

Minutes of Great Bentley Parish Council Meeting
Thursday 3rd July 2008 in the Village Hall

Present

Cllr Jonathon Hills, Cllr William Herbert, Cllr Robert Taylor, Cllr George Wright, Cllr David Gibbon, Cllr Peter De-Vaux Balbirnie, Cllr Ian Morton, Cllr Yee Cheung, Cllr Ted Fox.

In Attendance

Kate Mayhew (New Clerk), Karen Paradise (Clerk), Essex County Councillor Derek Robinson, District Councillor Lynda McWilliams, and approx 12 members of the public.

Questions from the Public

The issue of parking outside the GP Practice was raised, being used by commuters who leave their cars all day.

**Clerk to write letter to Highway/Essex Police requesting a time limit be put in place.
Clerk to speak to PCSO regarding untaxed vehicles in that area.
To be placed on August Agenda.**

A member of public asked if HGV's could be diverted away from the village.

Clerk to write to Highways requesting HGV's over 7.5 tons be limited.

Mick Dorling requested a sign to be erected in the Spinney stating No Fires, No Camping. It was not approved.

Lynda McWilliams advised that a new bin was not required in Aingers Green.

A member of the public asked if the procedure for obtaining the disabled access at the railway station be published in the parish magazine which was agreed.

Clerk to write

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr George Wright will be late.

2. Minutes

The meeting was asked to approve the minutes of the Parish Meetings of 5th June 2008. The minutes were approved and signed by the Vice-Chairman.

3. Declaration of Interest

None

4. Matters Arising from the minutes of the last meeting

Speed gun training is to take place on 29th June for Little Clacton and Weeley volunteers whilst training for a second group of Great Bentley volunteers is 8th June.

Mr Gollifer has agreed to be the footpath representative for Great Bentley.

5. Appointment of new Clerk

Kate Mayhew was appointed as new Clerk, proposed by Cllr De-Vaux Balbirnie and seconded by Cllr Taylor.

6. PCSO

PCSO Sally Boyden was not in attendance. The Chairman read out her report of incidents in the village for the month.

7. Biker Meeting

Letter from Essex police regarding police manning at the meetings was read out.

8. Clerks Report

All correspondence arising from the June minutes is complete. Mary maskell, Lynda McWilliams and Mick Dorling are to attend RCCE meeting on 9th July where the results of the Best Green Village and Village of the year will be announced.

The Forge has been made secure to stop children entering it but due to the current economic climate work will not be commencing.

Money paid into the bank is sent by post. To enable the cash paid to the Parish Council to be banked the Clerk (Paradise) suggested she write a personal cheque for the cash and post it to the bank, keeping the cash in exchange. Agreed.

Clerk asked ECC for increase in verge cutting allowance. This was rejected as amounts budgeted for. Parish Council wish Cllr Derek Robinson to raise the issue of grass cutting budgets within ECC for next financial year.

Clerk to write

War memorial work is complete and the grant from CIF has been requested.

There is a new notice board now in place at the junction of Thorrington Road and Sturrick Lane. New green bins have arrived from TDC.

9. Correspondence

- Bernard Jenkin advised that CCTV at station would be installed by the end of the year and there is now a system in place for disabled access. This will be published in the parish magazine.
- Methodist Church Flower Festival – request for signs on the Green was agreed.

Cllr George Wright entered the meeting

- Letter from Mr Hicks requesting permission to park on Green was not agreed.

Clerk to write

- Thank you letter from carnival association.
- Athil dolls cabinet. Work complete. Agreed to send cheque for electrical work.

10. Information and Reports

Requests from members for additional matters off report or information only to be brought to the attention of the council.

Cllr Peter De-Vaux Balbirnie confirmed that 10 dog fouling signs have been received.

11. County and District Councillors Report

- i) **County Councillor – Cllr Derek Robinson.** The B1027 has been surveyed for signage. Signs will be erected this month. The work to change the road layout at Thorrington railway gates will cause a problem with congestion, has asked Highways to investigate regarding HGV's. Frating Abbey Road also been brought to their attention for a ban on HGV's, will raise issue again. Chair suggested taking photo's before work on railway crossing begin.

Cllr Gibbon to take photographs

Clerk to write letter.

Cllr De-Vaux Balbirnie to put a case forward.

Essex Police want to recruit more officers and get more sworn officers on the streets rather than PCSO's. There will be a full council meeting in two weeks time where this issue will be brought up.

- ii) **District Councillor – Cllr Lynda McWilliams.** Emailed Network Rail regarding lorries reversing onto Plough Road near school in dangerous manner. Has requested they carry out a risk assessment in the same manner that Tesco did to avoid any accidents. Waiting for reply. There is a sign up in Heckford Road directing public to St Osyth Caravan Parks.

Clerk to write to Highways to determine if it is an official tourist sign.

£2000 for small schemes now available.

No update regarding Seawick signs. TDC enforcement are dealing with this.

12. Highways.

- VAS sign at Aingers Green, has to be column mounted as no street lamps. The issue is to be raised again in 4 months time at November meeting following review of existing VAS and speed watch.

Clerk to place on November Agenda

- B1029 Frating Road. This should have been Frating Abbey Road.

Clerk to write to Highways with correction.

- Speed Gun. A grant was received for £750 from Good Neighbours. 7 volunteers now trained and 3 more being trained. Will monitor its success.
- Letter from Marjorie Vickers regarding lorries passing through the village.

Clerk to reply

Clerk to write to Amber Leisure who are based at Bentley Country Park to request using Thorrington Route.

To be placed on August Agenda

13. Lighting

Proposed light near the pharmacy. It was agreed that a light was necessary and it was proposed and agreed with a majority of 7-1 in favour of it being placed on the triangle.

Clerk to order

14. Chapel Terrace

will not be discussed until further correspondence received from Mr Jordan.

15. Youth Bus

Nothing to report.

16. Great Bentley Football Club

It was agreed the lease could be extended to 2025. Clerk to obtain a copy of the lease either from the FC or Alistair Keeble Solicitors.

Clerk to write to Football Club and Alistair Keeble Solicitors

17. The Flag Public House

This establishment is now open as a public house, it was noted that they would require planning permission to remove the concrete slabs. They have been asked to apply for permission from TDC.

18. Finance

- Expenditure for the month approved. Proposed by Cllr Robert Taylor, seconded by Cllr Bill Herbert. Cllr Wright & Cllr Fox signed the cheques.
- It was agreed that Cllr Lynda McWilliams offer to carry out the Audit be accepted.

Clerk to write to Mrs Mavis Balbirnie thanking her for her kind offer.

19 Committee Reports

a) Allotments – Play Area – Village Green Committee

- It was agreed a new battery for the Ferguson can be purchased.

Clerk to contact Veolia to request a bin at Aingers Green.

To be placed on August Agenda

- Cllr Fox raised the idea of having bags attached to dog fouling bins, as seen in another area. These were donated by a local business, it could be suggested to local businesses to do the same for Great Bentley.
- No fires in the Spinney signs discussed. To monitor.
- It was suggested that the signs on the Green be replaced with aluminium rather than the current wooden ones. 10 would be required, all members agreed.

Clerk to order.

- There appears to be a problem with rats on the allotments.

Clerk to speak to TDC regarding costs for baiting

Clerk to place on August Agenda

- Play area ROSPA report received, they listed several faults, Cllr Herbert has contacted Bruce Landscapes and will oversee the alterations to rectify them.

Cllr Herbert to monitor

b) Planning

08/00673/FUL Mrs W Chalkley NO OBJECTION	Raised decking to caravan (14 Willows Avenue).	Bentley Country Park Flag Hill Great Bentley
08/00829/FUL Mr G Wright NO OBJECTION	Extension of two existing farm buildings for storage use.	Admirals Farm Heckfords Road Great Bentley
08/00742/LBC Mrs D Wren NO OBJECTION	Conversion of existing attached outbuilding and garden room extension.	Jasmine Place The Green Great Bentley
08/00814/FUL Mr & Mrs Drew NO OBJECTION	Extension and conversion of existing detached garage to form granny annexe.	Cedarwood Moors Lane Great Bentley
08/00882/FUL Mr Slater & Mrs Avanessians NO OBJECTION	Two storey extension	Romnis Cottage New Cut Great Bentley
08/00888/FUL Mrs D Wren NO OBJECTION	Conversion of existing attached outbuilding and garden room extension.	Jasmine Place The Green Great Bentley
08/00939/TCA Mrs Bywater NO OBJECTION	1 No. Cedar - trim all round by 3 feet. 1 No. Cherry tree - fell.	Hollie House Plough Road Great Bentley
08/00871/FUL Mr Roy Smith NO OBJECTION	Widening of Vehicular access onto the Colchester Road A133	Woodfield Bungalow Colchester Road Great Bentley

Clerk to inform Planning Department

20. Other Reports

- a) Tendring District Association of Local Councils - no meeting.
- b) Footpaths. Cllr Wright thanked and congratulated Mr Gollifer on his work so far in the area. Cllr Gibbon felt there was too much work involved and that the landowners should do it. Any problem area should be reported to the clerk and she will forward to highways.
- c) Transport. The Survey has been completed, it was recommended by ECC & RCCE. 10% of population responded with the biggest representation from the over 55s age group. Results showed 19 households with no access to cars, 5 households unaware of the existing services. 2/3 would use

a shopper service, a possibility would be to divert the current Colchester to Clacton route through the village. Cllr Hills thanked Peter for his work.

Peter Harry to forward the results to ECC and also place in parish magazine.

The Essex Saver Scheme started 1st July, passengers can travel anywhere around Essex for £8 per day.

d) Caretakers report

Report from David Tyler was read

This issue of parking at the Doctors Surgery was raised in that commuters were leaving their vehicles for the day and restricting the villagers access to that area. Also untaxed vehicles have been seen.

Clerk to speak to the PCSO regarding untaxed vehicle and to write to Highways to enquire about a time limit being applied in that area. It is known to be difficult to obtain this sort of application.

Clerk to contact Highways regarding limiting any HGV's over 7.5 tons through the village.

Cllr Balbirnie advised that the Zone pamphlet is now available and informed the public about access to local pools.

21. Questions from the Members of the Public

Mick Dorling requested a sign at the spinney stating No Fires and No Camping. All members of the Council disagreed.

Litter Bin at Aingers Green, the previous one was removed due to fires & littering. Cllr McWilliams requested NO replacement as didn't seem to get rubbish there without it.

2 men in spinney lifting out and moving a sign twice in last week. To monitor.

The Litter Bin at Mill House has been ripped off.

Sat Nav systems are the reason why HGV's are travelling through the village. It was suggested that certain routes can be removed from Sat Nav and that Essex CC is going to take Sat Nav routes off for lorries.

Mary Maskell requested the details regarding disabled access at the station be published in the Parish Magazine and also advised of a Radio 4 broadcast regarding the Best Green Village.

Next meeting Thursday 7th August 2008