

Minutes of The Great Bentley Parish Council Meeting Thursday 5th October 2006 in Great Bentley Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present

Cllr Jonathan Hills (Chairman), Cllr William Herbert (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Edward Fox, Cllr George Wright, Cllr David Gibbon, Cllr Rodger Adams, Late arrivals with apologies for absence, Cllr Robert Taylor, Cllr Peter De-Vaux Balbirnie.

In Attendance

Miss Janet D Bloomfield (Clerk to the Council), Nine members of the public, The press.

06.76 Apologies for absence

Cllr Ian Morton, Cllr D Robinson ECC.

06.77 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7th September 2006, were approved and signed as a correct record. Proposed by Cllr E Fox and seconded by Cllr W Herbert.

06.78 Declaration of Interest

Cllr J Hills asked if Cllrs would now declare if they have an interest.

Cllr R Adams declared an interest in Mr Mick Dorling

Cllr G Wright declared an interest in Mr and Mrs Strutt

06.79 Correspondence

- Letter from Essex County Council Highways and Transportation regarding a survey. Cllr W Herbert to complete and return to highways.
- Letter from Mr and Mrs Strutt asking council to review their decision to install the raised kerb around the Village Green adjacent to the Doctors Surgery.
- Letter from Mr M Dorling regarding the high kerb in the vicinity of the doctor's surgery asking the council to continue to make the high kerb their main priority.
- Letter from Mrs N Simpson requesting a tree be placed on the Village Green in Loving Memory of her late husband Chris Simpson.
- Tendring District Council Forward Plan 60 1ST October 2006 – 31st January 2007. This will be kept in the Parish Council Office.

06.80 Information and Reports

No reports

06.81 Essex County and Tendring District Report

Essex County Council Report

No Report

Tendring District Council Report

No Report

06.82 Update

a) Policing and Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)

Sarah Filer reported that there has been little activity in the Village. She said that Essex Police are training the Police Community Support Officers with the speed guns.

b) Highways

Council discussed the speeding vehicles through Great Bentley. Last month they looked at the options and the council decided that they would like to apply for a VAS. Clerk to arrange a meeting with Essex Highways.

Cllr W Herbert reported on Thorrington Road. He said there is a large dip in the pavement and in the road opposite the end of Sturrick Lane. People in wheelchairs are complaining that they almost tip over at that point, and have to manoeuvre round a large puddle at times. He said the road near the Post Office becomes flooded for long periods after heavy rain. Clerk to report to highways.

c) Road Sign -Names.

Cllr W Herbert reported that it was proposed some two years ago that the roads around the Green be given individual names to assist delivery drivers and others. He said that a questionnaire was sent to all those affected. Many of the replies were opposed to the idea because they would lose "The Green" from their address so it was never followed up. We have now received a complaint from a local business, because we did not proceed with it. Council discussed this and decided that Cllr W Herbert will look in to this more. To be discussed at the November Parish Council Meeting.

d) Wednesday Night Bikers

Chairman J Hills read out a report regarding the Bikers Night on the Village Green. This report included Legislation, Bye Laws Parish Council involvement, Police involvement, Conclusions and the way forward. Council discussed this and decided that a questionnaire to be placed in the Parish Magazine was the way forward. Council will discuss this at the November Parish Council Meeting.

e) Network Rail

No Report.

f) Double Kerb

Last month the council looked at three estimates regarding the Double Kerbs out side the Doctor's Surgery. Council decided that they would like Promack to carry out the work. Cllr W Herbert had a meeting with Promack regarding the work to be done. The council Voted to suspend their standing orders and Voted to discuss this matter again. Some resident were not happy with the decision that the Council made last month. After discussions Councillors decided to discuss this at the next Parish Council Meeting in November when all the Council was present.

g) Resource Centre

Clerk reported that the Community Resource Centre is being used by the residents of the village. Clerk reported that she has received from Tendring District Council Recycle Bins which are in the office for the public to collect if they would like to replace there old bin or have another one.

g) Village Map

Clerk reported that the Village map is well underway.

06.83 Finances

a) Items of Expenditure for Approval

The schedule of expenditure for October 2006 was submitted to Council, Schedule attached. Proposed to be approved by Cllr G Wright and seconded by Cllr E Fox.

b) Audit

Clerk reported that the Audit for the last two years has now been completed. She said that this will now be sent to the Internal Auditor for checking.

06.84 Clerks Report

Clerk Janet Bloomfield reported that there is training available for Councillors. She said if Councillors would like to attend any training to contact her.

06.85 Committee Reports

a) Allotments

Cllr W Herbert reported that all of the agreements have been sent out and most have been accepted and returned. He said that precise details will be available at the next meeting. Cllr W Herbert said that the council have received the water bill from the Village Hall. The bill is £233.97

b) Play Area

Cllr W Herbert reported on the ROSPA Report. It suggests that the council need more rubber matting round the Springy Rabbit and this was brought to our attention. Cllr W Herbert asked the council if this be a good time to replace both springy creatures. He said that if the council are to avoid erosion of the grass around the basketball net the council need another metre of rubber matting in this area. Council agreed.

c) Village Green Management Committee

General Maintenance.

Cllr W Herbert reported that a Poplar Tree in the row at the rear of Chapel Terrace had split down the trunk during recent strong winds. It has been felled and removed by Morton Contracts.

Council Tractor and Mower Maintenance.

Cllr W Herbert reported that the mower towing arms has both broken during the past month and have been repaired. He said the Ferguson is showing signs of rust and needs some paintwork doing and also some mechanical attention. He asked the Council if he could obtain a quote for the work to be carried out. Council agreed.

Football

Cllr W Herbert reported that there have been further complaints about loud swearing during matches. This time on Sunday 10th September.

Pond

Tendring Hundred Water Company has now laid the supply to the pond completely free of charge as they promised. Clerk to write and thank them.

d) Planning

Two planning applications were examined- comments on each are shown

Application Number 06/01586/TPO Rowan in front garden – lop lower branches overhanging the drive and the footpath. 5 Rowan Close Great Bentley Colchester Essex.

Council had no objections. Tree Warden was consulted. Tree Warden said there was no problems with cutting lower branches.

Application Number 06/01242/FUL Extensions and alterations. 2 Weeley Road Aingers Green Great Bentley Colchester Essex.

Council had no objections. The council said it was in keeping with the existing house.

06.86 Other Reports

a) TDALC

No Report

b) Foot Paths

Nothing to report

c) Transport

Nothing to report

Clerk to advertise the vacancy for a transport representative.

d) Caretakers Report

The Caretaker's report was read out. Council noted report.

e) Tree Wardens Report

The Tree warden's report was read out. Council noted report.

06.87 The Council approved the resolution that under section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies Act 1960 the public and the press be excluded from the meeting during:-

- a) A discussion regarding the value of land owned by the Parish Council corner of Birch Avenue. No decision has been made.

Chairman.....

Date.....