

Minutes of Great Bentley Parish Council Meeting
Thursday 4th December 2008 in the Village Hall

Present

Cllr Taylor, Cllr Fox, Cllr Herbert, Cllr Wright, Cllr Gibbon, Cllr Hills, Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie

In Attendance

Kate Mayhew (Clerk), Essex County Councillor Derek Robinson, District Councillor Lynda McWilliams, and approx 4 members of the public.

Questions from the Public

Alan Cole thanked Cllr Herbert for repairing paths on Allotments.

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Cheung, Cllr Morton

2. Minutes

The meeting was asked to approve the Minutes of the Parish Meeting of 6th November 2008. The minutes were approved and signed by Cllr Herbert.

3. Declaration of Interest

Cllr Fox for Item 17. Cllr Taylor for Item 22. Cllr Herbert for Item 12.

4. Matters Arising from the minutes of the last meeting

The Plough PH, Listed Building Status. Sign on the Green, reported to ECC. Memorial Bench, family advised.

5. PCSO

PCSO Boyden read out her report.

6. Clerks Report

All of the correspondence has been replied to from the last meeting. The dates for next year's meetings have been sorted out apart from June which is to be confirmed. The Clerk asked how long planning applications need to be kept for and it was decided that 1 year would be sufficient.

7 Correspondence

- Freedom Group – Wayleave Agreement. - **Clerk to write & agree and ensure they reinstate the green and be careful of tree roots.**
- ECC Permitted Parking Area – disabled bay. For information only.
- The Friends of the Green – The Sycamores – **Clerk to write and advise of PC's comments.**
- ECC Highways – 40mph speed limit approved.
- Unipar Services – Speed Gun LED Display – Cllr Taylor to pass to Speed Watch Group
- Harwich & NE Conservative Association – **Clerk to advise of use of Green.**
- Great Bentley Youth Football – **Football Pitch – Clerk to write and liase with Cllr Herbert and get his agreement.**

- ECC Highways – The Path - Letter was read out.
- Rosemary Smith – request to use Green

8. Tree Planting Programme –

9. Information and Reports

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

10. County and District Councillors Report

County Councillor – Cllr Derek Robinson – GBFC been given £7,500 from ECC Community Initiative Fund towards changing rooms. Rumble strips have been put on B1027 Thorrington Road at Saltwater Brook to try slow traffic down. Full Council meeting on forthcoming Tuesday, main issue is that ECC are trying to outsource numerous facilities. Cllr Robinson advised that ECC are looking to take £200m to front-line services.

District Councillor – Cllr Lynda McWilliams – Cllr McWilliams contacted Highways ref: closure of gates, ECC will not close gates during school term. The new gates will be commissioned in March. Copies of all TDC planning applications are kept on their website. NAP elected new Chairman so new movement on that.

11. Highways.

- Parking in Plough Road – A letter from Mr M Turner was read out.
- To discuss Cllr Wrights suggestion for parking. Cllr Wright updated the meeting on his idea for resolving the parking issue in Plough Road. Another suggestion was made by Cllr Wright to use a stretch of the Green adjacent to the triangle outside the PO and make that Herringbone parking for approx 10 cars. Cllr Taylor commented that Herringbone parking did not always produce as many spaces as thought. Cllr Herbert commented on the common land aspect. Cllr Gibbon raised the idea of 20 minute parking. Cllr Robinson advised of a 2hr parking limit introduced in Brightlingsea. Further discussion took place, Cllr Gibbon proposed 2hr limits. Cllr Hills suggested either voting on the limit or monitoring it for a further 3 months following to the railway. Cllr Gibbon asked to keep pressure up on Network Rail for car parking.
- Damage to Green from Hedingham Bus – **Clerk to chase a reply sent by registered post with copy of original letter. Clerk to put on Agenda for next meeting.**
- Cllr Herbert advised that a wheelchair ramp was needed at the junction of Weeley Road and Plough Road.
- Cllr Herbert advised of a trip hazard on the pavement outside Tesco on corner of road, inch and a half step. **Clerk to write and advise ECC.**
- Cllr Hills advised of a large amount of rubbish down Heckford Road from A133 to crabtree's. **Clerk to contact TDC and advise.**

12. Great Bentley Football Club – Lease nearly executed. Work to start 15/12/08

13. Finance

- Expenditure for the month approved.
- To approve Budget for 2009/10 – Proposed by Cllr Herbert and Seconded by Cllr Taylor.

- Cllr Wright suggested reviewing the clerks salary in more detail at March meeting – Agreed.

14. Lighting

- New light at The Triangle – Cartledge are going to change timer.

15. Village Historical Signs – Clerk to liase with Mary Maskell.

16. Village Plan – Clerk to defer to February meeting.

17. Affordable Housing – Cllr Fox left the room. A discussion took place about ways to secure funding. Cllr Gibbon suggested using another Housing Association.

Cllr Balbirnie joined the meeting at 20.43hrs.

18. Listed Building – The Plough PH – The meeting was updated on the recent request for the PC to make efforts to get the Plough listed. **Clerk to hear back from Robin Carpenter at ECC Highways.**

19. Childrens Play Area – Clerk to contact Bruce Landscapes.

20. Speed Watch – No new update.

21. Way Leaves – The Clerk advised that she had been assured all Way Leaves with EDF would be sent to the office for storage. Other utilities were still being located.

22. Committee Reports

a) Allotments – Play Area – Village Green Committee –

The Green report was read out by Cllr Herbert.

Partial clearing of the Pond. Stopped by rising water levels

Holes dug and pipes inserted for the 2 Christmas trees

Aingers Green tree erected

Flag pole lowered and top finial repaired raised and tested

Allotment tracks repaired

Verge at East End entrance to the Green cut back and cleared

Road planings for the unmade tracks ordered

Rubber matting fixed under seats

Dog fouling notices put in place on the Green

New litter bin installed at the Play Area

Litter bin near War Memorial re-seated and uprighted and at Play Area

Light outside Office has a new bulb fitted

Highways

Sign post at Fir Tree Corner(junction of *Weeley Road/Plough Road*) base completely rotten

Could we ask for a wheel chair ramp at this junction?

There is a trip hazard on the pavement corner of Tesco. Has been reported previously.

Alan Gosling has been supplying diesel to the Parish Council free of charge for both the tractors this year as he has for several years. Could we write and thank him and wish him a happy Christmas.

Cllr Wright advised he had ordered the road planings for the Parish Council and attained 3 quotes, the cheapest being at £10 per tonne and this would be delivered to the Green.

- b) Planning – The list of planning applications received was read out.

Planning Applications to 7th November 2008

08/01447/FUL Lady Prince-Smith	Demolition of existing sun lounge and erection of rear single storey conservatory extension.	Parkfields The Green Great Bentley
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Planning Applications to 14th November 2008

08/01547/FUL Mr Slater & Ms Avanesians	Two storey extension.	Romnis Cottage New Cut Great Bentley
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Planning Applications to 21st November 2008

08/01562/FUL Mr B Wright	Front porch and conservatory.	2 Morella Close Great Bentley
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Planning Applications to 7th December 2008

08/01616/FUL	Single storey side extension	1 Hill Cottages, Flag Hill, Great Bentley
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08/01609/FUL	Replacement of existing windows on front elevation.	The Old Village Hall & Old Hall Cottage, Plough Road, Great Bentley
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- a) Tendring District Association of Local Councils – Health and Age of when people die in Tendring. People die below 75 in Tendring compared to rest of Essex who live longer. A discussion will take place at the next meeting. A special meeting was proposed to discuss the electronic planning. No date agreed yet.

- b) Transport Report – the report was read out.

- c) Footpaths – The report was read out.

- d) Caretakers Report – The report was read out.

- e) NAP – No report.

Questions from the Members of the Public

The meeting closed at 20.54hrs

Cllr McWilliams requested Cllr Herbert discuss rotten sign post at Fir Tree Corner. Advised that the proposal made by Mary Maskell of updating the Village Plan needs to be agreed by the Parish Council. Cllr Hills asked that it should be deferred to the next meeting when Mary Maskell would be here.

Next meeting Friday 9th January 2008