

**Minutes of Great Bentley Parish Council Meeting**  
**Thursday 6th June 2008 in the Village Hall**

**Present**

Cllr William Herbert, Cllr Robert Taylor, Cllr George Wright, Cllr David Gibbon, Cllr Peter De-Vaux Balbirnie.

**In Attendance**

K Paradise (Clerk), Essex County Councillor Derek Robinson, District Councillor Lynda McWilliams, and 10 members of the public.

**Questions from the Public**

It was asked if there could be stricter rules for allotment holders who don't tend their allotments. A discussion ensued. Cllr Herbert replied he has spoken to the offenders and they will not be invited back next year.

The Athil Dolls cabinet has been invoiced at £1585 + VAT. There will be an additional cost for lighting. Mick Dorling requested help to marshal the Biker Meeting on a Wednesday night as there were previously up to 8 people but last week he was the only person there. Volunteers to contact Mick Dorling.

**1. Apologies for absence**

Cllr Jonathan Hills, Cllr Ian Morton, Cllr Yee Cheung & Cllr Ted Fox. Cllr Peter De-Vaux Balbirnie will leave early.

**2. Minutes**

The meeting was asked to approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Council and Parish Meetings of 1st May 2008.

The minutes were approved and signed by the Vice-Chairman.

**3. Declaration of Interest**

Lufkins Farm Reservoir - Cllr George Wright.

**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 Great Bentley volunteers is 8th June.

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

**5. PCSO**

PCSO Sally Boyden read out her report of incidents in the village for the month. Children are trying to climb into the Forge.

**Clerk to write to owner to secure the property for safety of children**

It was suggested that the PCSO be on duty during the Wednesday night Biker Meetings during the summer. The PCSO said this would have to be discussed with her sergeant.

**Clerk to write to Sergeant Mallett stating it is imperative there is PCSO support.**

## **6. Clerks Report**

VAS Sign up and working.

Village of the Year – judges visited for the second time week commencing 2<sup>nd</sup> June.

Best Green Village - Mary Maskell, Mick Dorling, Diane Cleaver, Peter Allington and Karen Paradise will escort judges around the village on 6<sup>th</sup> June.

Tesco railings are still at the legalities point.

Great Bentley village paths will be cut by ECC during the middle of June.

Bernard Jenkins is dealing with the Great Bentley railway station issues.

Seawick signs- no updates

## **7. Correspondence**

- Great Bentley Running Club request car parking on the Green for an event on 11 July.

### **Clerk to write**

- Cllr Peter De-Vaux Balbirnie confirmation that 10 dog fouling signs are on order and are due imminently.
- Great Bentley Conservation Club request attendance at meeting.

### **Cllr Herbert and Cllr Gibbon to attend. Clerk to write**

- TDALC vacancy for Secretary.

## **8. Information and Reports**

A discussion took place regarding the possibilities of the intended use of the Flag Inn.

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

- i) **County Councillor – Cllr Derek Robinson.** The B1027 has been surveyed for signage. Signs will be erected probably in August at each end of the straight part of the road. The signs will show exclamation mark with 'pedestrians crossing'. The speed limit is still being assessed. Martins Farm Country Park held an open day. Responsibilities for different issues will be undertaken by St Osyth Parish Council, Tendring District Council and Essex County Council. There is no date for the erection of the Tesco railings yet. The work to change the road layout at Thorrington railway gates will start between August and December. Cllr Herbert expressed concerns to Cllr. Robinson over the workability of the new road layout at the crossing when turning to Great Bentley. It was asked if it would be possible to get a weight restriction along Frating Road.

### **Clerk to write to ECC Highways, copy to Cllr Robinson.**

- ii) **District Councillor – Cllr Lynda McWilliams.** After writing to Tesco, deliveries do not commence until after 0930. This creates a safer environment for school children. A reply has been received from National Express to say they will investigate. £2000 for small schemes should be available soon. No update regarding Seawick signs. TDC enforcement are dealing with this.

Cllr Peter De-Vaux Balbirnie and PCSO Sally Boyden left the meeting.

## **10. Community Initiative Fund.**

A discussion regarding bus shelters took place. It was decided that a request could not be justified.

## **11. Youth Bus**

Cllr Robert Taylor has gathered details regarding the youth bus. It would take place for approximately 3 hours during an evening and could be sited at the Mill track. This was thought to be good for the youngsters of the village.

**Cllr Robert Taylor to pursue**

## **12. Highways**

- Speed Gun. A letter was read out from Great Bentley Good Neighbours who wish to make a donation to the Parish Council. A speed gun will be available at their meeting on 9th June. Cllr David Gibbon proposed and Cllr George Wright seconded that the Parish Council will own the gun and maintain it.
- The new VAS sign is in place at Aingers Green. It was suggest that there should be another one the other end of Plough Road for vehicles leaving the village.

**Cllr Lynda McWilliams to investigate costs.**

- Cllr Gibbon reported the drain outside the Village Hall floods. This is because the drain and the Village Hall car park drains are both soakaways.
- There is a hole in Heckfords Road 150 yards from Admirals Farm.

**Clerk to report to Highways**

## **13. Lighting**

Cllr Robert Taylor reported there had been a major failure in Birch Avenue and Cedar Way. Await EDF repair. Cllr Robert Taylor proposed and Cllr Bill Herbert seconded a complete bulb and lantern change. This has been accounted for in the budget.

## **14. Bin Fire in Spinney**

After a short discussion Cllr David Gibbon proposed and Cllr Bill Herbert seconded that the clerk write to the offender to tell him that he may now cease payments for the new bin.

**Clerk to write**

## **15. Affordable Housing**

No updates

## **16. War Memorial**

The contracted work for the memorial is complete. Mr Shipp noticed a wire cage at the base which requires painting which will be completed free of charge.

**17. Finance**

- Expenditure for the month approved. Proposed by Cllr Robert Taylor, seconded by Cllr George Wright. The cheques were signed.
- Great Bentley Football Club donation request. After a discussion it was decided that £2500 be held for the football club to use if not raised by other means by the end of the year. Proposed by Cllr Robert Taylor and seconded by Cllr Bill Herbert.

**Clerk to write**

- Quotation for new notice board accepted.

**Clerk to write**

**18. Committee Reports**

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

Cllr Herbert read out the Green report.

**Clerk to place appeal in Parish Magazine for help at the Biker Meetings.**

**Clerk to write to ECC to apply for an increase in the grass cutting allowance due to increased contractor costs caused by increase in price of fuel.**

**David Gulliver to inspect the footpath overgrown with weeds adjacent to the railway line.**

**Cllr Bill Hertbert to mend the broken Chapel Terrace sign.**

The Ladies Running Club wish to donate towards a piece of play equipment at the children’s play area. Due to RoSPA health and safety rules there is no room for further pieces of equipment but the basket ball net needs replacing.

**Clerk to contact running club for more details and place on July agenda**

Request from Great Bentley Youth FC to move the second pitch. Granted

**Clerk to write**

**b) Planning.**

08/00710/LBC Mr & Mrs Hume <b>No Objection</b>	Two storey extension to form lounge on ground floor and extension of existing bedroom on first floor.	Tom Swallow Cottage Plough Road Great Bentley
08/00711/FUL Mr & Mrs Hume <b>No Objection</b>	Two storey extension to form lounge on ground floor and extension of existing bedroom on first floor.	Tom Swallow Cottage Plough Road Great Bentley
08/00739/FUL	Two storey rear extension to form	1 Plough Road

Mr & Mrs Edwards <b>No objection</b>	living room, and wc, and bedroom.	Great Bentley
08/00741/FUL Mr & Mrs Evans <b>No Objection</b>	Single storey extension to form kitchen/diner.	The Maystead Weeley Road Great Bentley
ESS/21/08/TEN AO Poole & sons George Wright Farms <b>No lorries full or empty to transit through Great Bentley</b>	Construction of an agricultural reservoir involving the extraction of minerals and the removal of surplus soils	Lufkin Farm, Thorrington Road, Great Bentley

**Clerk to inform Planning Dept.**

**21. Other Reports**

- a) Tendring District Association of Local Councils

At the recent AGM Cllr Robert Taylor took over the position of Chairman. A Secretary is required.

- b) Footpaths

Mr Gollifer is now the Footpath Representative. Cllr Robert Taylor conveyed the thanks of the Parish Council to him.

Heckfords Road to Sturrick Lane footpath has been cleared.

The bridge on the approach to Brook Farm had a loose board which has been repaired.

- c) Transport

The Transport Survey flyers were included in the June Parish Magazine.

- d) Caretakers report

Report from David Tyler read out.

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

Cllr Lynda McWilliams suggested that she and Cllr Herbert make a list of all highway defects in the village.

Mick Dorling reported the British Legion is very happy with the restoration of the War Memorial.

A question was asked as to why the burger van is allowed to leave their rubbish behind on a Wednesday evening.

Mick Dorling will ask for volunteers to help marshal on a Wednesday evening via the Parish Magazine.

**Next meeting Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 08.**