

**Minutes of The Annual Meeting of Great Bentley Parish Council**  
**Thursday 10th May 2007 in the Village Hall**

**Present**

Jonathan Hills, William Herbert, David Gibbon, Robert Taylor, George Wright.

Declaration of Acceptance of Office signed by the above and countersigned by the Clerk.

**In Attendance**

K. Paradise (Clerk) and 9 members of public.

**Questions from the Public**

Concerns were expressed regarding the broken posts in the turning circle in The Path.

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence received from Peter Balbirnie and Ted Fox.

**2. Election of Chairman for 2007/2008**

Cllr Jonathan Hills proposed by Cllr Robert Taylor, seconded by Cllr George Wright, agreed by the Council.

**3. Acceptance of Office by Chairman**

Cllr Jonathan Hills signed Declaration of Office which was countersigned by the Clerk.

**4. Election of Vice Chairman for 2007/2008**

Cllr William Herbert proposed by Cllr David Gibbon and seconded by Cllr Jonathan Hills, agreed by the Council.

**5. Adoption of Standing Orders**

Cllr Jonathan Hills asked the Council if they agree to adopt the Standing Orders. Proposed by Cllr Robert Taylor and seconded by George Wright, agreed by the Council.

**6. Property and Assets Annual Report under Standing Order 16a**

Clerk handed out list of property and assets belonging to Great Bentley Parish Council.  
**An updated list will be reviewed at next council meeting.**

**7. Appointment of:**

**Committees**

**a) Allotments, Play Area, Village Green Management**

Cllr W Herbert, Cllr D Gibbon, Cllr R Taylor, Cllr G Wright.

**b) Planning**

Cllr P De-Vaux Balbirnie, Cllr W Herbert, Cllr J Hills, Cllr R Taylor,  
Cllr G Wright

**c) Finance**

Cllr J Hills, Cllr W Herbert, Cllr I Morton, Cllr Robert Taylor

**d) Action**

Cllr J Hills, Cllr W Herbert, Cllr R Taylor

Chairman and Vice Chairman Ex Officio on all Committees.

**Other**

**a) Chief Executive/Proper Officer/ Responsible Finance Officer**

Mrs Karen Paradise

**b) Internal Auditor**

Chris Wright

**c) Village Hall**

TDC Cllr Lynda McWilliams will supply copies of minutes from meetings to the Clerk.

**d) Tree Warden**

Mr M Dorling

**e) Essex Association of Local Council**

**f) Rural Community Council of Essex**

**g) Footpath Representative**

**h) Transport Representative**

Peter Harry

**i) TDALC**

Cllr Robert Taylor

**8. Code of Conduct**

**The new Code of Conduct will be reviewed by Councillors and adopted by Councillors at the next meeting.**

**9. Minutes**

The meeting was asked to approve the minutes of the meeting of 5th April 2007. Proposed by Cllr R Taylor, seconded by Cllr W Herbert. The minutes were approved and signed by the Vice Chairman

**10. Declaration of Interest**

Cllr. D Wright declared an interest in anything regarding minerals.

## **11. Matters Arising from the minutes of the last meeting**

Nothing to report.

## **12. Correspondence**

- Letter from EALC that Grant Application for courses for Clerk/Councillors will be reviewed in next few weeks.
- Letter from Mr K Ainger of Rutland requesting information on the origin of Aingers Green.

**Clerk to inform Mr Ainger that no details known apart from the Green was originally known as Angel Green.**

- Letter from Great Bentley Youth Football Club regarding Football Festival to be held on 14th & 15th July 2007.

**Agreed. Clerk to reply.**

- Hanningfield Awards 2007. Brochure and application forms for awards of up to £2000 each to recognise the exceptional enthusiasm of young people in Essex aged between 16-25 years. Previously projects have received funding from the award enabling young people to realise their dreams and in some cases help the less fortunate.

**Clerk to send copies to Explorer Scouts/1st Great Bentley Scouts, Youth Football FC, Youth Cricket Club. Copies also held at Resource Centre.**

- Letter from Great Bentley Running Club requesting permission to use The Green to provide car parking for the 5 mile race on 13th July 2007.

**The Parish Council cannot give permission as no parking is allowed on The Green. Clerk to reply.**

- A telephone call received from a lady requesting permission to bury her father's ashes on The Green and to plant a plant as a memorial to him.

**The Parish Council gives permission to scatter ashes on The Green and suggests she speaks to Bentley in Bloom regarding sponsoring a plant. Clerk to telephone the lady.**

- E-mail received from Nicholas Charrington regarding the use of a red double decker bus at the Carnival.

**Clerk to pass on copy to Carnival association.**

- Letter from Great Bentley Cricket Club to seek approval for an all weather pitch to be laid alongside the existing wicket to be funded by the Cricket Club.

**Agreed subject to the following:**

1. **Parish Council to check with the National Association if artificial turf is against the Commons Act.**

**2. An agreement between the Parish Council and the Cricket Club regarding:**

- a) **Type of surface material to be used**
- b) **To ensure Parish council keeps the right to remove the artificial turf**
- c) **An inspection of the artificial turf to be carried out once a month by the Cricket Club and a certificate issued by the club.**
- d) **Any additional maintenance of The Green derived from the pitch itself to be paid for by the Cricket Club.**
- e) **The Cricket Club to pay a nominal amount in advance for pitch maintenance.**

**Proposed by Cllr Gibbon and seconded by Cllr Wright.**

**13. Information & Reports**

Nothing to report.

**14. County and District Councillors Reports**

- i) County Councillor – Cllr Derek Robinson
- ii) District Councillor – Cllr Lynda McWilliams

**15. Lighting**

Nothing to report.

**9. Highways**

The erosion of the kerb at Lufkins Farm Crossroad has left concrete drains protruding.

**Clerk to report to Highways.**

**17. Policing and PCSO**

PCSO Sally Boyden was unable to attend due to illness. It was felt that she is doing a good job regarding the youngsters in the area and is very 'hands-on' regarding parking problems.

**18. War Memorial**

Grant application with Cemex – nothing decided yet.

**Clerk to speak to Community Initiative Fund Co-ordinator from TCVS to see if a grant would be a possibility.**

Letter received from the Royal British Legion asking for an update and for permission to put a small tent near the War Memorial on 11.11.07 for refreshments after the ceremony.

**Clerk to send update. Permission for tent granted subject to usual forms. Clerk to write.**

**19. Web Site**

Minutes marked clearly as 'unapproved' will be posted on the Web Site and held in the Post Office. Approved Minutes will be kept at the Resource Centre. This should enable the Minutes to be viewed a lot sooner than before.

**Clerk to e-mail Rob McWilliams. Suggest all minutes labelled with ‘unapproved – approved minutes at Resource Centre’. Ask if Clerk can have access to update the Web site.**

**20. Affordable Housing**

Planning application received and new plans agreed.

**21. Finance**

Accounts for the year to 31st March 2007 have been prepared.

Expenditure for the month approved, as per schedule. Proposed by Cllr Taylor, seconded by Cllr Wright, the cheques were signed.

**22. Clerks Report**

The Clerk attended a presentation from TDC at Weeley Council Offices on 9th May regarding special expenses, precepts and council tax base.

A letter was sent to Great Bentley Gardening Club giving permission for a plant sale on The Green.

A letter was sent to the Friends of The Green stating the council will monitor parking on The Green.

A letter was sent to Interact refusing an application to donate money to the charity.

Letter of thanks for donation sent to Great Bentley Running Club.

Mobile toilets have been booked for the Flower Show on 1st September .

Letter sent to TWC regarding patch of mud outside New May House

Comments re planning applications from last meeting sent to TDC Planning Department

**23. Committee Reports**

**a) Allotments – play area – Village green Committee**

Green Maintenance Committee report read out by Cllr Herbert.

**Clerk to contact Bruce Landscapes to check play equipment and quote for new equipment and repairs.**

**Cllr Gibbon volunteered his tractor to aerate and seed areas of The Green.**

**Council to write to FC Club Secretary Clive French.**

**Cllr wright to test soil values on various areas of The Green and treat with appropriate chemicals.**

**Clerk to register the Council for waste disposal as a user of road planings.**

**b) Planning Committee**

w/e 13/4/07

<p>06/02034/FUL RHT Developments <b>FAO Andrew Hutley/Garry Pullen The Parish Council approve the AMENDED drawings which RHT and the Chairman prepared. We are commenting on these new drawings of 9/5/07 which we have seen and presume you have seen. The NEW drawings are approved.</b></p>	<p>Construction of 12 no. new dwellings for social accommodation.</p>	<p>St Marys Road Great Bentley</p>
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<i>w/e 20/4/07</i>		
07/00287/FUL World Wide Commodities <b>OBJECT</b> <b>There is not sufficient information for the application to be approved.</b> <b>a) Where is the vehicular access to be? There is no safe/designated access shown. Cannot approve if access not shown on plans.</b> <b>b) Plans not specific enough regarding type of materials to be used.</b>	Single storey rear extension.	The Corner Cottage The Green Great Bentley
07/00368/FUL Mr G Jackson <b>No objections</b>	Timber balcony to holiday caravan (21 Poplar Close)	Bentley Country Park Flag Hill Great Bentley
07/00524/FUL Mr M Fletcher & Miss E Whymark <b>No objections</b>	Two storey extension.	The White House Aingers Green Road Aingers Green
<i>w/e 27/4/07</i>		
07/00471/FUL Mr Self & Ms Pells <b>No objection to building but wind turbine should not be seen from The Green.</b>	Proposed two storey extension to form study, bedroom and bathroom, pitched roof over existing single storey and wind turbine.	Hamilton House The Green Great Bentley
07/00492/FUL Mr R Beeson & Miss E Winning <b>No objections</b>	Demolition of existing garage (domestic) and erection of enlarged garage (domestic).	Brooklands Weeley Road Aingers Green
07/00577/FUL P Adams <b>No objections</b>	Proposed extension.	Nostra Casa The Path Great Bentley
07/00433/FUL Npower Renewables <b>No objections</b>	Construction of a wind farm comprising 5 turbines of maximum 125m to blade tip height, sub-station, anemometer mast, access tracks and ancillary infrastructure.	Earls Hall Farm St Johns Road Clacton-On-Sea
<i>w/e 5/5/07</i>		
07/00223/FUL Mr and Mrs Bosdet <b>No objections</b>	Timber balcony to caravan holiday home (3 Ash Drive).	Bentley Country Park Flag Hill Great Bentley
07/00278/FUL Mr & Mrs D King <b>No objections</b>	First floor extensions.	Owneest Station Road Great Bentley
07/00466/FUL Mr & Mrs Syme <b>No objections</b>	Raised decking to caravan (5 Lakeview)	Bentley Country Park Flag Hill Great Bentley

07/00487/FUL Mr P Stephens <b>No objections</b>	First floor extension.	Timbers Weeley Road Great Bentley
07/00636/FUL Mr L Davies <b>No objections</b>	Extension and new roof to garage.	Fiddlers Folly Plough Road Great Bentley
07/00666/FUL Housing Portfolio Holder <b>No objections</b>	Provision of vehicular access for disabled person.	2 De Vere Estate Great Bentley
07/00677/FUL Mr & Mrs D Bayford <b>No objections</b>	Timber balcony to caravan holiday home (25 Willow Close).	Bentley Country Park Flag Hill Great Bentley
07/00678/FUL Bentley Self Drive Van Hire <b>OBJECT. Out of keeping for rural community. Will create increased density of traffic movements on a dangerous bend. All comments as before. There is no sight line around the bend.</b>	Change of use from road side cafe and car park to van hire (sales) operation with office ancillary to van hire operation and sales.	Little Chef Colchester Road Great Bentley
07/00696/FUL Mr & Mrs J White <b>No objections</b>	Proposed conservatory	12 St Marys Road Great Bentley

**Clerk to pass comments to Planning Dept.**

**24. Other Reports**

- a) **TDALC** - Minutes received by e-mail **Clerk to relay to Councillors.**
- b) **Footpaths** – Nothing to Report.
- c) **Transport** - Peter Harry made verbal report regarding Passenger Transport Representatives Meeting at Weeley Council chambers on 9<sup>th</sup> May. Report to follow.
- d) **Caretakers Report** – David Tylers report was read out.

**25. Questions from the Public.**

The ditch at the right hand side of Weeley Road has water seeping across the road.

**Cllr Wright to speak to Roger Lord or Bacons.**

What is the progress of the Simmons Yard site and will there be a public meeting? No progress and no Planning Application received.