

**LITTLE CLACTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE
YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY,
1 AUGUST 2011 AT 7.30 PM**

PRESENT

Cllr Peter Watson in the Chair

Cllrs Mrs M Balbirnie, R Bellamy, De Vaux Balbirnie, J Dunnett, Miss L Gray, D Land, R Smith Mrs E Ward and Mrs A Wood.

There were 8 residents present.

ITEMS RAISED BY RESIDENTS

No items were raised.

Cllr Watson presented the Parish Shield to Mr and Mrs Meyers with thanks for way in which they had kept the flower tub on the corner of Tan Lane so full of beautiful flowers throughout the year.

APOLOGIES

An apology was received from Cllr Cutting. A letter of resignation has been received from Mr J Couzens. It was agreed to write to him with thanks for his leadership, expertise and work during his 12 years as Chairman and to wish him and his wife a very long and happy retirement. The Clerk will arrange for the usual advertising procedure to commence.

ANY ARISING URGENT MATTERS

(a) Appointment of Chairman

It was proposed by Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie, seconded by Cllr Smith and agreed that Cllr Peter Watson be appointed Chairman. Cllr Watson agreed to accept the appointment and duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

The Chairman then proposed that Cllr Ray Bellamy be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council, this was seconded by Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie and agreed.

MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON 4 JULY 2011

These were approved and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

(a) Vacancy for Parish Councillor

An application to be considered for the vacancy created by the resignation of Mrs Ismaili had been received from Mr Graham Bush, a member of the parish fields organisation. His co-option to the Parish Council was proposed by Cllr Bellamy, seconded by Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie and agreed.

MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD

(a) Highway Matters: Cllr Smith brought members up to date with what is happening in Holland Road. He had met with the representatives of Network Rail who were horrified at the state of the bridge and were to recommend a weight and speed restriction in the area. Cllr Smith was asked to email Network Rail thanking them for their invitation to join them during their site visit to the bridge and ask for us to be kept informed of progress. The Member of Parliament had also written to say he had written to Paul Bird of ECC Highways asking for his comments.

(b) Parish Business - Cllr Watson reported that he had knowledge of two interested applicants. The advertisement has been published by the EALC this week.

(c) Youth and Community Building Extension - Cllr Watson reported that we have received satisfactory answers to the items queried in the extras list and have asked the architect to issue the final certificate unless he has any further queries.

(e) Queen's Diamond Jubilee – Cllr Watson said that the idea of a 'Village Day' seems to be quite popular and suggested that later in the year, say October, we write to all the village organisations inviting them to join a steering group to organise and co-ordinate the various activities of the day. Money towards the event will be set aside in next year's precept. The Parish Church have asked if the Parish Council would sponsor the purchase of six seat cushions to be worked by some of the ladies in time for the Jubilee celebration. The cost would be just over £200 and considering the time element, would members be prepared to undertake this. It was proposed by Cllr Land, seconded by Cllr Wood and agreed to sponsor the six seat cushions at a cost of approximately £200. Cllr Bellamy said that the Woodlands Trust has various tree planting schemes to celebrate the Jubilee. He was asked to seek details.

POLICE/CRIME PREVENTION

The Clerk read PCSO Haycraft's report on the various incidents which had occurred during July, which included criminal damage, suspicious circumstances, burglary, civil dispute, RTCs, missing persons, faulty traffic signals, a fire and a Section 165 seizure.

The Chairman reported of complaints received on noise disturbance in Feverells Road and young people riding motor cycles around the bridle path, which is a danger to horse riders and dog walkers. The bridle path is a public open space and it was felt that the motor cycle riders were too young to have insurance cover and this could cause problems in the event of an incident.

WORKING PARTY REPORTS

Maintenance and Services

Cllr Watson said the six 'No Parking on the Greens' notices have been delivered and will be installed when the best locations have been decided. There is an inherent fault with the internal pipework of the heating system boiler. The boiler has been registered and replacement part free of charge will be fitted during the next servicing. A resident in Feverells Road has advised that a new neighbour has been dumping builders rubbish in the ditch at the bottom of the gardens. The adjacent land owner has been informed. It is hoped to replace several trees that have died due to the recent very dry period and to plant an avenue of trees down the edge of the playing field. It is hoped to submit the proposals and prices to TDC to be included in their Tree Planting programme.

Street Lights – County lights in The Street have been reported out twice including the zebra crossing. An email from County Highways just received has notified a 24hr callout to deal with the problems and a new lantern is required to Lamp No. 31. The light out in Elm Road will be reported to our contractor.

Footpaths – nothing to report

Planning and Development - Cllr Wood reported on the following applications:

11/00667/FUL Partial front and full width rear extension at 28 Harwich Road

It was agreed to write to TDC with no objection.

11/00795/FUL Proposed conversion of existing garage to study at 12 Sunnyside Way

It was agreed to write to TDC with no objection

11/00809/FUL Proposed rear extension to form additional accommodation at 65 Feverells Road

It was agreed to write to TDC with no objection

Applications determined:

11/00535/FUL The Orchard, Grove Road Refusal – Full

11/00648/FUL Greenacres, Betts Green Road Approval – Full

11/00677/FUL 18 Amerells Road Approval – Full

INTERNET – Cllr Bellamy reported that the arrangements are proceeding smoothly. The new webmaster is in the process of upgrading and updating a number of existing pages to present a more uniform appearance. The Village Life pages are those most likely to have out of date information so could interested parties check these and let him know if they wish any changes to be made.

TDALC

No report.

LITTLE CLACTON PARISH FIELDS AND YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

Cllr Bellamy reported all the facilities at Plough Corner continue to be used on a regular and increasing basis. It seems likely that we will have increased use of the football pitches in the coming season. Site security is closely monitored and it may be necessary to update the scope of CCTV coverage to include the road gates.

The Chairman said that a special CCTV camera to cover the entrance gates would cost about £1,000 and have night capacity. In view of the scheduled clearing of sites in the north of the County it was felt the money would be well spent and quotations should be sought to implement the system. An additional lock has been fitted to the road gates to enhance security. This is necessary for the security of the whole complex and it was agreed to seek quotes for this work.

VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Dunnett said that work is due to start during August on the playground equipment, the exact date is not certain.

MILLENNIUM GREEN

Cllr Mavis Balbirnie reported on her recent inspections of the Millennium Green and said that the wild flowers are still blooming and the pond is buzzing with wildlife activity. She is making arrangements for a compost container to be made up and placed in a suitable position and will arrange a meeting with Mrs Darnell to seek to update and improve the area and will consider fund raising efforts in order to meet costs of the improvements.

TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL

Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie gave a written report to members of the activities at TDC which included the closure of Martins Farm, Highway Ranger Service, St Johns Road development being put on hold, update on Heads of Departments, planning committee site visits and Gunfleet Sands wind turbine demonstrations. He also passed to members the consultation paper regarding planning for Travellers sites.

The Chairman asked what can be done about the fly posting of events at the Princes Theatre throughout the village and what has happened to the bollards put out by the car boot workers which were removed by the contractors working around Plough Corner. Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie agreed to look into the matters raised.

CORRESPONDENCE

Essex County Council

Making the Links

Proposed changes to Recycling Centres

Tendring District Council

Forward Plan 118

Polling District and Polling Place Review

Douglas Carswell MP

Speeding traffic, Holland Road

FINANCE AND CHEQUES AUTHORISATION

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

Cheques issued:	£
Mrs A L Owens (salary etc)	551.10
Mrs A L Owens (expenses)	31.03
Kendall Commercial Services	499.20
E.ON	285.48
RCCE (annual subscription)	55.00
Clacton Business Services	27.00
Family Support – Clacton	125.00
Ashby Metalworks (WP110)	144.00
Ashby Metalworks (SF112)	528.00
Smiths Service Centre (LPC 11)	7.95
Viking (telephone)	56.96
Ashby Metalworks (SF114)	469.20
HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE)	378.49
RB Design Solutions	100.00
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ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

None.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm
The next meeting will be held at the Youth and Community Centre at 7.30pm on
Monday, 5 September 2011.

Chairman

5 September 2011

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Having been a member of this Parish Council during five chairmen, I thought it would be an advantage to start the new session with some ground rules that, I hope, will help keep us on the straight and narrow and keep us better informed without taking up more of our time.

I would prefer to run our meetings on a friendly basis but fully in line with the official and appropriate procedures. No doubt the Clerk will keep us in line regarding the legal aspects.

No involvement with politics and no monologues Other than during the 'Residents' section, discussions and comments are between councillors – not including or playing to the audience.

Any comment to the press or public are your own individual opinions – you can say you are a Councillor but do not infer that you represent the LCPC. Only the Clerk issues statements on behalf of the PC.

When an item has been discussed and the motion is passed by a majority, we must accept that decision whether as an individual we agree or not, we do not keep revisiting.

There are some proposed changes I would like to see that I have not yet even discussed with the Clerk.

The meeting minutes are prepared, ready for approval and issue in the same week as the meeting and issued as soon as possible. The Agenda to be prepared and issued during the 3rd week of the month. Any correspondence that is to be sent from the meeting should be typed and posted in that same week.

All incoming mail to be listed, but only those items appertaining to Little Clacton will be read out, the remaining items will be available in a folder here at the back. Likewise, copies of all outgoing mail will be held in a folder here at the back. All correspondence passing through Councillors will be copied to the Clerk.

The **full set of documents** relating to a planning application that has been recommended for refusal by the PC working party will be kept on file for a minimum of a year. On the larger projects a copy of **all the documents and refusal reasons** will be kept for at least two or three years.

Any comments you may have on these suggestions we can discuss at the next PC meeting along with any current procedures you feel could be changed to improve the Council workings.

Peter Watson