

LITTLE CLACTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE
YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY 2 FEBRUARY 2009 AT
7.30 PM

PRESENT

Cllr J Couzens in the Chair

Cllrs J Cutting, De Vaux Balbirnie, J Dunnett, Miss L Gray, B Leatherdale, M Skeels,

Mrs A Wood and P Watson

There were 14 residents and County Councillor Mark Cossens present.

ITEMS RAISED BY RESIDENTS

Application for a toilet block behind Holland Road was raised but the Parish Council has no information of such an application. Councillors will enquire about this.

Residents at 80 Holland Road complained that the application for composting area between 58 and 64 Holland Road was agreed but the site seems to have been moved outside their property.

Public footpath has been cut off in Homing Road. It was agreed to write to ECC about this. Another bridle way is causing difficulties. Cllr Skeels has asked for dog litter bins.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Carter, Dass and Ward.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5 JANUARY 2009

These were approved and duly signed by the Chairman

A resident had asked for Minutes to be available other than on the website. It was agreed that approved Minutes be placed on the notice boards.

MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Watson reported that flowers and a card were presented to Mrs Genery and she thanked the Council for the gift and much appreciated their kind thoughts.

- (a) Vacancy for Parish Councillor

The Chairman deferred this item to an in camera session at the end of the meeting.

- (b) Communities and Local Government - papers still in circulation

MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD

- (a) Internet – starter hosting payments have been made

- (b) Highway Matters

Cllr Watson reported that the replacement lamp standard has been erected and is awaiting connection to the power supply before activating the VAS sign.

Village Gateway – Holland Road

Cllr Watson reported he had been in touch with the insurance company on several occasions but they are still waiting for information from the policy holder

- (c) Affordable Housing

Ms Moira Groborz, the enabler for the RCC, will attend the March meeting to discuss the report and its implications

- (d) Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation

It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda

- (e) Parish Archives – The matter is ongoing

POLICE/CRIME PREVENTION

No report

WORKING PARTY REPORTS

Maintenance and Services

Cllr Watson reported that we are still awaiting details from BT regarding Parish Fields road entrance gates. He is waiting for suitable weather to complete the work the memorial area. He has been given 400 daffodil bulbs from a local resident in memory of her mother, Mrs M Clark, to be planted around the memorial trees. Letter of thanks has been sent to the donor.

'Plough Corner' signs have been attached to three sides of the flower tub on the corner of Harwich Road.

Replacement bollards have been received and the order for installation has been made. In the mean time, a couple of bollard tops have appeared and have been positioned over the damaged units. No idea where they have come from and unfortunately, they are not the same colour as our street furniture. They will be recovered and placed in store.

Lighting Columns – entrance road at Plough Corner

Although we were told they had been disconnected from ECC supply, the column alongside the Community building still has a live cable crossing the road at its base. All the columns have been removed and we have concreted over the cable complete with a warning plate.

Cllr Watson proposed that a letter of thanks be sent to the Methodist Church, together with a cheque for £35, for allowing us to use their electricity for the Christmas lights. This was agreed.

TDC has not offered the normal tree grant programme this year they are involved in their own scheme of planting in various public areas throughout the district. Cllr Watson would like to continue with our annual planting programme by concentrating on the area in front of the ATC fence. He has prepared a planting schedule for four more flowering trees and a range of shrubs providing a decorative screen along the fence and building. The cost to cultivate, provide top soil, trees and shrubs and labour to plant is £446.00.

This was proposed by Cllr Watson, seconded by Cllr Wood and agreed.

The alterations to the all weather playing area lights have been completed allowing the lights to be turned on and off to suit requirements as opposed to being controlled by a slot meter and timer. A report does advise us that the installation is quite old and the lanterns have deteriorated. Modern units would be more effective and much more efficient to run. The electrical test and inspection on the football flood lights has shown up several serious problems which would be very expensive to rectify. Cllr Watson has discussed this with the Parish Fields Chairman and as there is currently very little call on the use of this facility, no further action will be taken.

A section of kerbs, directly opposite the Community building have been broken resulting in vehicles running on to the grass. To excavate, supply materials and lay new kerbs and clear away spoil would be £400.00.

It was proposed by Cllr Watson, seconded by Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie and agreed that this work be undertaken.

Street Lighting

No report

Footpaths

A resident from Homing Road area has informed us that the footpath connecting The Street and Homing Road has been closed to access by a fence being erected across the footpath. It appears that the owners of the land on one side of the path have now purchased the land on the other side of the path. They keep horses and to secure the plot they have fenced in the combined areas without any means of passage to pedestrians ECC to be advised of the situation.

Planning and Development

Cllr Wood reported on the following planning application:

09/00026/FUL Change of use application to relocate displaced caravan pitches from Firs Park on adjacent land with 47 additional pitches in a low density informal layout including the creation of a lake, landscaping and tree and woodland planting allied to the proposed upgrading and restructuring of the existing park (new informal low density layout and landscaping) at Firs Caravan Park, 29-31 London Road

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.20pm to allow residents to voice their concerns and reconvened at 8.30 pm

It was agreed by the Parish Council to oppose this application and the reasons are attached to these Minutes.

Applications determined:

08/01613/FUL Continued use of land for stationing of storage containers at Colvils Yard, Holland Road - REFUSED

08/01678/TPO Tree work at Hawthorns, Homing Road - APPROVED

08/01674/LBC Swains Farm, 89 The Street - APPLICATION NOT REQUIRED

08/01592/FUL Extension, bedroom, swimming pool and pool room. Car Port to east elevation, The Paddocks, 52 Weeley Road - APPROVED

TDALC

No report

LITTLE CLACTON PARISH FIELDS AND YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

Cllr Cutting reported that pitch hire bookings have again been affected by adverse weather conditions, although there was a full programme over the last weekend.

It has now been agreed that the Youth Bus will attend on a weekly basis for the next 12 weeks. Planning continues for the Home and Garden shown and the Classic Car Show this summer. The Car Boot season will start on 14 June and continue until 11 October.

The Chairman plans for a rather adventurous Garden Show in the village, with bands, kite flying and stalls. Provision must be made for possible adverse weather and some of the stalls etc must be under cover. The hire of a marquee would be at least £800.

Following consideration of the matter, it is proposed that the Parish Field Committee and the Parish Council combine together in order to buy some very large party tents at £199.99 each.

It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Watson and agreed that the Parish Council set aside £1,000 to purchase at least four units.

VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Dunnett reported that the hall is nearly fully booked on weekdays and has a new venture – dog training.

MILLENNIUM GREEN

No report

TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL

Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie said that there is to be a Planning Forum on 17 March at Weeley commencing at 7.30 pm.

There is to be a fun activity programme for children at half term.

CORRESPONDENCE

Essex County Council

Making the Links

Footpath 8 – Definitive Map Modification

Essex Speed Management Strategy – draft

Passed to Cllr Cutting

Civic Service, Chelmsford Cathedral

Tendring District Council

Forward Plan 88

Precept comparisons

A & J Lighting Solutions

Lighting maintenance and repair specialists

Passed to Cllr Watson

Grassroots

Small grants for community organisations

FINANCE AND CHEQUES AUTHORISATION

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

Receipts:

ATC rent - £500.00

Cheques issued:

	£
E.ON Energy	272.77
May Gurney Ltd (lighting repairs)	145.25
Romadorns (Xmas lighting)	132.22
Boldens Signage Solutions (Plough Corner)	274.83
Boldens Signage Solutions (gates open sign)	85.07
Heaven Sent (flowers, Mrs Genery)	27.00
Dell Incorporated (ink)	146.28
G R Harrison (PCM87 and 88)	1017.75
Ashby Metalworks (WP80)	453.10
Kendall Contract Services	361.68
Glasdon UK Ltd (bollards)	869.10
Euro-Fire Ltd (PCM85)	232.09
Namesco Ltd (Starter Host)	103.49

ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

None

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie - 21 February, a table top sale - £6 per table in aid of the Youth Theatre

Cllr Dunnett - asked about the allotments and was advised these were not provided automatically

Cllr Skeels

- pot holes are increasing and he has asked the Highways Engineers to check sites

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday, 2 March 2009 at 7.30 pm at the Youth and Community Centre

There being no further business in the public section, the Chairman closed the meeting to members of the public at 9.00 pm

The Chairman reconvened the Council meeting in private session at 9.16 pm.

VACANCY FOR PARISH COUNCILLOR

The Chairman advised members that Tendring District Council had advised us that we must co-opt a member as there had been no application for an election.

He said that there had been one written application from Mr R A Bellamy.

It was proposed by Cllr Cutting, seconded by Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie and agreed unanimously that Mr R A Bellamy be co-opted to the Parish Council.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.20 pm.

Chairman
2 March 2009