

LITTLE CLACTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE
YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY,
1 MARCH 2010 AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT

Cllr J Couzens in the Chair

Cllrs R Bellamy, J Cutting, De Vaux Balbirnie, J Dunnett, Miss L Gray, R Smith, Mrs E Ward, P Watson and Mrs A Wood

There were 3 residents, PCSO Barnes and NSO Sharman present.

ITEMS RAISED BY RESIDENTS

The drain outside 46A The Street floods right across the road as there appears to be a blockage between the drain and the ditch behind the post office. It was agreed to talk to County Highways about the discharge of water into the ditch.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Leatherdale and Dass

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 1 FEBRUARY 2010

There were approved and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

(a) Vacancy for Parish Councillor

One application had been received and members agreed to co-opt Mrs Tracey Ismaili to the vacant seat following a proposal by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie

MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD

(a) Internet – it was agreed that the Clerk contact Mr Todd for advice regarding extra software.

(b) Highway Matters. – Cllr Watson reported that with regard to Harwich Road footpath, the Highways Manager said that the recent bad weather has caused extensive damage and pot holes to the road. This repair work is being given top priority. Other remedial work will be re-scheduled when the major repairs are completed but he is unable to give any dates at this time.

A resident has informed Cllr Watson that he has removed over 40 fly posted leaflets related to caravan sales that were posted around the village. Is fly posting illegal. He had commented on this problem with circus posters last year. It was agreed to contact TDC Environment Services about this matter. It appears that the sponsoship for some of the local roundabouts has not been renewed. There is quite an amount of rubbish on the one at the London Road end of the village and he wondered if this means it not now included in the street cleaning programme. It was agreed to write to County Highways with a copy to TDC.

(c) Affordable Housing – the copy of the 106 agreement has been read and members agreed with its contents.

An email had been received from Mrs Groborz regarding the next steps to be taken and it was agreed to set up a sub-committee of three members to talk with the Housing Association and Mrs Groborz about seeking a suitable site. These will be the Chairmam, Cllrs Watson and Ismaili

(d) Parish Archives – nothing to report

(e) **Youth and Community Building Extension – Cllr Watson reported that work continues slowly mainly due to the recent bad weather and it is hoped that an extra push will be made by the contractor to try and make up some of the lost time. The external and internal walls and roof trusses are completed, once the roof is made water tight progress can be made on the electrical wiring and flooring. The types of light fittings has been agreed but we are still waiting for cost and details of the kitchen units. We have finally made contact with ECC regarding the problem we have found with the disposal of storm water from this building. The existing drain run should discharge into the ditch that runs at the back of the site but on inspection it was found to be blocked and broken by service pipes laid in the ECC compound. The ECC site suffers with flooding and they cannot establish that they have the right to discharge water into the ditch. Even if that were permissible, it could not happen as the ditch is filled with rubbish well above the pipe discharge level. We intend to install collection tanks and pump the water into the combined drainage system that runs down the side of the entrance road. Without the existing drainage and discharge into the ditch we will have to excavate a new drain run and construct a soak-away which will incur us with additional costs. Cllr Watson will try to establish if there are any conditions in the land documents relating to site drainage. The ECC Officer was not interested in a site meeting with us and inferred that we would have to contact the service suppliers regarding damage to the drain.**

POLICE/CRIME PREVENTION

PCSO Barnes and NSO Robert Sharman spoke about their visits to the Apple Tree Public House and the various residents in the area and reported on a meeting with the Licensing Officer of Tendring District Council which gave some support to the various complaints about the running of this public house. The Chairman then read a letter from Mr Reilly, the new manager, which promised various events to help the village. There were a few incidents in the village during the month which included absconding from The Lodge, problems at Meadowview Park and the Apple Tree. There were road traffic collisions in Thorpe Road and The Street. The police contact number is 0300 3334444, extension 487603.

WORKING PARTY REPORTS

Maintenance and Services

Cllr Watson reported that the temporary Parish Council equipment store is completed and the equipment from the containers is being rehoused in the storage unit. On completion arrangements will be made to remove the old containers. Our electrician has the opportunity to purchase a quantity of standard type colour light bulbs at an approximate cost of £40. It was agreed that he should make this purchase.

Cllr Watson has been asked if the Parish Council would consider donating a small monthly amount to provide flowers for the village memorial. In view of the military action currently taking place, there are some members associated with the village who are directly involved, and it would be a nice gesture from residents at home to show support. The amount envisaged would be £8/£10 a month. It was proposed

by Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie, seconded by Cllr Cutting and agreed that a sum of £10 per month would be an appropriate amount for this purpose.

ECC are prepared to provide salt bins for a charge of £350 to supply, install and maintain and the cost would be reviewed on an annual basis. If the bin is deemed unsafe, the sponsor will be charged for a replacement or if the sponsorship is not reviewed, the bin will be removed. ECC contracts will replenish the salt when asked and as materials are available. The salt will be used on a 'self help' basis. Existing bins could be removed if considered in bad condition, unsafe location or not apparently in use. The Parish Council were not interested.

Street Lights – nothing to report

Footpaths – Homing Road footpath has been installed..

Planning and Development

Cllr Wood reported on the following applications;

10/00076/FUL Erection of a two storey extension at the rear of property, using existing approved one metre deep footings. At present these footings are the base of a conservatory, which will be taken down and replaced by the two storey extension at 186 Harwich Road

It was agreed to write to TDC with no objection

10/00077/FUL Erection of a porch to the front of house at 186 Harwich Road

Agreed to write to TDC saying not opposed but feel the arch detail in the windows should be maintained in the entrance porch.

10/00108/FUL Redevelopment to provide two four bedroom houses and associated parking at 163 The Street

Agreed to write to TDC with no objection but feel you should be mindful of the egress as there is a bus stop and keep left sign just outside. The Council also feel there should be a planting scheme for the properties

Applications determined:

09/01329/FUL - Hayes Garage, additional parking: Approval - full

10/00001/FUL - 124 The Street: Refusal - full

TDALC

Nothing to report

LITTLE CLACTON PARISH FIELDS AND YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

Cllr Bellamy reported that weather conditions have continued to affect activities at Plough Corner as well as other sports fields in the district. As a result there is a growing backlog of football matches to be played. Our groundsman will endeavour to accommodate these subject to other demands already booked on Parish Fields, as the busy Summer season approaches. We are pleased to report a growing number of regular bookings for Youth and Community Hall in addition to the use by Clacton Coastal Academy. This bodes well for the future use of this hall when the extension and refurbishment is completed.

VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Dunnett said that the lunch club is continuing at the present time. The AGM is on 17 March at 7.30pm

MILLENNIUM GREEN

The new picnic table/seat for the Millennium Green has been delivered and stored in the Parish Council store ready for collection.

TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL

Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie said he was hopeful the £2,000 grant for each Councillor to use within his area would be restored. The Budget is causing problems but, hopefully, will benefit the district as a whole.

CORRESPONDENCE

Essex County Council

Making the Links

Developers Guide Infrastructure – passed to Cllr

Cutting

Tendring District Council

Forward Plan 101

St George's Day Ball

Firs Caravan Park – agreed to make an official

complaint to the Monitoring Officer

Overview & Scrutiny Work 2010/11

Guinness Trust

Tendring Home Improvements Agency

RCCE

2010 Village of the Year Competition

Agreed not to enter

EALC

Audit and Risk Assessment – Finance Committee

Essex Heritage

C J & D A Duke

Freedom of Information Act – request for

Information

Harold Wagstaff

Lunch Club – thanks

EFPA

The Playing Field – passed to Cllr Bellamy

FINANCE AND CHEQUES AUTHORISATION

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

Receipts:

TDC Tree Grant: £180.00	
Cheques issued:	£
Daniel Connal Partnership	158.10
E.ON Energy	279.11
Bendale Web Design	88.00
Ashby Metalworks (SF99)	3210.10
T R Venn	498.20
Pat'erns Network UK Ltd	158.63
Allianz Insurance plc	203.28
G R Harrison Electrical	395.00
May Gurney Ltd	255.00
Kendall Contract Services	387.99
TR Venn	1057.50

ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

None.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman – meeting with Cllrs Stock and Halliday and raised various matters

Cllr Watson – neighbourhood watch – papers passed to CllrWood

Cllr Smith – starting out a neighbourhood watch schemem in Cooks Green

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There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.50pm

The next meeting will be held at the Youth and Community Centre at 7.00pm on Monday, 12 April 2010 and this will be followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 8.00 pm

**Chairman
12 April 2010**