

LITTLE CLACTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY, 4 AUGUST 2014 AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT

Councillor Peter Watson in the Chair

**Councillors Mrs M Balbirnie, R Bellamy, J Cutting, P De Vaux Balbirnie,
J Dunnett, Miss L Gray, Mrs H Smith, R Smith, B Ward and Mrs A Wood.**

There were 3 residents present.

Before the meeting progressed, the Chairman led 1 minute silence in which the residents and Councillors were requested to reflect on the sacrifices made during the First World War, as today marks the 100 year anniversary of the start of WW1.

1. APOLOGIES

Cllr G Bush, Cllr Mrs E Ward and Audrey Owens (Clerk)

2. ANY URGENT MATTERS

None

3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7th JULY 2014

Cllr Bellamy proposed and Cllr Wood seconded and all agreed the previous months minutes which were then approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Millennium Green Meadow

We have very recently received the official documents relating to the transfer of ownership of the Millennium Green from the Chairman of the previous trust. Councillor M Balbirnie has to sign the transfer documents as a previous Trustee and two Officers of Little Clacton Parish Council are to sign on behalf of the Council. These documents will then be returned to the solicitors acting on behalf of Natural England to receive their seal of approval, and thus complete the transfer of ownership.

Planning Issues

Little Clacton Parish Council have received two replies to letters expressing our concerns over the handling of the planning application for 6 properties at 36 Holland Road. Both were to our letter to Eric Pickles, not actually from him but his assistants. In a nutshell, they cannot get involved with local applications until it has passed through the appropriate process. We should have immediately registered our concerns with the local Monitoring and Standards Officer, who, if they considered our objections valid would then pass it onto the ombudsman who in turn would then involve the Secretary of State. (copies of the replies will be held on file).

Sadly, there has been no reply, even courtesy of an acknowledgement from either of the TDC Officers. Surely, the Chief Executive Officer when confronted with our letter, would have passed the letter on to the Standards/Monitoring

Officer thereby starting the complaint process. **It was agreed for the Clerk to write to the TDC Standards Officer regarding the lack of response from both the CEO and Planning Portfolio Holder to our correspondence relating to the approval of the Planning Application at 36 Holland Road.**

A request was made to the Clerk to write to TDC Planning Department and ask if an Officer could attend a PC meeting to outline the guidelines for us to use when considering planning applications for the Parish.

5.MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD

(a) Highway Matters: Cllr Smith reported that there were concerns regarding the speed and increased traffic along Holland Road. The assistant Clerk was asked to locate the schedule of works issued by Highways a few months back. This should be forwarded to County Councillor Erskine. **A letter is to be sent to Syngenta regarding their entrance markers, as many lorries miss the sign and have to make a very awkward turn around after continuing over the railway bridge.**

(b) Parish Matters

Plans are progressing for the afternoon tea in honour of the Clerk, Mrs Owens who is to partially retire in September 2014.

6.POLICE/CRIME PREVENTION

Cllr Cutting read out a crime report from PCSO Haycraft detailing 5 reported crimes to the end of June. PCSO Haycraft is aware of nuisance youths and the appropriate action is in progress. Councillor Cutting recommended the "Streetwise" website and facebook page, where local people post information about the local area, including news of criminal activity so that residents can be warned if anything is operating in their area.

7.WORKING PARTY REPORTS

(a)Maintenance and Services

Orders have been placed for the replacement footpath lights in both Holland and Elm Roads. We have received details of additional trees that are being covered with TPO's. Both are for Oak Trees: 110 Holland Road, and at St. Olaves, Grove Road.

(1) Street Lights – No report for this month.

(2) Footpaths – Councillor Gray reported that footpath inspections were at Harwich Road and Blacksmiths Arms recently.

(b) Planning and Development

Cllr Wood reported on the following applications:
Applications:

14/00974/OUT
Mrs P Kench & Mrs M
Chamley

Proposed residential development.

Land to South West Junction of Homing
Road & Talbot Road Little Clacton

No Objections

14/00988/OUT
Mr & Mrs T Patrick

Outline planning application with all matters reserved for the residential development of 0.44 ha of land to create 4 detached dwellings with associated garaging and parking.

Torcross Poultry Farm 110 Harwich Road
Little Clacton
Of the four properties, plot 1 is outside the Village Envelope and the other three on land behind are clearly backland development . We therefore object to this application.

14/01057/FUL
Wickland (Holdings) Ltd

Single storey extension to existing bungalow.

The Bungalow Meadow View Park St
Osyth Road
No Objections.

Determinations

14/00663/FUL
Approval - Full
14.07.2014
Delegated Decision

erection of storage building.

Lorry Park at
Bonds Farm
Lodge Road
Little Clacton

8. INTERNET

Cllr Bellamy stated that there was nothing new to report this month. The scrolling headline is regularly updated regarding forthcoming events.

9. TDALC

Roaming Community Agents and Village agents are now being removed by the Rural Authorities.

A survey of Parishes showed that only two were in favour of switching off the lights, the rest were not.

A request was made for improved signage throughout the region now that the traffic has increased through the summer.

Local schools are being encouraged to hold demonstration type Council meetings to introduce children to council meetings and democracy at a young age.

If any land or building sites show signs of hoarding dangerous materials and/or fire hazards, then the fire Authority and Citizen Advice Bureau should be notified. They can come and inspect the site.

10. ESSEX COUNTY COUNCILLOR

County Councillor Erskine stressed the importance of using the correct terminology when dealing with legal matters, especially traveller issues. He hopes to arrange a talk regarding these matters for our October meeting. The Chairman reminded County Councillor Erskine about the road sign matter from last year, and the problems between Weeley Parish Council and Essex County Council. He asked for a progress report for a future meeting.

11. LITTLE CLACTON PARISH FIELDS COMPLEX

Cllr Bellamy reported that there has been a small improvement in the Car Boot sales although two sales had to be cancelled due to bad weather. The season may have to finish in mid September due to pressures from the increased number of football teams using Plough Corner. We will keep the Council informed of developments.

There will be no Car Boot sale on 24th August when the next Classic Car Show will take place, but will resume on 31st August.

The Youth and Community Hall continues to be used on a regular basis.

Pavilion refurbishment

The current phase of the build and refurbishment on the Pavilion is nearing completion with a couple of outstanding items to be completed. Councillor Bellamy will give further details at the next meeting.

12.VILLAGE HALL

Cllr Dunnett reported that the official opening by the deputy Lord Lieutenant of Essex of the new extension took place on Saturday 26th July 2014.

A large number of people attended a short game of football between two girls teams prior to the opening.

Refreshments were provided for everyone on what was a very pleasant and enjoyable day.

The Village Hall committee has decided to go ahead with the installation of a new CCTV security camera system covering the Hall, Car Park and Playground. Work has been almost completed, and we hope that this will prove to be a real benefit to the Hall and Field.

13.MILLENNIUM GREEN

Cllr Mavis Balbirnie is to sign various documents regarding the transfer as soon as possible to finalise matters.

Cllr M Balbirnie reported that trees in Great Bentley had recently been cut, with the lower branches removed allowing good vision, and this same cut would be good for the trees in the Green to reduce crime. Once the Millennium Green has been brought to a manageable state then pond dipping boards could be installed.

14.TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL

Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie gave a written report to members of the activities at TDC during the past month which included

Issues raised by Little Clacton Residents; Weeley Bridge weight restrictions; Travellers on Weeley playing Field; Royal British Legion WW1 Memorial service 4th August; Move to ban Chinese sky lanterns;

LDP Committee – Future meetings will be held at the Princes Theatre, Town Hall, Clacton. The next will be Tuesday 30th September at 6pm;

Clacton Gateway Site – The appeal for non-determination is to be held in the autumn;

Naze Education and Visitor Centre – Work is to start in December for the centre at The Naze, Walton and is hoped to be open by the end of 2015.

Clacton Carnival week 9th-15th August;

Clacton Air Show 21st and 22nd August;

£36million Sea Defence Work – now started along Holland sea front.

15. CORRESPONDENCE

Making the Links

16.FINANCE AND CHEQUES AUTHORISATION

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

Cheques issued:

£

HMRC (PAYE)	172.60
RB Design Solutions	100.00
Kendall Commercial Services (Grounds)	551.33
PJB Architectural Design	2,136.60

E.ON	283.20
Tendring Eldercare	100.00
Abacus Build UK (pavilion)	51,000.00
Clacton Business Services (internal audit)	234.00
Tony Nash (maintenance)	338.00
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17.ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman questioned how the circus are able to fly post, and who issues licence for them and all their flyers which litter all over the parish.

18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The highway rangers have been to Batemans Lane to take a look.
A resident reported by email to the Chairman about youths in the Millennium Green, drinking alcohol and smashing up benches, and increased sightings of rats and litter.

A letter is to be sent in reply to the email.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.35pm

The next meeting will be held at the Youth and Community Centre at 7.30pm on Monday, 1 September 2014.

**Chairman
1 September 2014**