

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

Present

Cllr Hills, Cllr Taylor, Cllr Fox, Cllr Cheung, Cllr Herbert, Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie, Cllr Wright, Cllr Morton, Cllr Gibbon arrived late.

In Attendance

Kate Mayhew (Clerk), Essex County Councillor Derek Robinson, District Councillor Lynda McWilliams, and approx 6 members of the public.

Questions from the Public

Mary Maskell – been contacted by Rural Community Council, re outcome following winning BGV Competition, MM to contact Cllr Hills direct. Affordable Housing – close to exchanging contracts, going ahead, should be ready to proceed anytime. Simmons development – is there any housing being considered - not as yet, been quiet for some time on this matter.

1. Apologies for absence

None

2. Minutes

The meeting was asked to approve the minutes of the Parish Meeting of 7th August 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

The Youth Bus was not a success, only 3 children attended although it was interesting to see what was available for them on the bus. Cllr Taylor would like to take the bus to the local youth club on a regular basis, subject to volunteers and financial implications.

Cllr Balbirnie advised that re: The Flag there was an old agreement for storing in the Parish Archives which was passed to the Clerk. **Clerk to file in safe.**

5. PCSO

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

6. Clerks Report

All correspondence from last meeting completed.

7 Correspondence

- Tree Planting Programme – **defer to October Mtg**
- School Millennium Clock Repairs – approved - wait until Spring 09 to do works – proposed by Cllr Herbert and seconded by Cllr Taylor. **Clerk to write to company and advise.**
- Best Kept Village results – these were read out by the Chairman.

8. Information and Reports

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

Speed Watch – the team have been doing very well, had feedback that letters are being sent to offenders, there is an issue with the volunteers receiving the paperwork from the police. **To be placed on October's Agenda.**

9. County and District Councillors Report

County Councillor – Cllr Derek Robinson – Weeds at Aingers Green, are a problem all over county. Railings at Tesco, still a problem with parking outside but possibly reduced. Yellow lines outside Chinese Take-away to be done soon. Road restrictions – potential problem with vehicles using Church Road, Cllr Robinson to take it up with Highways and see how phase I progresses. Lufkins Reservoir, was at recent Development Control Meeting and has been approved.

District Councillor – Cllr Lynda McWilliams. – There have been two more applications for grant funding. There is now free swimming for the over 60's and soon to include 16yrs and under. Encroachment down Heckfords Road & Weeley Road – large vehicles mounting the Green when need to pass each other. Cllr McWilliams suggested kerbing the area so the green is not damaged or lost. **Clerk to place on October Agenda.**

10. Highways.

- Parking outside school & Tesco – letter from highways read out. Cllr Cheung left the meeting due to a conflict of interest. Approved – no objections. Parking outside GP's to be discussed following meeting with Highways. **Clerk to arrange.**
- 40mph Limit at Frating Road, Thorrington – comments from PC – Agreed, proposed by Cllr Wright and Seconded by Cllr Morton. **Clerk to inform.**
- Amphibian Migratory Crossing – permission for dropped kerb requested – no comments. **Clerk to inform.**

11. War Memorial – update – final cheque received.

12. Great Bentley Football Club

Update on lease – still in progress.

13. Finance

- Expenditure for the month approved by Chairman.
- The way the cheques are signed at the meeting was discussed. **Clerk to move this item up the Agenda as much as possible.**
- Clerks request to have cheque to Inland Revenue signed separately was agreed.
- Cheque for repairs to tractor tyres was approved.

14. Lighting

BT and EDF – overhead cables – Cllr Herbert advised of an issue with the Football Club regarding BT poles – a discussion took place. **Clerk to try and locate way leaves, if not found write to EDF & BT for a copy. To be placed on October Agenda.**

New light at The Triangle – **Clerk to chase EDF for connection.**

15. Village Historical Signs – MM to get a list of the relevant properties for PC to suggest scheme to and advise taking on costs. **Clerk to place on Octobers Agenda.**

16. Committee Reports

a) Allotments – Play Area – Village Green Committee – the Green report was read out by Cllr Herbert. It was proposed to plant a new tree opposite the leaning Willow tree over the Pond with the vouchers won through BGV. Proposed by Cllr Fox and Seconded by Cllr Cheung.

Memorial Bench – It was agreed that a Memorial bench can be purchased to replace an existing seat like for like and the old seat put into storage at Cllr Wrights property. Proposed by Cllr Wright and seconded by Cllr De Vaux Balbirnie. **Clerk to write to applicant and advise.**

Tree Planting Grant – **To be placed on October Agenda.**

Parish Plan – copy of parish plan to be passed to Clerk to pass to Chairman for scanning and circulating.

Cllr Gibbon joined the meeting at 20.30hrs

Allotments

Rent Increase – New year starts 29th Sept – Cllr Gibbon Proposed rents stay the same, Cllr Herbert Seconded - one holder to have tenancy revoked due to being unkempt. **Clerk to write to all tenants.**

Weeds on Aingers Green – **Clerk to write to Highways requesting when last sprayed and request if the Council can employ their own contractor.**

b) Planning

08/01139/TPO Mrs R Pegg No objection	1 No. Oak – Prune No objections	Oaklea, The Green, Great Bentley
08/01140/TCA Mrs R Pegg No objection	1 No. Lime – Prune No objections	Oaklea, The Green, Great Bentley
08/01054/FUL Mrs J Hammond No objection	Raised decking to caravan (18 Willows Close) No Objections	Bentley Country Park, Flag Hill, Great Bentley
08/01011/FUL Mr French No objection	Erection of conservatory. No objections subject to perusal by Cllrs.	Ivy House, The Green, Great Bentley

17. Other Reports

- a) Tendring District Association of Local Councils – training sessions not well attended.
- b) Footpaths – The Footpath Rep read out his report. **Clerk to write to 6 householders and advise of residents throwing grass cuttings onto the footpath.**

- c) Caretakers Report – The report was read out.
- d) Transport Report – The Transport Rep read out his report.

21. Questions from the Members of the Public

Mary Maskell spoke of her disappointment over the Youth Bus not being used.

EDF Telegraph Pole behind Football Club – work needs to start on club by December or funding will be withdrawn.

Cllr Gibbon advised of his displeasure at the placing of the VAS sign.

Meeting closed at 21:00hrs

Next meeting Thursday 2nd October 2008