

LITTLE CLACTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE
YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY, 1 DECEMBER 2008 AT
7.30PM

PRESENT

Cllr J Couzens in the Chair

Cllrs Mrs J Carter, De Vaux Balbirnie, Mrs S Dass, J Dunnett, Miss L Gray,
B Leatherdale, M Skeels, Mrs E Ward, P Watson and Mrs A Wood

There were eight residents present

ITEMS RAISED BY RESIDENTS

A resident raised the problems of parking in Sunnyside Way during the school runs as cars take a circular route from St Osyth Road through Sunnyside Way and Leys Drive. The residents are most unhappy at the number of cars parking along the street and blocking the road. It was agreed to write to Essex Police asking them to monitor the situation and also the Headmaster at Engaines School seeking his help. It was suggested that County Highways be approached seeking a 20mph limit in the area.

A resident advised us that the road sign at the top of Feverills Road was down. County Highways to be advised.

APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received from Cllr Cutting.

A letter of resignation had been received from Cllr Mrs Cupman because of the poor health of her husband. This was accepted with regret and a letter of thanks be sent to her wishing them both better health. The Clerk will arrange for the usual notification.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3 NOVEMBER 2008

These were approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

(a) Parish Shield

Following discussion it was agreed that the Shield should be awarded for work done by residents regarding the environment. The matter to be raised in January with names of suitable candidates.

(b) Tendring Way

Cllr Skeels reported that the matter is progressing from Wivenhoe to Alresford at the moment with a £5000 grant to assist. A statement is being prepared. It will be for non-motorised transport ie cycles, horses, walkers etc. The master plan is in hand and funding is sought for a footpath by the bypass.

MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD

(a) Internet – nothing to report

(b) Highway Matters

Cllr Watson has been advised that the lighting column which was intended to carry the VAS sign has not passed the required structural test and an order has been made to replace the column with a suitable unit and should be completed in the next few weeks. Once reconnected by E.On the traffic sign will be installed.

(c) Affordable Housing

The Clerk reported that some letters had been sent to Thorpe but the matter has been sorted out and the Rural Community Council will advise us of the result when it is known..

(d) Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation

Cllrs De Vaux Balbirnie and Skeels declared a personal interest.

The Gutteridge Hall Lane site has been taken to appeal and the matter is in abeyance..

(e) Parish Archives

The matter is ongoing

(f) Lorries, Feverills Road

A letter has been received from the Planning Department answering the various questions raised. Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie spoke a temporary sleeping policeman being sited there.

(g) Lorries – 160 Harwich Road – correspondence is now in hand

POLICE/CRIME PREVENTION

Cllr Wood read a report showing various burglaries, thefts, damage etc throughout the village. It was noted there had been an increase in criminal activity recently.

WORKING PARTY REPORTS

Maintenance and Services

Cllr Watson reported that repairs to the bus shelter in The Street have been completed. Regarding Parish Fields road entrance gates, he has been in contact with the building and services manager of BT again, who told him that he has arranged for the local site manager to contact us and arrange for a lock from the BT master system to be provided. As there had been no contact from the local man, Cllr Watson has again e-mailed their building manager and suggested that as he is in charge of BT sites he uses his authority to get this lock to us. He also advised him that we intend to complete the gate installation and the gates will be in use from the end of December.

We are still waiting for delivery of the 3 No. name boards 'Plough Corner' for fitting to the flower tub on the corner of The Street.

Yet another bollard has been broken off outside the Post Office. The delivery vehicles to the general store and Romadorns are becoming far too large, including artics, to negotiate the back road of the Village Green. The drivers are unwilling to walk their goods from the kerb edge of the highway and attempt to get their vehicles to the store door. Nearby residents know the vehicles in question which cause the damage but as they do not have the vehicle registration details, we cannot take any action. Cllr Watson had two suggestions: we write to both businesses and express our concerns and the cost to the residents, and we ask ECC to place a commercial vehicle ban on accessing the road. We have spent over £500 on replacement bollards already this year.

It was agreed to write to McColls and to consult with Essex County Council.

Street Lighting

Cllr Ward reported repairs to the light outside 3 Elm Road had needed a tower to do some of the work and this had increased the cost substantially. This is the third time this light has been reported. She also reported two other lights are not working in Elm Road which were reported two weeks ago but neither of the lights has been repaired. The contractors advised that the man detailed to do the repair was off sick. After explanation

about the danger of the lack of lights in Elm Road, the contractor promised to attend on 28 November. The lights are still out of action and she will contact the contractors again.

Footpaths

No report

Planning and Development

Cllr Wood reported on the following planning applications:

08/01505/FUL Proposed detached car port, Blairmont.Cottage, Harwich Road

It was agreed to write to TDC with no objection

08/01576/FUL Extension, 26 Feverills Road

It was agreed to write to TDC with no objection

08/01544/LUEX Extension and redevelopment of a holiday camp, Meadowview Park, St Osyth Road

The Chairman had looked at this application but as all the information had not been received was unable to comment. TDC had been advised.

08/01592/FUL A single storey extension to the south elevation to provide additional bedroom accommodation, swimming pool and pool room. Provision of car port to east elevation at The Paddocks, 52 Weeley Road

It was agreed to write to TDC with no objection

Applications Determined:

08/01302/FUL – The Orchard, Grove Road – APPROVED

08/01387/LUEX – Howards Nurseries, Batemans Lane – APPROVED

Finance and Organisation of Business

(a) Budget

The proposed budget for 2009/10 was before members

Cllr Dunnett proposed a precept for the year 2009/10 be set at £68,000. this was seconded by Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie and agreed.

The budget papers are attached to the Minutes in the book

TDALC

No report

LITTLE CLACTON PARISH FIELDS AND YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

Cllr Wood reported that hall and football pitch bookings continue at a reasonable level. The hall is now used on a regular basis by four hirers in addition to the school use, and we are now seeing regular Saturday use of the playing field in addition to the normal Sunday use. The floodlights to the all weather court have been overhauled and an earthing fault has been repaired. The Youth Bus people have requested that the lights are used when they visit and have expressed their appreciation for this facility.

Cllr Watson said that someone had provided us with a heap of road scrapings. The car park surface had several pot holes and was becoming dangerous so he arranged for a Working Party order to be placed so that the scrapings can be spread and well rolled in. It has improved the surface considerably especially in this very wet period.

He also reported that the door to the Youth and Community Building could not be opened so he arranged for it to be forced and a new lock fitted at a cost of £70.00.

So far as the street lighting columns are concerned, Cllr Watson has discussed the matter with the ECC Building Manager and received his verbal approval to disconnect the

lighting columns along his section of the entrance road and donate us free of charge the remaining columns. He will advise us as soon as the electrical supply has been disconnected. In the meantime, Cllr Watson will obtain quotes for the replacement lantern and the reconnection of the supply, He wondered if it would be our intention to keep the columns on the building side of the road down to the BT entrance. It was agreed that these should be kept.

The Chairman said that the Community Initiative Fund has awarded us £33,794 towards the extension of the youth and community building and he felt that we should proceed with the work on the building. The Chairman suggested that the Vice-Chairman should commence seeking competitive quotes for the work.

VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Dunnett submitted a letter seeking financial help towards the maintenance of the Harold Lilley Field.

It was proposed by Cllr Watson, seconded by Cllr Dass and agreed a sum of £500 be made available to the Village Hall Committee towards this work..

MILLENNIUM GREEN

Nothing to report

MEETING DATES 2009

Members agreed the proposed dates:

5 January; 2 February; 2 March; 6 April – Annual Parish Meeting; 11 May – Annual Parish Council Meeting; 1 June; 6 July; 4 August; 7 September; 5 October; 2 November; 7 December

TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL

Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie reported on various matters such as the removal of unlicensed cars from business premises; work on the sea front defences is to be undertaken; VAT to be returned through the system but no reduction in car park charges. Money from the Government available for youth provision, ie swimming and are looking at youth work in the District.

CORRESPONDENCE

Essex County Council

Community Initiatives Fund

Mobile Library Service

Making the Links

Tendring District Council

Forward Plan 86

Grove Road/Feverills Roads

Planning Appeal by Npower renewables

07/00433/FUL

Questions to David Lines

David Brown

Carols on the Village Green – Tuesday 16

December at 7.00 pm

RCCE

Oyster

EPFA

The Playing Field

ICO

Freedom of Information Act

The Clerk to get details of the new act from the internet as this has to be in place by 1 January 2009

FINANCE AND CHEQUES AUTHORISATION

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

Receipts:

Gas Board Licence - £3,000.00

Cheques issued:

	£
E.ON Energy	278.70
RBL Poppy Appeal	18.00
Mr J Cutting (plants)	15.00
Kendall Contract Services	369.53
Local Landscapes (millennium field)	243.75
Campwood Press (Information booklet)	609.83
L Humphreys (website)	44.00
Mr L Lane (bus shelter repairs)	588.00
SLCC (annual subscription)	105.00

ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

Deferred

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie – Members training planning

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday, 5 January 2009 at 7.30 pm at the Youth and Community Centre.

There being no further public business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.06pm.to members of the public

Chairman
5 January 2009

