

LITTLE CLACTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY, 5th JANUARY 2015 AT 7.35 PM

PRESENT

Councillor Peter Watson in the Chair

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

There was Essex County Councillor Erskine and 5 residents present.

District Cllr D C Skeels was not in attendance

Time was allowed for the residents to speak before the meeting began.

1. APOLOGIES: Councillor G Bush, J Dunnett and R Smith sent their apologies.

2. ANY URGENT MATTERS

None

3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 1st DECEMBER 2014

Councillor Bellamy proposed, Councillor E Ward seconded and all agreed the previous months minutes which were then approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

4. MATTERS ARISING

4.1 The chairman requested that let it be recorded our thanks to Councillors De Vaux and Mrs Balbirnie for their donation, in lieu of sending Christmas Cards this year, of a seat to be sited on the Millennium Green.

4.2 The Chairman asked Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie if he had any further information regarding the tree and shrub planting at the Village Hall, who responded that it was being held on 15th February and refreshments would be available.

4.3 The Chairman has finished and given a set of guidelines for the management team of Millennium Green to Councillor Balbirnie who will then have gone through them and suggested any amendments with him. Once these are agreed and in place, their first meeting can be arranged and committee set up. We already know of two residents who are interested in joining the team.

4.4 We were unable to present cheque authorisation and account balance for December, this has been included alongside this months figures.

5. MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD

(a) Highway Matters: Tendring District Council are considering reversing the Essex County Council 'Part night street lighting' policy which will cost up to £44,000 for the remainder of 2014/15, this will be taken from the TDC Contingency fund. Essex County Council identify that the annual saving for the lights in TDC amounts to £127,000 and this amount will be catered for in the budget covering 2015/16.

Council asked for a letter to be sent to TDC explaining we have already included street lighting costs for the year in our budget and to be expected to contribute yet again was unfair. In addition, a third of the Street lights in the Parish are owned, maintained and the running costs are met in our precept and residents should not be called upon to contribute again. (Copy to ECC Cllr)

b) Parish Business:

Councillor Bellamy reported that the Finance Team were to meet in the next week to discuss the precept, Clerk pay scales and Village Hall Grants towards grass cutting

and the new CCTV system. He asked if all those present would prefer a special meeting for all to agree the precept or if he could present the precept for authorisation at the next meeting, after it had been submitted to Tendring District Council. All agreed that the Finance Group could agree the precept, and they would authorise it at the next Parish Meeting.

6. POLICE/CRIME PREVENTION

Councillor Cutting explained that he had not been sent any information this month regarding crime for the last month, but he had emailed PC Haycraft to show his disappointment with the lack of information. PCSO Barnes had announced his early retirement in the Village Newsletter. The reason he gave was due to changes within the service.

7. WORKING PARTY REPORTS

(a) Maintenance and Services

The Chairman has met the owners of the old pet shop who have agreed that we can use their electrical supply for Christmas lights on the Green. The Chairman agreed to take readings prior to and at the end of using the lights and to pass on figures to the owners, who will then invoice us. Cheques are to be made out to the property owner and not the tenants. Following comments on last years lights on Galloway Green, extra sets have been purchased and look a lot better.

It is the time of year that new tenders are sought for the Council maintenance contracts. He asked if any Councillors were aware of any suitable contractors who would be capable of carrying out the work, please give him their details, in the next seven days, bearing in mind that they must have appropriate insurance, experience and references.

(1) Footpath Lights – The replacement of nine lights in St Osyth Road east has now been completed. A total of 16 out of 29 have been done now including Tan Lane. We are waiting confirmation from our contractor on how many more lighting units he has on stock. We still have a small amount left from the money set aside in last years budget and we hope to replace just a few more fittings in the current budget.

(2) Footpaths – Councillor Gray reported that there were new telephone numbers to ring regarding Harwich Road.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8:20 pm

The Chairman opened the meeting at 8:40pm.

Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie declared an interest regarding 14/01883/OUT and did not take part in discussion.

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

14/01852/FUL Amperswick LTD - Mr Iain Senchall	Change of use of land for the extension of the existing holiday park to site 38 static holiday lodge caravans.	Ashleys Caravan Park London Road Little Clacton To be discussed later - Extension to be sought
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14/01858/OUT Mr C Stovell & Mr & Mrs Paris	Two detached dwellings with associated garaging and parking.	Land at Baytree Stables Harwich Road Little Clacton Refusal– re: backland development and outside development boundary.
14/01883/OUT Austin Heating Services	For the residential development of 0.14 ha of land to create two detached dwellings with associated garaging and parking.	Land to The rear of 155 Harwich Road Little Clacton Refusal– re: backland development and outside development boundary.

(2). Decisions:

14/01655/FUL Approval - Full 16.12.2014 Delegated Decision	One bungalow.	Land adjacent to Meadowview, Thorrington Road Little Clacton
14/01733/TPO Approval - Full 16.12.2014 Delegated Decision	T5 - Oak - Trim lower branches & remove growth from trunk.	144 The Street Little Clacton

(c) Finance and Organisation of Business

1. Precept - See under parish business item 5b. would prefer a special meeting for all to agree the precept or if he could present the precept for authorisation at the next meeting, after it had been submitted to Tendring District Council. All agreed that the Finance Group could agree the precept, and they would authorise it at the next Parish Meeting.

8. INTERNET

No report this month.

9. Essex County Councillor

Essex County Councillor Erskine reported that apart from Harwich Road queries, little else had happened over Christmas at County. He stated that it was difficult to define Maintenance from improvements. They were separate budgets. Drain repair falls under maintenance, which is the larger of the two and the budget under the most pressure.

10. TDALC

Councillor H Smith reported that the next meeting was coming up on the 20th January and she would report on it next month.

11. PARISH FIELDS COMPLEX

Councillor Bellamy reported that there had been very little activity at Plough Corner since our last report due to weather conditions and the Christmas and New Year holiday break. Meetings in the Youth and Community Building have restarted this week.

12. PAVILION EXTENSION Councillor Bellamy reported that minor finishing works to Phase 1 have now been completed and hand dryers in the new dressing rooms are being installed.

Phase 2 – new showers, drying room and heating boilers – will be commenced as and when grant funding becomes available.

13. VILLAGE HALL

Councillor Balbirnie reported that the ground was too waterlogged to play on. He said that the planting was going well, and that the CCTV system was working so far.

14. MILLENNIUM GREEN

The Chairman reported that he had now received the bank account details, mandate forms and bank statements up to July 2014. He recommended that a copy of the finalised guidelines and all the bank paperwork is officially handed over to the new team in time for their first meeting.

Councillor M Balbirnie reported that the paperwork from the previous Trustees is now to hand and the Chairman has drawn up a draft of guidelines for the Green.

Councillor Balbirnie has been in touch with Sue Dass, a previous Trustee of the Millennium Green committee, who will be very happy to join the new committee and take an active part in making decisions on the future of the Green. Councillor Balbirnie also intends to approach a further resident who has shown interest in this area, and hopes to arrange a meeting in the next few weeks to get the committee up and running, so that the necessary documentation can be completed.

Councillor Balbirnie is also applying for grant forms to complete for projects such as Elm Road boundary fence and bushes and we need to look at the pond and its surroundings.

Councillor Balbirnie thanked the Chairman, for his efforts on getting the work done on the Millennium Green, and hopes that we will be able to provide an asset that the Village will be proud of again and will be supported by various fund raising activities.

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

Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie said that there was nothing more to report on the LDP. He is still waiting for confirmation regarding the claim that the demand for 12,000 homes came from government.

Weeley Bridge Weight Restriction

No further action has been taken on the weight restriction being removed or speed limits put in place. Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie is to keep chasing due to continuing requests by residents and businesses.

Little Clacton residents Issues

Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie has taken matters up with the relevant authorities regarding issues raised such as flooding, planning and highway bush cutting.

Part Night Street lighting

Parish and Town Councils are being asked to provide evidence either positive or negative of the effect of introducing part night street lighting in our area.

Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie requested that we send a letter pointing out that Little Clacton own most of their own lights, and it is wrong to charge us twice.

Self Care as a New Year's resolution

Doctors at North East Essex Clinical Commission Group are asking local people to consider making self-care as their New Year resolution. They say that those who do, are much less likely to need clinical input. Self-care includes taking regular exercise, eating a healthy and balanced diet and looking after symptoms of everyday illnesses such as flu, coughs and colds, and keeping adequate supplies of 'over the counter' medicines in their cabinet.

Christmas Tree Recycling

A free recycling service is being offered in Tendring as follows on 10th January -
St Osyth Village Hall -10am – 11.30am.

Jaywick resource centre - 12 noon until 1.30pm.

Clactons Martello Car Park and Harwich Park pavillion Car Park 2pm- 3.30pm

Those who use the Council's Garden Waste service will be able to leave their trees out on collection day, next to their brown bin.

16. CORRESPONDENCE

EALC	By Email –E-Bulletin 12 th December
Airvolution Energy Ltd	By Email –Re: Park Hall Wind Turbines
Ruth Crook	By Email –Re: Allotments
Tendring District Council	By Email – RE: Part Night Street Lighting
NHS Clinical Commissioning Group	By Email - Have your say on plans to provide health and social care closer to peoples homes
EEC /BT	By Email – Superfast Essex update
Tendring District Council	By Email – Tax setting information
ECC	By Email – Making the Links -Dec
ECC Highways	By Email – Winter maintenance
Elm Road resident	Letter to Chairman

17. FINANCE AND CHEQUES AUTHORISATION

The up-to-date balance of the Council's funds was noted, and all agreed.

From December report: Cheques issued in November:

	£
HMRC (PAYE)	172.40
E.ON	292.64
RB Design Solutions	100.00
Kendall Commercial Services (PCM142)	1724.40
Kendall Commercial Services (PCM143)	1333.20
Poppy Appeal	17.00
Tony Nash (SF144)	391.00
Tendring Eldercare	100.00
Gastec Installations Ltd (repairs)	1450.00

January report: Cheques issued in December 2014:

£

HMRC (PAYE)	172.60
E.ON	283.20
RB Design Solutions	100.00
Abacus Build (pavilion)	20,975.91
Kendall Commercial Services	551.33
Namesco Ltd (website)	47.99
Tendring Eldercare	100.00
A & J Lighting Solutions	2625.48
TDALC (sub)	15.00
Tony Nash (SF142)(MC2)	513.00

18. ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

None

19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor E Ward enquired about the Apple Tree landscaping progress and Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie agreed to make enquiries for her.

Councillor Cutting reported that he will be calling a meeting regarding the Car Boot season for 2015.

Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie reminded everyone that the Full Council meeting was to be held on Thursday 8th January.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25pm

The next meeting will be held at the Youth and Community Centre at 7.30pm on Monday, 2nd February 2015.

**Chairman
2nd February 2015**