

LITTLE CLACTON PARISH COUNCIL
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE YOUTH AND
COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY 3RD JUNE 2013 AT 7.00PM.**

PRESENT

Cllr P Watson (chairman)

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

There were 8 residents present, PC Dan Heard and the County Councillor A Erskine.

1. APOLOGIES

Cllr Mrs E Ward, Cllr Joyce

2. MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON 13th May 2013

These were approved and signed by the Chairman.

3. MATTERS ARISING

None

4. POLICE/CRIME PREVENTION

PC Dan Heard reported that there had been 41 calls to police the last month and 10 of these were recordable crimes. He said that people could now follow him on Twitter using @PCDanHeard . This twitter feed will enable information to pass around more quickly. PC Heard reported that the speed gun had been returned, recalibrated and he had a new book of tickets ready to issue. He also said that he would check out any locations suggested to him regarding 'speeding in the Village' for suitability in using the speed gun.

Cllr Watson informed the Parish that following an email to a Senior Officer at Clacton Police Station, he had a visit from the Police on Monday 27th May. Initially, they apologised for not immediately following up our reported theft, which was made seven weeks ago. This was due to the original officer leaving the force without forwarding the case to another officer, the email had brought it back to their attention. Copies of all correspondence and the sequence of events was given to PC Heard, who will now check on any progress made and keep us up to date on the investigation.

5. MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD

(a) Highway Matters

Cllr Smith reported that MP D Carswell had been contacted regarding pot holes and the zebra crossing. He replied that he was to give ECC a firm nudge. Cllr Smith reported that there had been accidents at the junction of Thorpe Road and Holland Road and that the air ambulance had been called regarding an incident at the end of Ameralls Road on Saturday 1st June.

b) Parish Business

Cllr Watson reported that the Parish Council insurance has been set up for a five year term covering public and employee liability, buildings and assets. The premium is fixed, subject to no claims being made, for the five year period and in fact is slightly less than our previous premiums.

6. WORKING PARTY REPORTS

(a) Maintenance and services

Cllr Watson reported that the drain connections and construction of the inspection chamber in the entrance roadway should have started on the 21st May, but a high pressure gas main and electrical services were located nearby to the excavations and can only start with National Grid approval. It is hoped that an agreement will be reached tomorrow, with the Parish Church on the specification and schedule for the burial ground maintenance contract. When the tenders have been received, a contract will be signed for a two year period as agreed at the last Parish meeting. The cost of this maintenance will be deducted from the amount agreed by the Parish Council in response to the Church annual grant application.

Street lights The Chairman reported that two tenders had been received covering the maintenance of the Parish Council owned street lights for a three year period. Initially, the intention is to have each lighting unit cleaned, the bulb replaced and to have a written report on the condition of each lighting unit. The cost for the 104 units that are owned by the Parish Council, is £28.95 each, a total of £3010.80. The Chairman proposed that this went ahead and it was seconded by Cllr Bellamy and agreed.

The tenders for the three year maintenance contract were mainly similar, with three significant differences:- cost of providing the hydraulic platform for each call out; the fixed replacement component prices for the three year period and for the enjoyment of many residents a 48 hour response to outages.

Footpaths

Cllr Gray reported that the footpath by the Blacksmiths Arms following some alterations to the adjoining land was improved and in good order. Cllr Gray requested that we write to Ricky Hayes of Swain's Farm to thank him for the improvements

(b) Planning and Development

i) Applications to date

Cllr Wood reported on the following applications

13/00127/FUL	Ewden, portakabin.	APPROVAL
13/00290/FU	Bungalow, St Osyth Road	APPROVAL
13/00320/FUL	Extension, House adj. Reedlands	APPROVAL

ii) Determinations None

(c) Finance and Organisation of Business

i) Annual Accounts

Cllr Bellamy reported that the 2013 Accounts had been examined by the Finance Working Party and copies have been distributed to Councillors. It was proposed, subject to any questions, by Cllr Bellamy, seconded by Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie and agreed by the Council that the Annual Accounts be adopted

ii) Annual Governance Statement – Cllr Watson read out the Annual Governance statement which was agreed by the Council and signed.

7. INTERNET

Cllr Bellamy reported that the internet was operating well and there was nothing new to report.

8. TDALC

Cllr Mrs H Smith reported that the last TDALC meeting discussed superfast broadband and parishes were urged to log on to the Tendring District Council Website and fill in the survey regarding broadband speeds. The profile of Little Clacton needs to be raised, the more that fill

in the survey the further up the ladder we climb. We will work with both Thorpe & Weeley Parish Councils in expressing concerns over the poor broadband speeds in our areas. Currently only the larger populated towns and areas are being included in the installation of fibre optic cables that will enable faster broadband.

Speed restrictions on the A120, Parking and Wind Farms were also discussed. There will be a Renewable Green Energy meeting at Tendring District Council on 22nd June at 10.30am.

Cllr Mrs H Smith also warned that if solar panels were installed on your roof, you must contact your home insurance providers as your current insurance could void.

Private Roads which are in bad condition are usually the responsibility of the residents.

However, any queries regarding adoption of private roads should be directed to George Elmer at Essex County Council. Cllr Mrs H Smith stated that the next TDALC meeting would be 24th July.

9. LITTLE CLACTON PARISH FIELDS

Cllr Bellamy reported that the Classic Car Show was held on 19th May with record turnout of vehicles and spectators, helped by excellent weather. The Car Boot season is under way.

Cubs and Scouts 5-a-side tournament will be held over the next two weeks.

The Carnival Committee will be using the car park and entrance road on 8th June to form up their procession.

The damage to the bandstand seating has now been repaired. All other facilities are being used on a regular basis

The Chairman reported that the original architects used for Phase 1 of the pavilion extension have been commissioned to act on Phase 2 and the first site meeting was held last week.

The modified drawings will be submitted to Building Control on our approval. Meanwhile the specifications will be completed and tender documents issued. Once all the information is to hand, grant applications will be sought and the Chairman asked Cllr Bellamy if he would head a small sub group to prepare and submit the Grant applications towards funding the project.

10. VILLAGE HALL

Hall: Cllr Dunnett reported that the Village Hall was still waiting for planning permission for the proposed extension to rear of Hall to provide toilets and changing room/ store.

The conditional grant of £10,000 from the Big Lottery has now been confirmed, and should be received within the next fortnight. Work is proceeding on further grant applications.

Field: On the field a half size football pitch suitable for 5-12 year old children has been marked out.

11. MILLENNIUM GREEN

Cllr. Mrs M Balbirnie read out a report which had been distributed to all councillors prior to the meeting, stating the current situation and also the history of the Millennium Green. Ongoing works, fund raising and unofficial work were discussed.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00pm.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 9.10pm

12. TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL

Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie read out his report from the District Council and updated the Parish with the following issues: Travellers – Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie said that the Starena Lodge appeal hearing would be on the 30th July Highway Rangers TDC are to continue this service and the Elm Road area should be completed shortly Local Engagement Forum Meetings The next meeting organised by the NHS in North East Essex are to be held at the CVS office, Rosemary Road, Clacton on Friday 7th June and all are invited to attend. Sea Defence Works TDC are in the final stage of a bid for a £30,million sea defence and enhancement

project along the Tendring Coastline. Tendring Diabetes Forum will be held at the CVST centre, Rosemary Road, Clacton on 6th June 6.30pm to 8pm. ECC meeting re: Weeley Bridge and Tye Bridge. Following a meeting of ECC with Network Rail, ECC are investigating why the weight restriction has not been lifted from the Weeley Bridge.

13. CORRESPONDENCE

ECC	Making the Links
Tendring District Council	Tidy Tendring Campaign
Suffolk ACRE Services	Insurance Renewal
Mr A W Sealey	Pigeon Loft
Mr M A Ince	Grant – Burial Ground
Community Care	Cessation of Local service

14. FINANCE AND CHEQUE AUTHORISATION

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

15. ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

None

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The correspondence from Mr Sealey was discussed.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30pm.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 9.40pm.

The letter from the Community Care service regarding disbanding was read out . Cllr Bellamy is to add the note to the website and a copy will be placed in the notice boards. They also requested that the Parish Council look after a box of paperwork for them, and the Chairman agreed.

Cllr Bellamy mentioned a nuisance group that had started to convene at Parish Fields when the gate was left open.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.55pm.

Chairman

1st July 2013