

LITTLE CLACTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY, 7th November 2016 AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT

Chairperson: J Cutting

Councillors: M Balbirnie, L Gray, J Lovell, D Reed, M Reed, H Smith, R Smith, J Smith-Daye, B Ward.

Tending District Councillor Mike Brown

Clerk: Mrs G Loach

6 residents

Residents were given time to speak before the meeting began.

Nothing to report.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors P De Vaux Balbirnie, J Rowland and S Rowland.

2. CIRCULATION AND CONTENTS OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

The minutes were agreed by all and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting on the 3rd October.

3. URGENT MATTERS ARISING

The Chairman reiterated that Councillors need to restrain themselves when discussing conscientious topics.

4. Chairman's report

The Chairman reported that Travellers from Brook Park took 4 days to evict.

MP Douglas Carswell replied to our letter with a letter he had received from Essex County Council. In this letter the ECC Chairman said that he hadn't got a record of the incidents that we complained about. The Little Clacton Parish Chairman sent a record of all the incident numbers.

The Planning meeting was held at the Princes Theatre, and the Chairman made a statement on behalf of the Parish and Councillor Smith-Daye made a statement as a resident.

5. MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD

Regarding the traveller query, the Chairman agreed that the gate can be opened.

(a) Highways

Councillor R Smith said that he hadn't anything to report. He had had just one phone call by a resident about 2 lights that were still out. The speed strips have been out again, Councillor M Reed is to look into Community Speed Watch again, and possibly share a gun with Walton. A resident suggested we install average speed traffic signs. The Chairman said he would look into it. Councillor R Smith is to make enquiries about the V A Signs along Holland Road.

6. POLICE/CRIME REPORT

No report this month.

7. WORKING PARTY REPORTS

(a) Maintenance and Services

No report by Councillor S Rowland this month. The Chairman asked the Clerk to send a letter recorded delivery to T Nash regarding the missing seat and plaque.

The Chairman stated that the notice boards should be upgraded rather than replaced, as they weren't worn out, but they just needed a spruce up. The tree crowns are to be lifted.

(1) Remembrance service - the official date is 13/11/2016 and volunteers were sought to help clean the memorial on Friday morning at 11.30am. Councillors R Smith, M Reed, B Ward and the Chairman said that they would be there. All were welcome to help.

(l) Street lights

Councillor M Reed reported that there was a light out at London Road, which was waiting for a lantern. The Plough Corner light had been done. Weeley Road lights no.48 and 50 had an issue, but they are aware and are treating it as a priority. The Street had a light which wasn't numbered correctly and lights were out at Morrisons and the Montana Roundabout, which will require traffic management to be able to fix it. This could take a while.

Harwich Road lights - 2 are done and 2 not yet done. A letter with invoice numbers is to be sent to Essex County Council.

Christmas Lights - Councillor M Reed said that solar lights were £100 for 4 strings of 25 lights. The agent for the premises known previously as Romadorns is to be contacted, re electricity supply.

(ii)**Footpaths** - Councillor L Gray reported that the footpaths were all lovely. The river was dug out at Dead Lane and everyone was involved. As for the fallen tree at the Blacksmiths path, Mr Carter was to be contacted regarding tree removal. The Chairman said he had spoken to Mr Carter and he no longer farms these fields.

(b) Planning and Development

Councillor M Reed reported on the following:

(i). Applications:

16/01236/FUL	6 St Osyth Road CO16 9PH – First Floor Extension over existing ground floor extension	Recommend Approval
16/01596/FUL	Grove Farm Tan Lane CO16 9PT – Convert 3 existing barns to form a wedding venue and a Bridal Suite with minor extensions and change of use.	Recommend Approval with condition it remains as a wedding venue and that it does not revert to use as a building of dwellings or commercial use.
16/01597/LBC	Listed building consent for previous application.	
16/01710/TPO	35 Sunnyside Way – CO16 9PE - Reduce lower branches and shape existing oak tree.	Full approval
16/00427/OUT	Land to side and rear of Hayes Garage 24 The Street CO16 9LD – Proposed 10 dwellings with alterations to access.	Recommend approval subject to Highways approval to situation regarding zebra Crossing in nearby vicinity. To remain an application for 10 dwellings, it is noted that an area that would give access to the paddock to the rear would accommodate a road.
16/00824/FUL	110 Harwich Road – CO16 9RU – Discharge of conditions 2,7,10,11,13,15,16	Recommend Approval
16/01132/FUL	105 Harwich Road – CO16 9RU – Discharge of conditions 3, 4, 7, 9.	Recommend Approval

(ii) Determinations

16/00745/FUL	155 Harwich Road – CO16 9NL – Discharge of conditions 3,8.	Approval Full.
16/01268/FUL	29 Hazelwood Crescent ,CO16 9PS - Rear	Approval Full.

	Extension	
16/00912/OUT	Land adj. Willows Crossways, Thorpe Road, CO16 9RZ 5 dwellings	Approval Full.
16/00381/FUL	74 The Street CO16 9LG , discharge of conditions 2, 5.	Approval Full.
14/01655/FUL	Land adj. To Meadow View, Thorrington Road, CO16 9ES, amendments to incorporate first floor with one velux window to rear elevation and two velux windows to front.	Approval Full.
16/01434/TELLI C	Will obtain deemed consent to put in a communications cabinet but who owns the land is under investigation, not owned by TDC.	Approval Full.

Councillor M Reed proposed the comments made by the Planning Group above and all agreed. The Chairman reported that The Street appeal is on December 7th and the Little Clacton Parish statement has been lodged with the Inspectorate. Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting. A copy of the statement is attached at the end of the minutes.

It was noticed that the Planning Applications and determinations were lifted very early. This should be pointed out to the Head of Planning.

There was a discussion regarding access for the Hayes Road development and possible further developments at the site.

iii) Local Plan –Councillor M Reed reported that the next meeting was at the Princes Theatre re: the next stage of the plan. Weeley had now been re classified as a 'Rural Exemption Zone' instead of an Expansion area. This is thanks to District Councillor J Bray, Councillor Smith-Daye for reviewing the Brett report with Carol Bannister and Ray Enerford of the Frinton Residents Association. The housing target was dropped from 1400 to 300. The next meeting will be in January 2017 and the plan is due to be finished by 2018.

iv) Neighbourhood Plan – Work is continuing and Councillor M Reed is to look at Alresford Parish's Neighbourhood plan.

(c) Business and Organisation Group

i) Precept

All councillors were given the previous precept details with the latest transactions to date, to see where the underspends were. The Clerk had estimated expenditure to the year end. The Chairman explained that where there were underspends, virements could be carried out if necessary, but asked Councillors to be mindful of expenditure needed for the next year, so that a new precept amount can be calculated. The Business Group are to get together to discuss the Precept for next month.

ii) Dates for Next Year

Proposed Meeting Dates 2017

- 09 January
- 06 February
- 06 March
- 03 April Annual Parish Meeting
- 08 May Annual Parish Council Meeting
- 05 June
- 03 July
- 07 August
- 04 September
- 02 October
- 06 November
- 04 December

8. INTERNET

The Chairman reported that he had spoken to Gary Rowe, who was previously interested in updating our Parish Website. He has been very busy at home lately, and is unable to proceed with the Website for the present.

In the meantime, he thanked Mr Loach, for maintaining the website while we waited to see if Mr Rowe was still interested in continuing with the upgrade. Councillor Smith-Day proposed that the Parish reward Mr Loach for his work. The Chairman seconded and suggested £100, and all agreed.

9. TDALC

Councillor M Reed reported that the TDALC hadn't met since last month yet, so no report, but the Police and Crime Commissioner will be attending the next meeting.

10. PARISH FIELDS COMPLEX

Parish Fields continues to be used on a regular basis. The pavilion shower room is near completion and should be finished this week.

11. VILLAGE HALL

Councillor M Balbirnie reported that the new windows and doors have been put in. The Vandalism has been reported from last month, and Police are aware. The Caretaker has been very helpful and has provided some names. The grass has been cut around the seat. There were reports of drug dealers being there, but we have been vigilant and there are no recent reports.

The Chairman contacted Mr Carter regarding cutting the hedgerows along the Village Hall and Harold Lilley Field.

12. MILLENNIUM GREEN

Councillor M Balbirnie Reported that the green was looking good at the moment, the pond is great but it is quiet this time of year.

13. ECC

Essex County Councillor Erskine did not leave a report this month.

14. TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL

District Councillor Brown reported that the contract for the wind farms at Thorpe Hall had been rejected. He also reported that children from Little Clacton had been chosen to appear in the Pantomime at the Princes Theatre in Clacton this year.

His full report is also attached as an appendix at the end of the minutes.

15. CORRESPONDENCE

Councillor M Balbirnie declared a pecuniary interest in the Brook Farm Development letter.

EALC	e- bulletins
D Carswell MP	Brook Park Development
Ringway Jacobs	Notice of Road closures
Tendring Eldercare	Charity Psychic Night 7 th December
Local Government Boundary commission	Electoral Review of TDC warding arrangements

16. FINANCE AND CHEQUES AUTHORISATION

Receipts:	£
Bank loyalty reward	1.93
Fee refund	0.90
2 nd Half precept	0.00

Cheques issued:	£
Clacton Business Services	30.00
EOn (Oct)	440.34
A&J Lighting	101.34
Essex Cleaning services (8 bus shelters)	160.00
Viking	41.33

Tendring Eldercare	0.00
Bank Charges (Oct)	0.00

17. ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

None this month.

18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor M Reed reported that in Homing Road cars were parked until 3am and number plates had been stashed in the hedges, and packages exchanged. The area standards are dropping. Can all Councillors and residents be vigilant and keep an eye on movements around that area. He said that everyone is now fed up and residents are complaining.

Councillor M Reed asked if the cost of night vision CCTV had been looked at. Councillor M Balbirnie said that this was their next project.

As there was no other business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.20 pm.

The next meeting will be held at the Youth and Community Centre at 7.30pm on Monday, 5th December 2016

**Chairman
5th DECEMBER 2016**

Appendix 1 – Cllr Mike Brown Report

LITTLE CLACTON PARISH DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT NOVEMBER 2016

I attended the local plan November meeting as a substitute for Cllr Platt.

The main discussions revolved around Weeley and Weeley Heath but good results for Weeley also effects Little Clacton. The outcome of the night was that Weeley's development numbers were reduced to 305 dwellings from 1400, this of course relieves local travel pressure, relieves Dr's etc .

Good news for Harwich. The area has won the contract for servicing the off shore wind farm creating new jobs for nearly 100 personnel. The contract lasts 23 years.

Development at Thorpe hall has been rejected saving another 50 dwellings in our area if not in our Parish.

The appeal for 15/01550 land at the street Little Clacton, the time and date has been announced - 7th December 10am at the council chamber, Weeley council offices.

Children from Little Clacton have been chosen to appear in Panto at the Princes Theatre (Sleeping Beauty) dates Dec 10 until Jan 1st.

One of my responsibilities as district Cllr is attending the licensing committee, I announced that a seat was to be removed from 8 seater taxis last month for safety reasons. However a change of direction to help taxi drivers - if an interior release handle for the back door is fitted the 8th seat can remain.

Cllr Mike Brown

Appendix 2 – LCPC Objection to Planning Application 15/0155/OUT The Street, May 2016

Little Clacton Parish Council object in the strongest possible terms to the recommendation from Planning Officers for approval of this application. The site in question is for a mass development of 98 properties and is on the same said site that these's same officers refused some months ago. One of the major reasons and there were many for refusal was and I quote

A harsh and dominant residential estate resulting in urbanization which results in an abrupt transition between the rural landscape and Village and is against the NPPF.

So what has changed?

Well it reduced from 134 properties to almost 100.

100 properties in an agricultural field in a designated Green Gap in the centre of a Village.

Do you not think that is still urbanization!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Because we do.

We are not Nimbys. We have always said we would be sympathetic to a ribbon development that is in keeping on the road frontage of this site.

Officers quote Presumption in favour of Developer. But that only applies if the application conforms with the NPPF. This application clearly does not as we believe it is not sustainable.

Is it not strange that at the last local Plan meeting we find this site with **a Red line around it (without any consultation with the residents or LCPC)** We find out at that meeting that we require to find 131 properties **which just conveniently include these 98**

Do you not think that there is some kind of smoke and mirrors going on here?

We as a Parish have **already provided over 100 properties** and will achieve those numbers on brownfield sites without this application.

No! The Planning Officers are hell bent on getting numbers by any means.

Councillors have a moral duty to serve the residents the residents who put them there.

Due to the fact that do not have a Local Plan there is a mind set that there is now a Presumption in favour of Developer.

But we have an emerging Local Plan that holds weight.

We have agreed numbers.

We have saved policies from the 2007 local plan.

Saved policy S.D.3 clearly states that no more than 50 dwellings will be allowed in Key Rural Service Centres, of which we are one.

Policy Q.L.1. Direct New development to Urban areas and concentrate development within settlement areas.

Policy Q.L.11 Requires development to be **comparable with surrounding land and minimise adverse environmental impact.**

Policy E.N.2 Seeks to keep areas designated Green Gap open and free of development No! Officers are looking for numbers. This to them is an easy 100.

We have made our numbers on Brownfield sites.

Now it is your turn to look to the residents and the Rural way of life and Reject this application and stop a Village becoming an Urbanised Town.

I would therefore ask Councillors in any doubt not to refuse to look at;

Paragraph 6.55 of the document in front of you where Planning Officers indicate Refusal would be Justified.

Update of Presentation from LCPC at the May Planning Meeting

Following the presentation of this submission LCPC would like to question the **Sustainability** of this site bearing in mind that it can only be accessed and exited by one road

A road, that although highways had no objection to this road, it was so heavily used that the New by-Pass was built in the mid 1990's to ease congestion through Little Clacton.

We question the **sustainability** as the bus routes through the village are few and far between with bus companies looking to reduce routes in cost saving exercises.

We question the **sustainability** as there are only two convenience shops in the village

We question the **sustainability** as there are no doctors surgery in the Village

We question the **sustainability** as the only school in the Village is full with a majority of children coming from outside the Village.

We question the **sustainability** as the nearest rail connection is almost two miles away and not within walking distance.

The **sustainability** we do not question is that the site is agricultural and has provided crops for the past 20 years or even longer.

In conclusion we believe we have argued a robust case that proves the site is not **sustainable** and therefore does not conform to the NPPF and on that basis the Presumption in Favour of developer does not apply and the application should be **rejected**.