

LITTLE CLACTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY, 3rd April 2017 AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT

Chairperson: J Cutting

Councillors: M Balbirnie, P De Vaux Balbirnie, D Botterell, L Gray, M Reed, H Smith, R Smith, J Smith-Daye, J Taylor, B Ward.

Tendring District Councillors Mike Brown

Essex County Councillor Andy Erskine

Clerk: Mrs G Loach

6 residents

Residents were given time to speak before the meeting began.

1. CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLORS

New councillors Jo Taylor and Danny Botterell were co-opted and signed their Declaration of Acceptance in front of all.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received this month from Councillors J Rowland and S Rowland, District Councillor J Bray.

3. CIRCULATION AND CONTENTS OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

The minutes were agreed by all and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting on the 6th March.

4. URGENT MATTERS ARISING

None.

5. CHAIRMANS REPORT

The Chairman reported that UK Power had finished the Harwich Road lights. The shop keeper was pleased.

Tendring District Council were contacted via the Facebook link on the new website. A resident had complained about a vehicle parked in a bus stop in Harwich Road. A parking officer came to add a 'considerate parking notice' on the vehicle, it was moved within 2 days.

The bus shelter has been repaired in the village, and the contractor is now painting the planters and the seats and gate are to be done.

Quotes for the height barriers at Parish Fields have been received. The amounts were £3000 plus VAT or £1800 plus VAT. The quote for £1800 has been chosen, all agreed.

The Business Group met about the boards in the village. One quote was sent to the insurance group re: claim, the other will be our cost, for the middle of the village.

The Traveller Law of trespass was presented at the EALC by Councillor Belgrove from Arlesford, and District Councillor Talbot was present. A slight amendment to the wording was made but then it was agreed unanimously. The EALC and NALC are to lobby M.P.s.

The monthly maintenance of Millennium Green is to be done by Graham Bush in addition to the 4 cuts per year by Kendall's. This will make it more manageable.

A letter has been received from MP D Carswell. It includes a letter from Essex County Council saying that the broken 'keep left' sign is suitable in their view. Another letter states that we haven't specified a location, and suggests that we use their website! We have logged this on the website many times and specifics have also been supplied previously.

The Chairman asked Essex County Councillor Erskine to look into this matter. The Chairman also asked Councillor Erskine if we could add signage on the greensward 'please drive carefully

through our village'. Councillor Erskine said no, Highways need to put them up. The Local Highways Panel must be involved. He said to put it to the LHP and they will consider it, if agreed, they will do it. He said having streetlights up indicate a 30mph. speed limit.

6. MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD

Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie reported an abandoned car in Elm Road. The Chairman suggested that he contact Tendring District Council abandoned vehicle department.

(a) Highways

Councillor R Smith reported road works in Holland Road – he wasn't sure what they were repairing, but suggested it may be cables going in. He had nothing else to report.

7. POLICE/CRIME REPORT

Councillor J Rowlands left a report which the Chairman read out, stating that there were 15 crimes reported for January, including anti-social behaviour and violence. She welcomed the new Councillors and wished them well. The Essex Crime Messenger service was recommended to all.

Speed watch

Councillor M Reed reported that a camera can be borrowed from the Police. He said he was starting it up again. The New Councillor D Botterell offered to take it on and proceed from Councillor Reed.

8. WORKING PARTY REPORTS

(a) Maintenance and Services

Councillor S Rowland and Councillor M Reed washed down all planters and benches in the village, and they thanked a resident for the Water supply.

Councillor S Rowland queried the grass cutting contract, as no cuts were seen to be done in March, although it had been dry. He said that contractors cannot get away with being paid and doing nothing. The contract expires at the end of the year, we can look into improving the service then. The Chairman asked the Clerk if she had contacted Kendal's and the Clerk said yes, and they had said that they didn't cut areas with daffodils and spring flowers, but would come back in a couple of weeks after they had died down. They are to email back from the latest email sent. The Chairman stated that we should monitor it. Councillor M Reed said that they had cut the grass near to where he lives.

Councillor M Balbirnie suggested that the Council made a donation towards flowers to Mrs Cutting who had bought flowers and filled all the village planters during the previous year. Councillor R Smith proposed, Councillor L Gray seconded and all agreed.

(b) Street lights

Councillor M Reed reported that some lights were still out including the one covered with ivy at Brays. A full inspection is to be done this week. Once reported on the website, they cannot be reported again. The ECC lights are not being fixed. Councillors M Reed and S Rowlands have been through the village cleaning all the signs etc. which should be ECC responsibility.

(c) Footpaths

Councillor Gray had spoken to a resident, Mr Sealey from Harwich Road, who had undertaken some research about the footpath origins and documents and maps had been found showing the footpath in 1899, 1909 and 1959. A member of the Highways department at Essex County Council stated that the footway was burial walkway to St. Michael's Church. The Parish Council was asked to write to Sarah Potter (footpaths) Member - Highways to ask for a meeting regarding the footpath in Harwich Road. There were originally large ditches along the front and trees lining it. The tenants in the properties had pulled down all the trees and filled the ditches. The Land Registry Office has information about this. The District Surveyor is Mr Norfolk, and he should be contacted about the ditches being filled in. The

Parish Council owns the footpath as it was left in perpetuity. The trees were masking the space, it looks more like 25 foot across.

(d) Planning and Development

Councillor M Reed reported on the following:

(i). Applications:

17/00343/FUL	21 Clapgate Drive CO16 9PP.	Demolish garage and erect single storey extension. Recommend Approval.
17/00417/FUL	LENGDORF Bertram Avenue CO16 9RG.	Addition of first floor accommodation, car port and external works. Loss of light, privacy (rear balcony) and out of character with neighbouring properties, in the middle of a line of bungalows which are offset to allow privacy. Please note comments of Objection from neighbouring properties. Recommend Refusal
17/00394/FUL	Land adjacent 15 Weeley Road CO16 9EN.	Erection of two new Houses. Recommend Approval.
17/00409/LBC –	Bovis Hall St Osyth Road CO16 9DJ.	Removal of attached hoods within inglenook fireplaces and to fit pot hanger cowel to external chimneys. To be decided by LBC Officer.
17/00467/HHPNOT (HouseHolder Prior NOTification)	3 Springfield Meadows CO16 9EB	Erection of Edwardian style conservatory to rear. Recommend Approval
17/00437/DETAIL – Variation of conditions 1, 4, 8 of planning Application 16/00843/DETAIL to vary drawing No PO1G to PO1H to allow for brickwork walls and adjustment to windows and doors. Conditions as approved 16/00843/DETAIL.	Land adjacent 2-4 St Osyth Road CO16 9RP.	1 – to comply with approved drawings P01G and Po1B. 4 – No unbound materials within 6 metres of boundary within vehicular access. 8 – To comply with approved landscaping and maintained for a minimum period of five years from planting. Any plant which is found to be dying or diseased to be replaced within that time. We prefer the original render and paint finish (additional insulation benefits) as it would be sympathetic to the houses to which it is adjacent, condition 1. We have confusion over the shingle driveway which is directly on the boundary of the property, condition 4. The drawings show no difference in the landscaping so why is the condition 8 to be varied? Recommend refusal.

17/00453/OUT	Land South of Centenary Way, Clacton	Recommend refusal – Full statement at end of minutes as attachment.
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(ii) Determinations

16/01947/FUL – Approval – Full	Meadowview Park St Osyth Road.	Creation of additional visitor parking spaces.
17/00026/FUL – Approval Full.	10 St Osyth Road East CO16 9PH.	Proposed loft conversion with 3 pitched roof dormers.
16/0207/FUL – Approval Full.	Telstar Nurseries Holland Road CO16 9QG.	Erection of agricultural building to house new biomass boiler.

Councillor M Reed read out the determinations made by the Planning Group above and all agreed.

The Clerk was asked to request a deferral for Crack Stakes Farm, as the Planning group did not have time to discuss it as only came in to the Office on Parish meeting day.

Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie asked District Councillor Brown to ‘keep an eye on it’, so that it doesn’t go through on delegated powers, and to call it in if passed.

A resident enquired about the 8 bungalows going in Betts Green Road, and a TPO report, which they were waiting for. Bats were discovered in the trees. The Chairman reported that the Parish had refused the bungalows due to cramping and out of character. The Clerk was asked to write to TDC Planning Department to enquire about the progress of the application in the light of bat discovery etc. Another resident was threatened with Gypsies if the application wasn’t agreed on. The road is sinking.

36 Holland Road application only had one comment lodged – residents. Why no Parish council comment?

The parish is to look into the conditions including drainage. Also, 90 Holland Road – the property had been sold and the pond and trees are being removed or ruined. Councillor M Reed reported this to TDC and the contractors have to apply to remove a pond. The issues are being looked at, TDC are getting the information and it is not feeding through to the Parish regarding applications. The Chairman was worried about the Planning Department but more hopeful about TDALC.

iii) Local Plan – Councillor M Reed had nothing to report.

iv) Neighbourhood Plan – Nothing to report, until Local Plan done.

9. INTERNET

The Chairman reported that the website was up and running and he was happy with it.

Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie mentioned the Village Hall story wasn’t showing yet. A resident, Mr Bellamy enquired whether the scrolling headline could be put back. The Clerk is to make enquires.

10. TDALC

Councillor M Reed reported that the traveller issues were being progressed. A lack of police on the beat was reported to the Police Commissioner. Some villages were concerned with public place drug taking. Mobile phones (iPhones) have been given to the police now. Overall, it was felt that the Commissioner is not in touch with issues on the Street, or even parish councillor level. Councillor M Reed did not believe that the phones will help. There are people trafficking worries. If worried, dial 101 to get a crime number. Internet crime is a big issue now. Questions from the parishes were the same; all want to see more police presence on the street. Parishes were asking to be listened to. The Police/Fire Fighter image is to be looked at.

11. PARISH FIELDS COMPLEX

The Chairman reported that Parish Fields was running well at present. The Youth and Community Hall was being rented on a regular basis. The final phase of Pavilion work is being actioned. The gate is to be left open Monday-Friday day times and weekends when busy and in use.

12. VILLAGE HALL

Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie reported that drug users and vandals were keeping away at present. The RCCE magazine 'Oyster' had a full page spread about the Village Hall and its improvements.

13. MILLENNIUM GREEN

Councillor M Balbirnie reported that the green was looking good with daffodils and spring flowers, and the pond had fish now.

14. ECC

Essex County Councillor Erskine reported that the Local Highways Panel had sat and signed off all items for next year. Bus shelters had been agreed to be done, but they don't know when. He reported that 160% of the allotted budget had been spent and 140% of the 2017/18 budget had already been spent too. There is not enough money in the pot.

15. TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL

District Councillor Brown reported that a traffic survey had been done with Police radar. He said that there had been a diktat on Councillors in independent parties, they were now called the Non-Aligned Group. The Boundary changes were mentioned. The Sladbury Lane travellers were reported, but he had no further news from it.

16. CORRESPONDENCE

EALC	e- bulletins
UK Power Networks	Power outage 7 th April
Greenbarnes	Notice Board Brochure
Frinton Festival	Opening Concert Advert
EALC	Legal Update
Norris & Fisher	Local Council Insurance offer
Essex Streetworks Team	Road Closure – Holland Road (by email)

17. FINANCE AND CHEQUES AUTHORISATION

The up to date balances of the Councils funds were noted.

Receipts:	£
ATC Rent	600.00

Cheques issued:	£
A & J Lighting Solutions	201.54
Tendring Eldercare	100.00
G R Harrison (Christmas lights)	1,072.25
Eon (Mar)	410.99
Britton Engineering Services Ltd (Gate repair)	2,784.00
Mrs G Loach (re: Internet set up)	100.00
Mrs G Loach (Salary)	465.20
HMRC	116.40
Essex Pension Fund	141.78
A Harman (Maint. Bus shelters)	260.00
Kendall Plus (incl. Mill Green)	820.43
Bank Charges (Mar)	15.45
Total	6488.04

18. ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman is to look into the Christmas lights, they seem very expensive - new ones each year would be cheaper. Kendall Plus were also being looked at currently.

The Chairman reported that the Clerk will email out information about the boundary changes, can all Councillors have a look and let him know if they have any worries.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9pm.

The next meeting will be held at the Youth and Community Centre at 7.30pm on Monday, 8th May 2017

**Chairman
8th May 2017**