

LITTLE CLACTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY, 1st DECEMBER 2014 AT 7.00 PM

A talk about recycling was held at the start of the meeting by Mr. Foxcroft from Tendring District Council.

PRESENT

Councillor Peter Watson in the Chair

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

There was Essex County Councillor Erskine and 19 residents present.

1. APOLOGIES

Councillor G Bush and Audrey Owens (Clerk) sent their apologies.

District Councillor D C Skeels was not in attendance

2. ANY URGENT MATTERS

None

3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 3rd NOVEMBER 2014

Councillor Balbirnie proposed, Councillor Wood seconded and all agreed the previous months minutes were then approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Councillor Cutting reported that the Application for the Tennis courts was narrowly passed, with just a casting vote as the majority.

The meeting was closed at 8.15pm.

The meeting was opened at 8.17pm.

Millennium Green

The Chairman reported that the clearance work to the hedges and trees at Millennium Green has been completed and included an additional cut to the grass areas. The whole area has been opened up and lets in the light and air. All the foliage and branches have been cleared and it looks nice and tidy. The cost for clearance was around £2,500. It was suggested that the money received from the broadband cabinets could be used resulting in a cost to the Parish Council of just £500.

The Chairman has been working on a form of constitution as guide lines for the management team to work to. This will be passed on to Councillor Balbirnie to consider over the Christmas break.

5. MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD

(a) Highway Matters: Councillor Smith reported that works had been carried out to fix a property in Harwich Road, but there was root damage to the drains, which is a problem.

b) Parish Business:

The Chairman reported that notification had been received in regard to changes to the salary scale for Parish Council employees in 2015, this will be discussed by the Finance Group at their meeting when discussing next years precept and Councillor Bellamy can provide further information if required.

(1) Proposed Meeting Dates 2015

- 5 January
- 2 February
- 2 March
- 13 April **Annual Parish Meeting**
- 18 May **Annual Parish Council Meeting**
- 1 June
- 6 July
- 3 August
- 7 September
- 5 October
- 2 November
- 7 December

6. POLICE/CRIME PREVENTION

Councillor Cutting requested that the latest meeting dates were added to the website and notice boards for the Police/Crime meetings.

7. WORKING PARTY REPORTS

(a) Maintenance and Services

The Chairman reported that as mentioned earlier the initial clearing work at the Millennium green is completed. The hot water and heating boiler here in this building broke down and was considered uneconomical to repair. Due to its urgency, it was decided to proceed and replace the unit quickly as possible as hall bookings would be lost and the new boiler was fitted last Saturday.

(1) **Street Lights** – The Chairman reported that the order was placed for the replacement of nine lights in St Osyth Road east. The Parish Council will continue the replacement programme whilst funds are available.

(2) **Footpaths** – Councillor Gray reported that the fence had gone, from the footpath along Harwich Road. A letter about this was received from a Harwich Road resident.

(b) Planning and Development Councillor Wood reported on the following

(1).Applications:

14/01482/FUL Mr Sadike Miah	Change of use to open licensed Indian restaurant and takeaway.	43 The Street Little Clacton rec. refusal – Unsuitable Position
14/01655/FUL Mr Alastair Strutt	One bungalow.	Land Adjacent to Meadowview Thorrington Road Little Clacton No Objections

14/01668/OUT Mr & Mrs F Bell	Proposed residential development of 0.69 ha of land to form a number of dwellings, associated garaging and parking.	Land North East of Betts Green Road Little Clacton Rec. Refusal – out of Charactor
14/01685/DETAIL Mr G Watson - C/o Agent	Reserved matters application for proposed dwelling following outline application 13/01212/OUT.	Land to rear of 2 & 4 St Osyth Road Little Clacton Rec . Refusal – Backland development, poor access.
14/01690/OUT Mr G Watson	Proposed 2 dwellings.	Land to rear of 2 to 4 St Osyth Road East Little Clacton
14/01705/FUL Greenwich Hospital	Change of use of agricultural barn to two dwellings and associated amenity space.	Bovills Hall St Osyth Road Little Clacton No Objections
14/01706/LBC Greenwich Hospital	Change of use of agricultural barn to two dwellings and associated amenity space.	Bovills Hall St Osyth Road West Little Clacton
14/01733/TPO Mr & Mrs Brian Coupland	T5 - Oak - Trim lower branches & remove growth from trunk.	144 The Street Little Clacton
14/01721/FUL	Proposed Front Porch and two storey rear extension	170 Harwich Road, Little Clacton No Objections

**The meeting was closed at 8.25pm.
The meeting was opened at 8.26pm.**

(2). Decisions:

14/01302/FUL Approval - Full 14.11.2014 Delegated Decision	Erection of bungalow.	Hawthorns 84 Harwich Road Little Clacton Clacton On Sea Essex CO16 9NE
14/01346/FUL Approval - Full 18.11.2014 Delegated Decision	Alterations to roof to facilitate additional rooms in loft space.	21 Harwich Road Little Clacton

The Chairman reported that a modified response to TDC Planning Officers regarding the Oakwood proposal has been sent within the time limit they set us. An application has been received for an Indian restaurant and takeaway which

has raised a lot of concern, including a letter being delivered to all properties in the vicinity. A copy of the letter is held by the Chairman.

**The meeting was closed at 8.33pm
the meeting was opened at 8.35pm.**

(c) Finance and Organisation of Business

1. Precept - Councillor Bellamy reported that the Finance and Organisation of Business Committee had planned to meet last week so as to be able to bring a budget proposal to this meeting for approval. However, we still await information from Tendring District Council regarding their budget for 2015/16 and relative issues.

As soon as we receive this information we will meet, hopefully within the next two weeks, so that we can bring proposals to the next Parish Council meeting in January 2015. The latest date for submission to TDC has been extended until the end of January 2015.

2. Revision of Clerks salary Scales

At the budget meeting we will also discuss recently received details of revisions to the National Pay Scales. This will also be reported back at the next Council Meeting.

8. INTERNET

Nothing new to report with site up to date with all previously advised information.

9. Essex County Councillor

County Councillor Erskine reported that the Essex County Council Council Tax meeting would be on 10th February 2015.

10. TDALC

Councillor H Smith reported that just two topics were discussed at the latest TDALC meeting: Dog fouling and Planning. All districts had complaints regarding these topics.

11. PARISH FIELDS

Organised football has been suspended for the last few weeks due to waterlogged conditions and in order not to cause damage to the playing surface. The groundsman does not foresee any problems in recovering the lost matches later in the season.

The Youth and Community Hall continues in regular use although last week we had to provide temporary heating as the boiler suffered a major fault. Repair would have cost as much as a replacement boiler. It was decided a new boiler was the best option and this was installed at the weekend.

12. PAVILION EXTENSION Councillor Bellamy reported that he was meeting with the contractors to streamline the process. There were currently a few problems with the lights, where they had originally been installed back to front. This is now being sorted out.

13. VILLAGE HALL

Councillor Dunnett reported that a tree and shrub planting day was to be held on 15th February. The Environmental Agency are supplying the trees and some volunteers. More details will be discussed next month. Councillor Dunnett requested that Little Clacton Parish help with the cost of grass and hedge cutting which has been very expensive this year. Their last grant was January 2014. Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie reported that the new CCTV cameras at the Little Clacton Village Hall have assisted in bringing a youth responsible for causing damage on the playing field, before the police and being cautioned. It is hoped that other members of the small group will be deterred from causing problems.

14. MILLENNIUM GREEN

Councillor M Balbirnie reported that the landscapers were doing an excellent job. The pond needs major work, and there is a large amount of rubbish requiring collection. Councillor Ward reported that there will be blackthorn and dog rose bushes planted in the gaps as they appear. The Chairman reported that he had received a box of paperwork and photos from the previous Trustees relating to the Green, which he will pass to Councillor Balbirnie to sort and keep what is necessary.

15. TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL

Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie gave a written report to members of the activities at TDC during the past month which included progress on the following ongoing projects:

LDP Committee; A draft of Tendring District Councils new Local Plan will not now be considered until after the election in May 2015, to avoid political issues. The Local plan committee is to go up from 13 to 15 members.

Weeley Bridge Weight Restrictions; Essex County Councillor Erskine has advised that a public notice has been issued in relation to reducing the speed limit through Weeley, and he expects the notice for lifting the restriction on the Weeley Bridge should follow.

Residents in Tendring urged to be ready for the Big Energy Switch -

Residents and businesses across Tendring could save around £200 per year on their energy bills if they take part in a countrywide switching scheme. Instead of changing providers as an individual there is the opportunity to be part of a group and reap greater rewards. For information go to www.essex.gov.uk/energyswitch.

16. CORRESPONDENCE

EALC

E-bulletin

Tendring District Council

Local plan Newsletter

TDALC

Standards Committee

Mr and Mrs Balbirnie
residents of a
Green.

Donation to Parish Council and
suitable seat for the Millennium

Letter from Harwich Road resident Re: Footpath

17. FINANCE AND CHEQUES AUTHORISATION

The up-to-date balance of the Council's funds was not available for the meeting, but will be noted in January 2015.

Receipts from November:

2 nd instalment precept	37,125.00
Openreach Wayleave	1,950.00

Cheques issued were not available for this meeting, but will be available for the January 2015 meeting.

18. ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

None

19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman reported that there are to be carols on The Green, from 7pm on 9th December, with the Salvation Army Band and refreshments available. The Chairman wished both Councillors and Residents a Happy Christmas and good health in the New Year.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 10.25pm

The next meeting will be held at the Youth and Community Centre at 7.30pm on Monday, 5th January 2015.

**Chairman
5th January 2015**