

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

**Present**

Cllr Jonathan Hills (Chairman), Cllr William Herbert, Cllr George Wright, Cllr David Gibbon, Cllr Yee Cheung, Cllr Ted Fox & Cllr Peter De-Vaux Balbirnie.

**In Attendance**

K Paradise (Clerk), Essex County Councillor Derek Robinson, District Councillor Lynda McWilliams, TDC Executive Leader David Lines and 4 members of public.

**Questions from the Public**

Lynda McWilliams stated notices advertising Seawick Market have been placed in Great Bentley and in Aingers Green where residents have been removing them. Also seen in Tendring and Alresford. St Osyth Parish Council is pursuing this. Cllr McWilliams will write to Highways.

**Clerk to write to Seawick**

**1. Apologies for absence**

Cllr Ian Morton, Cllr Robert Taylor. Cllr Peter De-Vaux Balbirnie will be late

**2. Minutes**

The meeting was asked to approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 6th March 2008. The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**3. Declaration of Interest**

None

**4. Matters Arising from the minutes of the last meeting**

**Standing Orders** The standing orders have been reviewed and confirmed by Councillors as up to date.

**5. PCSO**

PCSO Sally Boyden read out her report of incidents in the village for the month.

**6. Clerks Report**

A meeting between Friends of the Green and Essex Police is to be held on Friday 4th April regarding the Wednesday night biker evenings. Cllr David Gibbon is attending.

2008 Calor Gas Village of the Year forms completed and returned.

Questionnaire from Rural Community Council of Essex completed and returned.

Nothing yet heard from Bernard Jenkin MP. **Cllr David Gibbon to chase.**

Holes in road outside the Surgery and Evans reported to Highways.

Brochures for new notice board and one for bus shelters have arrived.

RoSPA will be visiting the play area sometime in May.

All correspondence from last meeting complete

## **7. Correspondence**

- Great Bentley Running Club donation

### **Clerk to write letter of thanks**

- Tendring Local History Recorders request for donation

### **Clerk to place on May Agenda**

- Great Bentley Cricket Club request for guidance re speeding vehicles

A discussion took place which included suggestion of a lollipop person by Cllr Hills, to make members of the club aware by writing to them by Cllr Gibbon, temporary ramps by Cllr Wright. Cllr Hills suggested a responsible person from the club be tasked to just look after the road crossing of children.

### **Clerk to write**

- National Express – New Railway Ticket Office opening times
- Great Bentley Show request permission to use the Green for The Show

### **Granted. Clerk to write**

- TDC Chairman request for donation to Chairman's Charity Fund

Cllr Fox proposed and Cllr Herbert seconded, £50 donation granted.

- Garden Club request for signs to be placed on the Green

### **Granted. Clerk to write.**

## **8. Information and Reports**

None

## **9. County and District Councillors Report**

- i) **District Councillor – Cllr Lynda McWilliams.** Bentley in Bloom received a grant of £295 from TDC last year. TDC may be putting aside £10,000 for these grants again this year. There is a delay regarding the £2000 allocated from TDC for Cllr McWilliams to spend. Cllr D Lines confirmed the money is available but some confusion at the Council. The Traffic Policeman contacted re the B1027 is concerned re the situation. On holiday but will resume on his return.

Cllr Robinson arrived

- ii) **County Councillor – Cllr Derek Robinson.** Apologised for late arrival. Cllr Robinson attended the Highways Area Management Team meeting and reported that hopefully signs at Hollybush Hill will be prioritised in forthcoming year. The full review from Thorrington to Alresford for 40mph will take some time. Keep pressure on. He will keep the Parish Council informed. Requests Parish Council to ask for a site meeting later. Footpath review: definitive footways next financial year, 2 rangers for highways for minor repairs ie footpaths etc started 1st April for minor issues. The Community Initiatives Fund has been awarded another £1m for the whole county for minor highway improvements. The County is setting up a Scrutiny Panel to support womans refuge, young persons, homeless persons etc

Cllr De-Vaux Balbirnie arrived

**10. Highways**

Letter from ECC Highways read out.

**11. Lighting**

Awaiting quotations for proposed street lighting between Doctors Surgery & the Pharmacy.

**12. Chapel Terrace**

Letters read out from Mr Jordan. Parish Council will wait to hear from his Solicitor.

**13. Bin Fire in Spinney**

3 payments received. Monitor.

**Clerk to place on May Agenda**

**19. Finance**

- Expenditure for the month approved. Proposed by Cllr Wright, seconded by Cllr Fox. The cheques were signed.
- New external auditor has been appointed. Chris Wright will perform internal audit.

**20. Committee Reports**

**a) Allotments – play area – Village Green Committee.**

Cllr Herbert read out the Green report.

**Mowers**

Due to the delay in receiving the replacement mower the Parish Council has been lent a sit-on mower

**Clerk to check insurance cover and insure if necessary.**

**Seat**

Mrs Sadler has requested permission to place a memorial seat on the Green. Granted.

**Clerk to write**

**Cricket Club**

A verbal request made that the club be allowed to level the outfield of the pitch.

**Cllr Herbert to ask for request in writing with detail of who, what, why and extent.**

It was noted that the junior football pitch is also very rough.

**War Memorial**

Mr Shipp requests verification of when both phases of work are to be carried out.

**Cllr Herbert to inform Mr Shipp all work to be completed now.**

**Cllr De-Vaux Balbirnie to get some more dog fouling signs.**

**b) Planning.**

08/00272/FUL 02 UK Ltd <b>No objection</b> <b>Submitted 20/3/08</b>	To install a 22.5m pole with 6 antennas, ground based equipment cabinets and ancillary development	Admirals Farm Heckfords Road Great Bentley
08/00428/TPO Mrs Thorpe <b>No objection</b>	1 No. Oak – reduce by 30%	Mayport, 78 Birch Avenue Great Bentley
08/00426/TCA V A Stich <b>No objection</b>	2 x Holly Trees – Trim and shaped	11 Cherrywoods Great Bentley
08/00430/TCA Ian Allston tree Surgery <b>No objection</b>	1 No. Eunonymus – reduce. 1 No, Cherry tree – reduce to shape and balance. 1 No. Laurel – reduce. 1 No. Apple tree – fell. 1 No. Bramley apple tree – pruning and thinning. 1 No. Worcester pearmain – prune. 1 No. Purple leaf prunus reduce and shape. Beech trees on boundary – reduce the height.	The old Rectory The Green Great Bentley
08/00391/FUL Mr Roy Smith <b>No objection</b>	Alteration to existing vehicular accesses. ( Shell Corner Filling Station to be considered under application no. 08/00392/FUL	Woodfield Bungalow Colchester Road Great Bentley
08/00419/FUL <b>No objection</b>	Erection of conservatory	10 St Mary's Road Great Bentley

**Clerk to inform Planning Dept.**

**21. Other Reports**

- a) Tendring District Association of Local Councils
- b) Footpaths
- c) Transport

There is a new concessionary bus pass – Essex Network Saver Ticket.

A letter requesting a trial period bus service through Great Bentley was read out. It was pointed out that Bus services will not do this.

After a discussion, Peter Harry the Transport Representative volunteered to do an article for the Parish Magazine. A questionnaire could be done through the magazine. Questions likely to be along the lines of 'are you going to USE a bus?' If so how about a feeder system to main bus route or a shopper bus route. Peter Harry is going to produce a flyer for approval at the next meeting. The flyer can also be placed on the Parish Notice Board, with additional copies in Tesco, Chinese Takeaway, the Post Office and the PCSO Beat Surgery.

**Peter Harry to produce flyer for approval at next meeting  
Clerk to place on May Agenda**

d) Caretakers report

Report from David Tyler read out.

**Clerk to write to ECC re Tesco Railings installation date. Cllr Robinson will also chase**

## **22. Questions from the Members of the Public**

Cllr David Lines suggested if any questions for him ask now email him.

Cllr McWilliams requested permission for signs to advertise drama group activity in Middle of May be allowed on the Green. Agreed

Cllr McWilliams pointed out that during work on the railway gates there will be less parking spaces which will create a problem.

PCSO will arrange with traffic wardens after Easter school holidays for joint patrols. She will also enquire about the speed gun. The cost of a gun is £2000 for a radar gun and £10,000 for a laser gun, laser being more accurate.

**Clerk to place on May Agenda**

13 parking spaces will be lost in the Village Hall car park whilst the railway gates are renewed.

Councils can now prosecute illegal parking when seen on CCTV. Great Bentley has had the highest amount of parking tickets issued in the area.

**Cllr De-Vaux Balbirnies to get number of tickets issued from Parking Services.  
Clerk to place on May Agenda**

**Next meeting Thursday 1st May 08.**