

LITTLE CLACTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE
ON MONDAY 2nd JULY 2012 AT 7.30PM.

PRESENT

Cllr P Watson (chairman)

Cllrs R Bellamy, G Bush, J Cutting, P De-Vaux Balbirnie, Mrs M Balbirnie, J Dunnett, Miss L Gray, M Joyce, R Smith,
Mrs A Wood

There were 4 residents present

ITEMS RAISED BY RESIDENTS

A member of the public mentioned the bad state of the grass verges. Cllr Watson explained that the rain had stopped the contractors from doing the agreed two cuts in June, but they hoped to make up the extra cut at a later date.

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Mrs E Ward

MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON 11th June 2012

These were held over until the next meeting due to the Auditors currently being in possession of the Minute Book.

MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Watson reported that an order had been placed for civil works to both the entrance and exit driveways to the car park, which will be completed within the next two weeks. Other site users will be informed of the work when a date has been confirmed. New road signs will be purchased and erected after the work is finished.

MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD:

(a) Highway Matters Cllr Smith has been in contact with ECC Highways regarding speeding and the weight restriction on the rail bridge in Holland Road but has still not had a reply. Cllr. Balbirnie could not confirm if the 7.5 tonne limit on Weeley Bridge had been removed and would investigate further.

Pot holes in the Road – ECC Highways have found a small budget to help repair the worst affected areas, although there is a great demand, hopefully Little Clacton can get its share.

b) Parish Business

Cllr Watson stated that there was a new Code of Conduct and that the Declarations of interest forms had been sent out to all Councillors to complete. These were duly completed and presented to the Clerk by all Councillors.

c) Village Development Boundaries Following the meeting with Gary Ashby, Cllr Watson compiled a list of the Council agreed submissions and together with a map, were delivered to Weeley Council Offices by hand to ensure receipt in time for consideration. A response was received a few days later, a copy of which has been distributed to all Councillors. The reply is not exactly what we were hoping for, but there will be further opportunity to comment when the draft plan is available. Cllr De-Vaux Balbirnie requested that Cllr Watson wrote back to the Planners saying that the Parish Council considered that the Village Hall, Harold Lilley Playing Field and Engaines School should be excluded from the Village Envelope and reinstate the original demand.

POLICE/CRIME PREVENTION

Cllr Cutting reported that there was no response from PC. Haycraft regarding the abandoned vans, however, one has now gone and the other now has a tax disc. A crime report for 11th May to 12th June has been received, with 44 incidents and 5 crimes for the Little Clacton Area.

WORKING PARTY REPORTS

(a) Maintenance and services

Cllr Watson is planning a ceremony to officially acknowledge the Jubilee Oak tree and commemorative seat, and will forward details as soon as a date has been confirmed. Engraved plaques are to be added to record the event.

Cllr Watson reported that the electrician will be completing his inspections soon, and while he is on site, a quote will be sought to supply and install an outside light on the corner of the Parish Youth and Community building to illuminate the path, kerb and roadway over to the car park entrance. Cllr Watson stated that 2 tonnes of crushed concrete had been purchased to backfill some of the deepest holes in the field roadways, which has now been laid.

i) Street lights There was no report this month.

ii) Footpaths Cllr Gray reported that all was fine with the footpaths in our area, although there was some trouble with large dogs, belonging to an owner in Holland Road whose property backs onto the 100 acre field escaping and attacking another owners dog whilst walking the footpath. It was reported that the Police were now involved. Cllr Cutting is to make enquiries with PC Haycraft. Complaints had been received regarding an overgrown hedge on the corner of The Street and Harwich Road. Cllr Watson stated that this is not the Parish's responsibility to maintain and asked the Clerk to write to the owner of the site to put the work in hand. A complaint was received regarding the hedges and ditches along St Osyth Road near to house number 50. Cllr. Balbirnie said he would look at the area and talk to the Rangers Team Leader if work was required

(b) Planning and Development

i) Applications to date

Cllr Wood reported that there were no applications or determinations this month

INTERNET

Cllr Bellamy stated that there was nothing to report this month.

TDALC

There was no report this month.

LITTLE CLACTON PARISH FIELDS AND YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

Cllr Bellamy reported that the football season has now ended following the Cubs and Scouts five a side tournaments. The Sunday car boot sales continue under new supervision although one sale had to be cancelled due to bad weather. All other facilities continue to be used on a regular basis.

VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Dunnett reported that a grant for £200 had been received from Colchester and Tendring Grass Roots for repairs and recovering the Snooker Table. Litter bins for the playground are inadequate and need replacing. Quotes are being sought. Unfortunately after just a short period in office, the bookings Clerk has resigned, however Julie Peck has been appointed to take over, her phone number is 01255 861101, and mobile number is 0780 541 7896.

MILLENNIUM GREEN

Cllr. M Balbirnie reported that the Highways Rangers have made a start on the verge on Elm Road, at the side of the Millennium Green. Unfortunately, they were called away for other business before finishing. The Chairman of the Trustees has advised that a special meeting is to be arranged in the next few weeks to consider the work that needs doing on the Green, now that the grass cutter has been given notice. In the meantime her Husband will do the work free of charge. Recently, Mr and Mrs Darnell had planted some plugs on the Green, and used weed killer on the couch grass, to give the plugs a chance. Mrs M Balbirnie was told that Mrs Darnell had instructed the grass cutting Contractor to replace the fencing that had previously been taken down as it was rotten and a danger to the public. Mrs M Balbirnie is to make enquiries regarding this in view of the new notices that had been provided.

Mr David Wilkin has been asked to look at the bushes and trees which need attention. The Chairman of the Trustees had contacted the Clerk regarding information on insurance for the Millennium Green. The Clerk confirmed that the Millennium Green was not covered by any policy held by Little Clacton Parish Council as property not directly owned or managed cannot be covered by a third party. Following the previous suggestion of fund-raising, the Chairman is considering a date to hold a quiz to raise funds for the Green.

TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL

Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie reported on the following:-

LDF – Sites are still being considered and is not expecting news any time soon.

Travellers – A split decision had been reached on the Gutteridge Hall Site.

Rural Infrastructure Problems – TDC is joining forces with 27 other Town and Parish Councils to campaign for improvements to services in rural areas.

Swan Care and Keep Safe Card Scheme – At the Open Day, it was confirmed that this is a step in the right direction in safeguarding the more vulnerable in our society.

Free Parking Permit – Tendring District Council residents will soon be receiving a car parking permit valid until March 2013, for use in all TDC car parks.

Olympic Torch Run – It was reported that there would be celebratory Torch run in Tendring on 20th July. The run would pass through many villages throughout Tendring, and it is hoped that the public will turn out and show their support.

Cllr Watson reported that he had been invited to meet the Leader of Tendring District Council, Neil Stock with some other Parish Council Chairmen to discuss flooding and other issues of concern. Some Parish Councils have serious problems with flooding to domestic and business properties with sewage backing up in some situations. Fortunately Little Clacton's problems are mainly caused and involve poor highway drainage. Many Councils reported poor communications and virtually no responses from ECC Highways. Considerable time was spent in the Cabinet Meeting discussing the distance the Olympic Torch was going to spend in our area. It was interesting to hear that several million pounds had been set aside in the budget to provide Council owned property.

CORRESPONDENCE

ECC

Making the links
Temporary 10mph Speed Limit
B1441 London Road, The Street, Little Clacton

Tendring District Council

Forward plan 129

St James PCC

Application for a Grant to maintain the Parish Church Burial Ground

Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie proposed a grant of £3000 was made to St James Church, seconded by Cllr Cutting and unanimously agreed.

FINANCE AND CHEQUE AUTHORISATION

The up to date balance of the Councils accounts were agreed and noted.

Cheques issued :	£
RB Design Solutions	100.00
Kendall Commercial Services	524.66
Mr J Cutting (Jubilee)	230.00
May Gurney Ltd	368.52
R T Litho Ltd (Jubilee Programmes)	194.00
HMRC (PAYE)	450.40
Viking (Stationary)	40.75
Clacton Business Services Ltd (PAYE)	<u>36.72</u>
	<u>2,628.60</u>

Cllr Cutting submitted a draft financial report of the Jubilee celebrations in June. The figures were discussed and agreed. The Parish Councils contribution was £2,174.

ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

None

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Cutting reported that there had been fly tipping at Cooks Green, following many emails to and from TDC it was removed by Friday,.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15pm.

The next meeting will be held at the Youth and Community Centre at 7.30pm on Monday, 6th August 2012.

Chairman

6th August 2012