L Gray, B Ward**

Tendring District Councillors Brown and Bray

Essex County Councillor Erskine

The Clerk: Mrs G Loach

7 residents

Residents were allowed to speak before the meeting began.

A resident, Miss Clarke, said thank you to the Parish, especially to Councillor M Reed for support during her planning appeal, which has now been successful.

Another resident thanked and paid tribute to Councillor M Reed, District Councillor Bray and The Chairman, Councillor Cutting, for their excellent presentations at the recent Planning Meeting. A question about the audio record was asked and District Councillor Bray reported that Mr Guiver from Tendring District Council Planning Department, stated that he had wanted to ensure that it was 'worded correctly' and that these things take time – it may be uploaded at a later date.

A resident, Mr Birch, reported that the corner of Grove Road required a sign to say that it wasn't suitable for HGVs. He said that it was an un-adopted road and therefore not a highways problem. District Councillor Bray will see if Tendring District Council will provide a T sign to indicate that there was a dead end. Mr Birch was also told that as it was a private road, the residents of that road could put up their own sign.

A resident reported that the sign at Feverill's Road was at right angles, hard to see around, and very difficult not to scrape the car when passing it. Also, there is now a motorhome parked to obscure the crossing.

Cars coming from Weeley should be doing 30mph, there is a 40mph sign and no other repeaters. Essex County Councillor Erskine said to write to him with any speeding concerns. His contact details are on the Essex County Website and Parish Notice Boards.

1. APOLOGIES

Councillors J Rowland and S Rowland sent their apologies.

2. Chairman's report

The Chairman reported that the Tendring District Council Planning Department rejected application 15/1550 due to the sound case put forward by the Councillors.

Tomorrow (7/6/16) at 11am there will be meeting with Gary Guiver to iron out inconsistencies.

The Chairman read out an email received regarding the planning application for land at Centenary Way/London Road.

A copy of the Chairmans statement has been agreed by the Planning working group and is attached at the end of the minutes.

The Chairman mentioned the Queen's 90th Birthday celebrations held at the Village Hall which he attended, and congratulated the Village Hall committee for a great event.

At a meeting with the Business and Finance Group discussions were started regarding a capital project for next year to improve the Village. Improvements to the Tennis Courts were decided. Grant and costings are to be arranged. A meeting is to be held with Parish Fields Committee and the groundsman. Also, the Chairman proposed upgrading the Village Boards to make them smarter. The Internet was discussed and the group were happy to move forward at this stage. A meeting will be held with Gary Rowe to discuss further details.

The Chairman had met with Essex County Councillor Erskine to discuss issues relating to the Village. These are already being actioned. There had been sewage brought up to the surface due to flooding. The drains were already filled up. The Chairman wondered if the main drainage was suitable.

3. CIRCULATION AND CONTENTS OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9th May 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.

4. URGENT MATTERS ARISING

None.

5. MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD

(a) Highways

Councillor Smith reported that Grove Road had already been discussed, but Elm Road also needs block turning signage. Councillor Bray is to speak to Mr M Badger at Tendring District Council, regarding signs. With regards to the flooding at Holland Road, Councillor Smith had forwarded pictures to the Essex County Councillor, and he actioned it immediately. Correspondence was sent today (6th June). It is expected that the drains will be cleaned out at the very minimum.

Councillor Smith also reported resurfacing problems at Holland Road. The Road had become very busy due to resurfacing work in the area. There are also problems currently with fly tipping. The Chairman suggested cameras in fly tipping hotspots. Councillor M Reed also mentioned beer cans left at the end of Feverill's Road. He offered to make enquiries regarding the cost of cameras. Tendring District Council may possibly be able to lend us some.

6. POLICE/CRIME REPORT

No Report this month.

7. WORKING PARTY REPORTS

(a) Maintenance and Services

The Chairman read out a report by Councillor S Rowland:

A draft letter was approved and sent to Tony Nash asking for the parish equipment to be returned or we will recover any losses through the courts.

I have confirmed the loan of a petrol pressure washer and an ICB. If members are happy for the maintenance group to form a working party we will arrange a date as soon as possible. The only purchase the Council would have to make is for 25 litres of biodegradable cleaner, so approval is required if we decide to continue. I am happy to use my van and trailer which is fitted with suitable hazard signage and warning beacons at no cost to the parish.

The Chairman proposed, Councillors De Vaux Balbirnie and Smith-Daye seconded and all agreed to the purchase.

The Dead Lane seat had been found and inspected. This is another seat that is beyond economical repair due to neglect.

I have contacted Graham, the groundsman who was on holiday. He said that contact would be made on his return to arrange inspection of parish owned equipment and stock. I have not had any further contact at this stage but as I am not at home he may have tried to contact me. I will call him when I return on Tuesday. I have asked several people with the necessary experience to inspect the bus shelter opposite the post office, if it is deemed unsafe who owns it would need to be established, if it is Parish owned then quotes would have to be sourced for the necessary repairs to be carried out.

(i) Footpath Lights - Councillor M Reed reported that the LED light upgrade was now complete. The trees need cutting back, leading to Thorpe Station, to allow the light to shine. Councillor M Reed is to do a full survey of the lights. Councillor M Reed is to look in to a report that that a light in Tan Lane looks 'dodgy'.

(ii) Footpaths - Councillor L Gray reported that the footpath by the Blacksmiths Arms has a fallen tree across it which looks dangerous. Essex County Council are sending someone to 'walk' the path and report back.

(b) Planning and Development

Councillor M Reed reported on the following:

(i). Applications:

16/00684/FUL Mrs Alison Gilham	To increase the height of the existing chimney and install a rigid twin wall insulated chimney system.	2 Kinfaun Cottages 66 The Street Little Clacton
16/00685/LBC Mrs Alison Gilham	To increase the height of the existing chimney and install a rigid twin wall insulated chimney system.	2 Kinfaun Cottages 66 The Street Little Clacton No Objections subject to Listed building consents.

(ii).Determinations:

<i>15/01550/OUT Refusal - Outline 25.05.2016 Committee Decision</i>	<i>Residential development of up to 98 dwellings.</i>	<i>Land at The Street Little Clacton</i>
<i>15/01853/OUT Approval - Outline 24.05.2016 Delegated Decision</i>	<i>Outline application with all matters reserved for the erection of 4 detached bungalows with associated access, parking landscaping and ancillary works.</i>	<i>Land North East of Tan Lane Little Clacton</i>
<i>16/00489/FUL Approval - Full 24.05.2016 Delegated Decision</i>	<i>Proposed rear extension to form kitchen and living room - modification to design approved under 15/01944/FUL.</i>	<i>152 The Street Little Clacton</i>
<i>16/00525/OUT Approval - Outline 24.05.2016 Delegated Decision</i>	<i>Proposed new dwelling.</i>	<i>Land adjacent 266 Harwich Road Little Clacton</i>
<i>16/00401/FUL Approval - Full 04.05.2016 Delegated Decision</i>	<i>Proposed ground floor extension and replacement garage.</i>	<i>126 The Street Little Clacton Clacton On Sea</i>
<i>16/00552/HHPNOT HHPN - Prior Approval Not Required 16.05.2016 Delegated Decision</i>	<i>Proposed single storey extension. 6.2m in depth and 4m in height.</i>	<i>62 Elm Road Little Clacton</i>

(iii) Local Plan – Councillor M Reed reported that the next meeting was the Thurs 9th June at the Town Hall. He said that there doesn't seem to be any control at the moment as the boundaries keep changing.

(iv) Neighbourhood plan – Councillor M Reed is to speak with Gary Guiver at the meeting in the morning and report back next meeting.

(c) Business and Finance

(I) The Chairman read the Governance Statement and all councillors were given a copy of the Income and Expenditure account and balance sheet, the full Parish Accounts were passed around to read. Councillor M Balbirnie proposed and Councillor Gray seconded and all agreed the Yearly Accounts for 2015/16, which are now to be passed on to the auditors, before publication.

(II) Churchyard Grant

The Business and Finance Group had previously had a meeting to discuss the financial implications, before recommending an amount of £2000, as was in the precept. Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie proposed, Councillor Smith-Daye seconded and all agreed to the grant of £2,000.

8. INTERNET

The Website continues to be maintained and updated as and when required.

9. TDALC

Councillor M Reed reported that hadn't been able to attend the latest meeting and he hadn't seen any minutes as yet to report.

10. PARISH FIELDS COMPLEX

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

The Classic Car show on 15th May enjoyed very good weather and had a record number of exhibitors and visitors and continues to go from strength to strength.

The car boot season has made an encouraging start. As ever, we are still looking for assistance with the collection of pitch hire fees. This only takes an hour or two at most and we hope councillors will offer their help from time to time. Our grateful thanks to those Councillors who have already given their help.

The new high definition CCTV system is now up and running with extra cameras giving improved coverage of the complex.

The Youth and Community Hall continues to be in regular use with a second Yoga group starting this week.

11. VILLAGE HALL

Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie thanked Councillor M Balbirnie for stepping in and running the Queens 90th Birthday Event. The bouncy castle, Punch and Judy show and magic show were all well received.

The new seats have now been concreted in, with a path now widened for wheelchair use. New bins are being set up. Stricter controls are being put in place re: Hall hire to save the trouble previously.

New football teams are set up for all age groups. It is good to see the field being used.

12. MILLENNIUM GREEN

As the Tendring District Rangers were called away to other work, Ricky Hayes of Swains Farm kindly stepped in and used his equipment to move the topsoil along the ditch. Thanks have been passed onto Ricky for helping in this way. This area is now much improved.

However, it is sad that the grass has grown up so quickly and the grass cutters have unfortunately not yet managed to get a full cut done as was going to happen last week. They did apologise but, as I pointed out, we do not want the vandalism which has previously been the case when we could not see through the grass and into the area of the spinney.

I will continue to press the grass cutter to get this work done as soon as possible.

I spent the morning Bank Holiday Saturday clearing weeds away from most whips along the boundary of the Elm Road fencing so that the trees and bushes had a chance to flourish and I will be contacting members of the committee over the next few weeks when we need to sow the meadow flower mixture as soon as the grass is cut.

The pond is still looking clear although we are still getting bottles thrown into the water which is a sad reflection on people visiting the area.

The TDC rangers have delivered some chippings ready to be spread over the car park area and they will be supplying more chippings and carrying out the work shortly, so I am led to believe.

13. ECC

Essex County Councillor Erskine reported that most of the issues that he has been working on this month have already been discussed in earlier sections, so he had nothing further to report.

14. TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL

District Councilor M Brown reported that Tendring District Council were reducing the number of councillors and the new number looks to be nearer 40 from 60.

Clacton Leisure Centre is holding an open day on the 12th June from 10-3pm, with activities for all age groups.

Due to fraudulent activity throughout the area, District Councillor Brown requested that 'Rogue Trader' posters were displayed in the local notice boards.

Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie asked if he could take one to display in the Village Hall.

District Councillor Bray reported that he had now completed an annual report, which will be attached to these minutes. He also reported that there were to be boundary changes, with the number of Councillors reducing and their areas to cover will be larger. These changes will not come into effect until the next Election in 2018.

District Councillor Bray will be attending the next local plan as he is angry about the moving 'village envelope'. He congratulated the 'Save our Village' group on their success. He stated that he was a councillor for the whole of Little Clacton and Weeley - not UKIP residents only.

District Councillor Brown agreed and said that it applied to him too. Parish Council does not follow political parties.

Essex County Councillor Erskine explained that it was difficult to explain to residents that at the Parish Council level the work done is non -political.

15. CORRESPONDENCE

EALC	e- bulletins
Magpas Air Ambulance	grant request
Tendring District Council	Quantum Theatre advertisement
Essex Youth Service	Tendring Youth News (email)
EON	Increased rates
Colchester United	Open Day poster
Tendring CAMRA	re: Blacksmiths Arms re-submission (email)

16. FINANCE AND CHEQUES AUTHORISATION

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

Cheques issued:

	£
Homeview surveillance	2,154.00
GR Harrison (inv. 2221, 2219)	486.00
Eon (Apr & May)	775.50
Tendring Eldercare	100.00
Business Services at CAS Ltd (insurance- Parish Building)	498.33
Business Services at CAS Ltd (insurance- Parish Council)	1,979.35
Eurofire Ltd (Electrical testing)	236.94
Kendall Plus (Apr & May)	1,428.30
R Bellamy (May Website)	<u>100.00</u>

17. ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

None.

18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie stated that help was needed with the whips on the Millennium Green. Could anyone willing to help please ring Councillor M Balbirnie to arrange a time to go.

As there was no other business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.16 pm.

The next meeting will be held at the Youth and Community Centre at 7.30pm on Monday, 4th July 2016

**Chairman
4th July 2016**