

LITTLE CLACTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY, 8th May 2017 AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT

Chairperson: J Cutting

Councillors: M Balbirnie, P De Vaux Balbirnie, D Botterell, M Reed, J Rowland, S Rowland, H Smith, R Smith, J Smith-Daye, J Taylor.

Essex County Councillor Andy Erskine

Clerk: Mrs G Loach

5 residents

Residents were given time to speak before the meeting began.

1. ELECTION OF NEW CHAIRMAN

The Chairman stepped down and handed over to the Vice Chairman who thanked the Chairman then enquired whether there were any nominations for Chairman.

Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie proposed that Councillor J Cutting was re-elected. Councillor R Smith seconded and all agreed.

Councillor J Cutting was reinstated as Chairman. He thanked everyone for re-electing him and for all their hard work over the year.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received this month from Councillors L Gray and B Ward, District Councillor J Bray and Brown.

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 Parish Council meeting and the Parish Annual meeting on the 3rd April.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Regarding the public footpath fence took up from the path in Harwich Road, Strut and Parker were contacted and this is nothing to do with them. The footpath was sold off many years ago. Councillors L Gray, De Vaux Balbirnie and Cutting met before the Land Registry were looked into. A local farmer reported that the first 50 yards of the path was owned by Essex County Council Highways. Essex County Council were contacted and Councillor L Gray had a reply- the Enforcement and Right of way Officer came down and took measurements and said there was a slight pinch point of difference. As Essex County Council have recognised it as theirs, no further action will be taken by Little Clacton Parish Council.

An email was sent to Tendring District Council Planning Department regarding the Bats and Vegetation issues in Betts Green Road and surveys requested. An acknowledgement was received.

5. APPOINTMENTS

The Chairman enquired if any Councillors wished to change their roles. Councillor J Rowland proposed all existing Councillors keep their roles. Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie seconded and all agreed. The Chairman said following the resignation of two Councillors another representative is required for Planning and for the Finance and Organisation group. Councillor Smith-Daye proposed the new Councillors for the roles, Councillor J Rowland seconded and all agreed.

Councillor J Taylor will also join the Millennium Green representatives.

- (a) Vice-Chairman – Councillor M Balbirnie
- (b) Representative – TDALC – Councillor M Reed
- (c) Representative – Community Care/Passenger Transport- Councillor Gray
- (d) Representative – Village Hall – Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie
- (e) Representative – Parish Fields – Mr Ray Bellamy/Chairman
- (f) Representative – Meadow Millennium Green (5) :
Councillors M Balbirnie, L Gray, M Reed, Taylor, Ward.
- (g) Hubbards and Harveys Charities – Mr Peter Watson

6. WORKING PARTIES

The Chairman asked if anyone wished to change their responsibility. All were happy to remain in their roles. With the additional roles going to the new councillors, D Botterell to join the Finance and Organisation party, and Councillor J Taylor to join the Planning Group.

The parties are as follows:

(a) Finance and Organisation (Clerk, Chairman, Vice Chairman + 3)

Now including Councillors D Botterell, Smith –Daye and J Taylor.

(b) Planning and Development (5): Councillors M Reed, De Vaux Balbirnie, D Botterell, H Smith, J Taylor.

(c) Maintenance and Services (3):

Councillors J Rowland, S Rowland, D Botterell(Speedwatch)

(d) Crime Prevention (1) Councillor J Rowland

7. CHAIRMANS REPORT

Regarding Kendall Plus, the Chairman recommended that the clerk go back and email them that they owe three cuts, 2 in March and 1 in April. Then see what they say from that.

Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie and Councillor J Rowland said to wait after the growing season in July. The Chairman said we would monitor for a couple of months, then arrange a meeting between Gordon of Kendall's and the maintenance group and review the contract.

If anyone spots a cut being done they should let Councillor S Rowlands know, or email the Parish office.

A van went through the broken keep left sign that the Chairman had been reporting to Essex County Council. He has sent an email with new pictures.

Payment was received from the Insurance Company for the broken gate at the entrance of Parish Fields. We have the bollards in stock now and ready to go in. We are just waiting for a second quote for a parish notice board, for the final claim to go through.

8. RESPONSIBILITIES

Councillors to remain in their roles:

- (a) Highway Matters – Councillor R Smith
- (b) Street Lights - Councillor M Reed
- (c) Footpaths – Councillor Gray

9. WORKING PARTY REPORTS

(a) Maintenance and Services

Councillor S Rowland has spoken to Peter regarding the 2 new gates to be painted and he quoted £450. The Chairman asked him if a price could be sought for all the other gateways etc. at Parish Fields.

(b) Footpaths

No Issues reported.

(c) Street lights

Last month Councillor M Reed did a full survey. 11 lights are out in total, 4 are ours and 7 are County Council responsibility. Ten of these have been out for a long time. Essex County Council have not yet sent a reply. The Clerk was asked to send a letter to Essex County Council and copy in County Councillor Erskine, to say that we are not happy with their response.

(d) TDALC

No report this month.

(e) Highways

Councillor R Smith reported that County Councillor Erskine had arranged new speed strips along Holland Road.

(f) Millennium Green

Millennium Green has been monitored with Gordon from Kendall’s. Councillor M Balbirnie emails when it needs doing. Graham does one cut a month too. All is going well. It is looking pretty. The ‘Deep water’ sign was dumped in the pond. It is hoped that the pond liner is not damaged. The sign is now to be concreted in. There are primroses and bluebells out

(g). Planning and Development

Councillor M Reed reported on the following:

(i) Applications:

17/00553/FUL –.	162 Harwich Road CO16 9NL	Two Storey rear extension. Concerns over invasion of privacy and light to neighbouring properties. Recommend Approval.
17/00526/DETAIL	Amida Betts Green Road CO16 9NH.	Little Clacton parish commented that refusal was recommended due to the dwelling proposed was unsuitable for the size of the site and the effect to the surrounding properties. The property detail should be able to demonstrate that it is sympathetically developed to lessen the loss of landscape and visually to lessen the impact on surrounding properties. This should be the use of minimal hard landscaping, materials which compliment surrounding properties, environment and not stick out like a sore thumb. We agree with the objections submitted by neighbouring residents and fully support their views.

17/00528/FUL	37 Leys Drive CO16 9PG	Single storey extension to form garage and conservatory. Extension of garden to include area of land previously used for agricultural purposes. The proposed extensions are out of proportion with existing properties within the area, and we have concerns that the garage is potentially a living space extension for the future conversion. There is concern over the changes to the boundaries which must be resolved before any decisions are made to allow the development to proceed. We have no issue with firstly the garden to be extended and a review of property extension considered after this has been confirmed. Recommend refusal.
17/00307/FUL –	Crakestakes Farm CO16 9PS.	To provide access and CC site to the rear of the farm. Recommend approval if the site is retained as a CC site in perpetuity.
17/00695/FUL	48 Elm Road CO16 9LP. 9EB	Proposed rear single and double storey extension. Recommend Approval

(ii) Determinations

16/02005/FUL	Lodge Farm CO16 9QD.	Erection of crop and general purpose storage building following demolition of existing buildings and silos. Approval Full.
16/01596/FUL.	Grove Farm Tan Lane CO16 9PT	Form wedding venue, change of use, extensions, car parking, associated landscaping and use of courtyard and grounds. Approval Full.
16/01597/LBC	As Above	16/01596/FUL to gain listed building consent. Approval LBC
17/00343/FUL	21 Clapgate Drive CO16 9PP.	Demolition of garage and erection of single storey extension. Approval Full.
17/00158/DETAIL	Land adjacent 266 Harwich Road CO16 9PX.	Proposed new dwelling in relation to 16/00525/OUT. Approval – Reserved matters detailed. At no point can gates be provided at vehicle access and shall remain open and free for use in perpetuity.
17/00116/FUL	Cecil, Thorington Road CO16 9ES	Erection of front and rear extension, replacement roof with two front facing dormers. Approval Full.
17/00045/FUL	2 Cooks Green Farm CO16 9QH.	Single storey front, rear and side extension including two storey side extension. Approval Full.

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

iii) Local Plan – Councillor M Reed reported that Councillor Smith-Daye and the Chairman had attended the last Local plan meeting. It was a ‘rubber stamp’ meeting only. There was a chance to speak with District Councillor Jeff Bray and Head of Planning Cath Bicknell. This meeting was not about the policies. Councillor Smith-Daye said that TDC were happier to take on land for the 5 year supply so are happy to refuse some applications now.

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

10. VILLAGE HALL

Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie reported that the Hall was neat and tidy now the repairs had been done. Football training was starting again. It was all looking good. The Car Park was running well, being locked until 9am each morning so there is no school traffic entering or exiting making it safer for pedestrians. Hirers have access from 9am which is the time the period of hire begins.”

11. PARISH FIELDS COMPLEX

Ray Bellamy said that the pavilion has had the few snagging bits now sorted, and it is nearly finished. To publicise the new facilities the Boot Sales will be starting on 28th May. The football season is finished now. The hall is continuously being used. The Chairman suggested that Peter Shilton or a similar sports star is hired to open it officially and get the newspapers involved for coverage when it is finished.

For the boot sales councillors need to volunteer to collect money etc. for the Parish council over the 12 week season. We need names for at least the first two weeks, to start. Not everyone is needed every week, just a couple of weeks each. The Chairman is unable to do the first two, but is happy do other weeks. Any volunteers should let the Chairman know and he will forward their names.

A new sign is needed to say ‘gates will be locked at 4.30pm’ etc. as were on the last gates.

12. ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

County Councillor Erskine has just been re-elected in the County Council Elections held on 4th May. He reported that he couldn’t do anything while in ‘Limbo’. Now the election is over, progress is being made. Speed lines have been put in almost straight after the Election. These will be monitoring speed and volume. The Chairman asked if rumble strips were possible. County Councillor Erskine stated that he wasn’t sure of the criteria and the LHP would look into it.

13. TDC REPORT

No reports this month.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

EALC	e- bulletins
Parish Fields	Car Boot Site and Classic Car shows
CPRE	Campaign for Rural England membership card
Homeview Surveillance	Letter about a maintenance visit

15. FINANCE AND CHEQUES AUTHORISATION

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

Receipts:	£
Precept 1 st Instalment	38,750.00
Bank Loyalty reward	2.32
Insurance Claim (Gate)	2,684.00

Cheques issued:	£
Clacton Business Services	30.00
Tendring Eldercare	125.00
Stow Forge Fabrications	1,080.00
Eon (Apr)	455.02
P H Schooling (Maint. Of bus shelters and seats etc.)	1960.00
EALC and NALC Annual subs	578.07
CPRE Annual Subs	36.00
G B Maintenance	190.00
Mrs M Murphy (Electric Supply re: Xmas lights)	70.00
A Harman (Bollard replacement)	59.00
A Harman (Sign Replacement - Part Payment)	600.00
Bank Charges (Apr)	15.45

16. ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

None this month.

17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Police and Crime

Councillor J Rowland read out the 7 crimes reported for February. They were 4 Violence/ Sexual Offences, 2 Shoplifting and 1 Burglary. Councillor J Rowland also reported a derelict house in St Osyth Road which was close to the school, and could be a danger. The Clerk is to make enquiries.

Speed watch

Councillor Botterell took up the gauntlet from the Police, Geoff Macy was the right guy to speak to. Beaumont have got their volunteers but only have one road to monitor. There is police training and risk assessment to do. Rob Willmot will be looking after Speedwatch. Mary Whiteley is organising. There must be a minimum of three on any shift. Volunteers are to be sought. Possibly by newspaper advert, website or facebook. Some training is done on site. Names are needed. The Parish website contains feeds from the police twitter account and social media.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15pm.

The next meeting will be held at the Youth and Community Centre at 7.30pm on Monday, 12th June 2017

**Chairman
12th June 2017**