

## The LITTLE CLACTON PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2018 AT 7.30 PM

#### PRESENT

**Chairperson:** J Cutting

**Councillors:** M Balbirnie, R Bellamy, D Botterell, L Gray, L Moules, M Reed, S Rowland, J Rowland, J Smith-Daye, J Taylor

**Tending District Councillors** Jeff Bray and Mike Brown

**Clerk:** Mrs G Loach

#### 8 residents

#### **Residents were given time to speak before the meeting began.**

The residents thanked the Parish Council for getting the bridleway cut back at last. It looks much better after not being cut for a couple of years. They said that it needs cutting each year as a minimum. The Chairman read out some correspondence from Sarah Potter at ECC, regarding re-classification of the bridleway. There is hope that it will now be on their rota for cutting each year.

Another resident reported that the park next to the Village Hall had loose bolts and the roundabout was grating something underneath. Councillor M Balbirnie stated that the park had only been maintained two weeks ago, but she would report it.

A resident asked if speed signs were going up on Harwich Road. The Chairman said that this was in progress, and the Parish Council was waiting to hear back about legality of signage. The resident reported that for speed watch they now needed 8 volunteers minimum.

A resident said that a Little Clacton History facebook page had now been set up. It was a closed page, with members only. But residents and those interested in Little Clacton could join on her approval. Applications through facebook.

#### **1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received this month from Essex County Councillor Andy Erskine, Parish Councillors P De Vaux Balbirnie and B Ward.

#### **2. CIRCULATION AND CONTENTS OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.**

The minutes were proposed by Councillor Botterell, seconded by Councillor M Balbirnie, agreed by all and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> August.

#### **3. URGENT MATTERS ARISING**

In response to last week's complaint about builders parking, The Chairman sent an email to Cath Bicknell, and the Enforcement Officer chased the builders up and they cleared off very quickly.

#### **4. CHAIRMANS REPORT**

The Chairman reported that he had a letter back from MP Giles Watling regarding pavements in Little Clacton. The Chairman read out the response from ECC. No different from previous letters, the issue is not urgent to them.

The Chairman had received a letter from a resident about a tree in Harwich Road, which had roots going under, and caused a crack in his wall. The Chairman contacted TDC to confirm that there was no tree preservation order on the tree. The tree surgeon also stated that his records showed that it was owned by ECC. The Chairman told the resident that the greenswards and trees are the responsibility of ECC, so he must claim on his insurance, who will then claim from ECC. Then a question was asked why the Parish Council had paid last year to cut back the trees along Harwich Road. The Chairman said that he may put in a claim from the Parish to ECC but was doubtful if he would be able to claim.

The Chairman reported that the Business Group met to discuss the upgrade, and he will report on this later in the meeting. He met with Alistair of A & J lighting regarding the Christmas lights. He is getting quotes for LED or alternatives.

## **5. MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD**

### **(a) Highways**

The Chairman reported that the only news this month is about pavements.

## **6. POLICE/CRIME REPORT**

Councillor J Rowland reported that she had received an email regarding special constables, from the EALC/NALC. The Police are spearheading a scheme where parishes put forward £1,000 contribution and the Parish get a 'Special' for 16 hours per week. The £1,000 is to cover uniform, phone and expenses. The Chairman said that we will put it on the agenda and discuss next month.

## **7. WORKING PARTY REPORTS**

### **(a) Maintenance and Services**

Councillor S Rowland reported that a couple of bollards had been knocked down outside the shops, and Alan is to fix them. He suggested that correx boarding on the bollards would make them more visible. Alan has also repaired a board on Plough corner Harwich Road. The Benches have not yet been done.

The British Legion are selling 'There, but not there' silhouettes, at £750 each and take 6-8 weeks to arrive, so we are too late for this year, but may try for next year.

### **(b) Street lights**

Councillor M Reed reported that he would be doing a survey in a couple of weeks' time. There are a few lights out at present, which are to be done soon.

### **(c) Footpaths**

The footpaths are mostly okay. The issues have been sorted and the footpath ranger is on top of things now.

### **(d) Planning and Development**

**Councillor M Reed declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 18/01224/FUL**

**As his property is neighbouring.**

(i) Councillor M Reed reported on the following:

18/01258/FUL - 34 Holland Road CO16 9RS.	Single storey rear extension. Recommend Approval.
18/01224/FUL - Kinfauns Veterinary Practice CO16 9LG.	Single storey front extension to provide two new consulting rooms. We have concern over the increase in traffic which would impinge on neighbouring properties. The junction onto The Street from the vets, Madison Care and NAWT continually floods when even light rain occurs making the junction dangerous and is a known accident area. Recommend Approval, subject to ECC Highways rectifying drainage issues that they know about.
18/01272/OUT - land adjacent 8A Holland Road CO16 9RS.	Proposed erection of 5 bungalows. Back land development which will lead to a further application to the land adjacent which is marked in blue, creeping development split into phases to avoid s106 or CIL payments. Local Plan states long and narrow access would not be allowed with concerns for Emergency vehicles being able to access. Concerns over visibility spays. Applicant cherry picks policies from 2007 Local Plan that same plan would refuse back land development of which this is. There is sufficient housing supply to refuse this application. Strongly Recommend Refusal.

18/01345/FUL - 113 Harwich Road CO16 9RU.	Variation of conditions. Conditions are in place for a reason. Recommend Refusal
18/01390/FUL Bovis Hall CO16 9DJ	Change of use. May be in a conservation area and listed. Recommend Approval: That conditions put in place that links the application is linked to the main property and cannot be used as an independent property. Can only be used as part of the residential property and not to be used on a commercial basis.
18/01315/FUL Stone Hall CO16 9RB.	Retention of two static caravans for a twelve-month period. Only on the basis of renovation of Stone Hall building Recommend Approval
18/00872/ Detail 8 Bungalows Holly Lodge.	Conditions are put in for a reason. Refuse: Not in-keeping with area.

**(ii). Determinations:**

**No determinations this month**

Councillor J Rowland proposed the comments, Councillor J Taylor seconded, and all agreed.

**(iii) Local Plan** –District Councillor Bray reported that the Local plan was ticking along. He said that there was an important meeting at Colchester tomorrow night. It is a closed briefing, so no public can attend.

He reported that we have only just agreed a number of 550, and affordable housing is approximately 30% of large developments - it is a complicated formula. He said that the garden communities needed to be agreed as otherwise the number of houses will need to be added to existing villages. At present, option 2 is favoured. The cost will run into billions. As our one is first, we will be scrutinized.

**8. INTERNET**

The Chairman stated that the website was up to date with no issues.

**9. TDALC**

Councillor Botterell reported that there would be a meeting later in the month.

**10. PARISH FIELDS COMPLEX**

The car boot season is now coming to a close with the final sale scheduled for 16<sup>th</sup> September. One of the most successful seasons for a number of years.

The new football season is now underway with teams playing both Saturdays and Sundays. The Youth and Community Hall continues to be used on a regular daily basis by a wide variety of groups.

**a) Tenders for Upgrade**

The Chairman reported that he had spoken to Joy Darby of the EALC and enquired if we were allowed to employ someone to oversee our paperwork before submitting it to Contract Finder as the rules have changed since 2015, with many more criteria to meet. The Chairman contacted an accountant who had run a course that he attended, who happened to know about Contract Finder and the pitfalls. He agreed in principal but said there would be a cost.

The Chairman, therefore met the Business Group to put the idea forward. It was suggested that we limit the cost, so the Chairman said we should make a limit of £1000 and would have to approach the Council if costs were any higher. Councillor J Smith-Daye proposed costs up to £1,000, Councillor Moules seconded and all agreed.

Councillor J Rowland suggested that photos were taken of the site before any work started, then we can put before and after photos on the website.

#### **11. VILLAGE HALL**

The Chairman and Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie went to visit the youths who damaged the play area, to avoid reporting them to the Police. The visit went okay and was hopefully successful.

Bollards were being placed along London Road by the Harold Lilley Playing Fields, unfortunately an electric cable was hit while installing them. Luckily it was not a live cable, it was too shallow being only 9 inches down. Hopefully the installation will reduce the parking troubles. In answer to an email received by the Parish Office, Councillor De Vaux Balbirnie visited to inform a resident that our grass maintenance people do not cut within 3 foot of the fence around The Harold Lilley Playing Field. However, the resident said that they were happy to cut back the ivy themselves which was encroaching on their land.

#### **12. MILLENNIUM GREEN**

Councillor Balbirnie reported that the Green was virtually finished. The benches have been set up and the trees trimmed. David Wilkin, the Owl Man, said that 2 kestrels were seen in the kestrel box, and two pigeons were in the owl box. The boxes have all been cleared out now, but it has been a poor year for the owls overall. Councillor Balbirnie reported that they were just waiting on the board to be finished and the pond looked at. Anyone visiting will see that it is currently looking good.

#### **13. ECC**

No report this month.

#### **14. TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL**

District Councillor M Brown reported that sometimes it paid off to wait a while with planning applications. He said that in moderation, deferment can work, and give a chance for a future battle.

District Councillor Bray reported that we were still waiting for the result of the Centenary Way appeal.

The small development at Stone Hall had dust issues. Councillor Bray met with a few people and Enforcement visited 4 times. There is now a new proposal for dust suppression.

#### **15. CORRESPONDENCE**

EALC	e- bulletins
TDC	Emergency Planning record update
BT	Prices are going up
TDC	Your computer has a virus leaflet

The Chairman read out a thank you letter for the clearing of the bridleway. There was brief discussion about emergency planning.

## 16. FINANCE AND CHEQUES AUTHORISATION

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

	£
Bank Loyalty reward	2.52
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>2.52</b>
<b>Cheques issued:</b>	£
Kendall Plus (Village 4 & 6 Jul)	463.94
Kendall Plus (Mill. Grn. 2nd Aug)	203.20
Kendall Plus (Mill. Grn. Trees)	213.00
A &J Lighting Solutions	577.14
Eon (Aug)	144.31
GB Maintenance	110.00
Kendall Plus (Village 14 & 16 Aug)	463.94
GB Maintenance	80.00
M Carter (Grant to recorders group)	100.00
St James Church (Grant for Church yard maint.)	2,200.00
Bank Charges (Aug)	17.40

The cheques for the month were proposed by Councillor Bellamy, seconded by Councillor Botterell and all agreed.

## 17. ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN

Nothing urgent this month.

## 18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor J Rowland reported that a resident had complained about the hedges being overgrown along The Street. They haven't been cut for over a year. The Chairman said he would email County Councillor Andy Erskine to see if there is anything to be done.

There being no other business the chairman closed the meeting at 9.10pm.

**The next parish meeting will be held at the Youth and Community Centre at 7.30pm on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018**

**Chairman  
1<sup>st</sup> October 2018**