

Minutes of Great Bentley Parish Council Meeting
Thursday 2nd July 2009 in the Village Hall

Present

Cllr Hills (Chair), Cllr Gibbon, Cllr Fox, Cllr Taylor, Cllr Herbert, Cllr Wright, Cllr Cheung

In Attendance

Kate Mayhew (Clerk) and 5 members of the public.

Questions/Comments from the Public

The Pumping Station could come up for sale. As area is nearly a county wildlife site would the PC consider purchasing it for a museum.

There were no police attending the carnival, last year there was a presence which helped contain nuisance youths.

1. **Apologies for absence** - Apologies were received from Cllr Morton and Cllr Balbirnie.
2. **Minutes** – To confirm and sign Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th June 2009. All in favour. The Vice Chairman signed the Minutes and advised he would like more information on the Minutes. A short discussion took place. Agreed.
3. **Declarations of Interest** – None.
4. **PCSO Report** – PCSO Boyden introduced her successor, PCSO Rachel Oscroft and read out the report. PCSO Oscroft to start on 4th July. The Clerk advised that the period where no PCSO was attached to the village would be reclaimed back financially from Essex Police.

It was discussed that the lack of a PCSO during the Fun Fair allowed for problems to occur. Drink and possibly drugs being used. **Clerk to contact Essex Police for more support next year.**

5. **Clerks Report** -
 - Email addresses for Councillors must be within their home.
 - Clerk advised she had been offered more training, a minor contribution to costs would be required. This would benefit the PC. Proposed by Cllr Fox, Seconded by Cllr Cheung.
 - The Clerk will not be at the September Meeting but cover has been found.
 - The office printer is old and keeps breaking. **Clerk to get prices for replacement and report back to August Meeting.**
 - Clerk and Vice Chairman inspected the Allotment. Several plots not being used within the terms of the Agreement and these tenants will be contacted. The Clerk advised the current Agreement could be updated to reflect current demand and ensure Plots are used correctly. **Clerk to update Agreement prior to renewal date.**
6. **Correspondence** – Items of correspondence received for the Councils attention were read out and discussed.

Veterans Day – request for parking – Not permitted.
Email regarding Funfair – discussed. **Clerk to reply.**
ECC – Road Closures – as advertised.
7. **Information & Reports** – Requests from members for additional matters off report or information only to be brought to the attention of the council. None received.

8. County and District Councillors Reports

i) County Councillor – Cllr Robinson advised that he had a couple of Highways issues he was dealing with in the village - Holly Bush Hill & Heckford Road. His role as County Cllr has not changed and he is committed to carrying on his efforts supporting the area. Cllr Gibbon advised the Meeting the problem in Holly Bush Hill is a lack of footpath for residents which is very dangerous. He is meeting with ECC Highways regarding this very soon.

ii) District Councillor – Cllr McWilliams was not at the meeting, a short report was read out advising of her involvement with Holly Bush Hill and her attendance at the Rural Community Council's AGM.

9. **Play Area** – The usual contractor taken too long to complete works but quotes from other contractors are very high. It was agreed to continue with existing contractor but ensure his work is timely. **Clerk to obtain quote and liaise with contractor.**

10. Finance

- The monthly expenditure was agreed. All in favour. Proposed by Cllr Taylor, Seconded by Cllr Gibbon.

02/07/2009	100713	SLCC	A100	MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS	£		£
					105.00		105.00
02/07/2009	100714	Essex Police Authority	U020	PCSO SALARY	£		£
					3,500.00		3,500.00
02/07/2009	100715	RCCE	A100	MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS	£		£
					55.00		55.00
02/07/2009	100716	SMITH OF DERBY	M080	MILLENNIUM CLOCK MAINTENANCE	£	£	£
					477.00	71.55	548.55
02/07/2009	100716	SMITH OF DERBY	M080	MILLENNIUM CLOCK MAINTENANCE	£	£	£
					173.00	25.95	198.95
02/07/2009	100717	Great Bentley Meth Church	A060	HIRE OF MEETING ROOM	£		£
					22.40		22.40
02/07/2009	100718	D Tyler	A013	CARETAKER	£		£
					51.85		51.85
02/07/2009	100719	H Tweed	G020	STRIMMING	£		£
					136.00		136.00
02/07/2009	100720	GLASDON UK	P080	RUBBISH BINS	£	£	£
					256.72	38.50	295.22
23/06/2009	DD	BT	A030	TELEPHONE	£	£	£
					64.33	9.64	73.97
02/07/2009	DD	E-ON	L010	ENERGY CHARGE	£	£	£
					250.49	37.57	288.06
02/07/2009	DD	Tiscali	A035	BROADBAND CHARGES	£	£	£
					19.99	3.00	22.99
02/07/2009	100721	Great Bentley Village Hall	A060	HIRE OF MEETING ROOM	£		£
					19.30		19.30
02/07/2009	100722	Great Bentley Village Hall	A065	RESOURCE CENTRE RENT	£		£
					167.09		167.09
02/07/2009	100723	K MAYHEW	A010	CLERKS SALARY	£		£
					584.40		584.40
02/07/2009	100724	K MAYHEW	A018	TRAVEL AND SUBSISTENCE	£		£
					55.46		55.46
02/07/2009	100724	K MAYHEW	A050	POSTAGE	£		£
					9.36		9.36
02/07/2009	100725	HMRC	A011	CLERKS INCOME TAX	£		£
					33.00		33.00
02/07/2009	100726	M Dorling	G010	GRASS CUTTING VILLAGE GREEN	£		£
					275.50		275.50
02/07/2009	100727	MTM PLANT	P020	HIRE OF TOILETS FOR VILLAGE EVENTS	£	£	£
					180.00	27.00	207.00
02/07/2009	100728	PLAYSAFETY LTD	P050	PLAYGROUND REPORT	£	£	£
					78.00	11.70	89.70

£6,513.89 £224.91 £6,738.80

- The Year End Accounts were agreed – All in favour
- The Annual Audit Return was agreed and Sections 1 & 2 was signed.
- Value of premises – **Clerk to ask Insurers if they will revalue Asset List.**
- It was agreed the Clerk would write to the Bank requesting the Chairman becomes an

official signatory.

11. **Highways** – A discussion took place on the viability of a village car park. It was felt a free car park would be a benefit to the village but would be used by commuters from outside village. The Chairman asked Members to allow him to formulate an initial proposal and obtain more details and report back. **Clerk to place on Augusts Agenda.**

12. **Website** – A discussion took place on transferring the PC website to the ownership and management of the PC. It was agreed to transfer, costs are minimal; any changes to the site to be approved by Council giving 48hrs notice. The Council were unanimous in their thanks and gratitude to the current contractor and it was suggested a gift could be brought for him in recognition of this. Proposed by Cllr Gibbon and Seconded by Cllr Fox. No objections. **Chairman to write to current contractor.**

13. **Lighting** – Cllr Taylor reported on the Street Lighting Village Consultation which relates to night lighting. To be placed in August and Septembers parish magazine.

Cllr Gibbon advised he had been asked by a member of public for another light in Plough Road. **Clerk to obtain basic costs and put on August Agenda.**

14. **Village Green Sub-Committee Report**

a) Allotments – Play Area – Green

Cllr Herbert read out the report from the Village Green Committee.

A request for a Memorial Tree has been received but there is limited space. Cllr Herbert suggested an “Adopt a Tree” scheme. The Clerk suggested any future request for a Memorial Tree be considered under the “Adopt a Tree” Scheme leaving the PC with the option of planting tree’s if it needed to for other reasons in the future. Agreed.

Bikers Nights – a rival burger van set up at the previous weeks gathering but was moved on. TDC’s licensing officer confirmed only concessions that have PC approval can be allowed to trade during the Biker Night.

A decision needs to be made on clearing the Pond. **Clerk to place on Augusts Agenda.**

b) Planning – The following applications were received:

09/00582/FUL	Lyndene, Weeley Road, Aingers Green	Single Storey extension and garage Conversion. NO OBJECTIONS.
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08/01547/FUL APPEAL	Romnis Cottage, New Cut	Two Storey Extension No Comments
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14. **Other Reports**

a) Tendring District Association of Local Councils – No report.

b) Transport – The Rep advised there was an updated timetable, a review of viability of services neither of which affects Great Bentley.

c) Footpaths – The Footpath Rep’s report was read out. Cllr Herbert advised that Footpath 5 had been moved by an official and another footpath was seriously overgrown. Cllr Gibbon advised that the footpath near his house had been classed as not wheelchair friendly but he had been provided with 6 kissing gates which are not wheelchair friendly either. Cllr Gibbon to take this up with the Footpath Rep, David Gollifer.

d) Caretaker – The Caretakers Report was read out by the Chairman.

e) NAP – Cllr Taylor read out the report.

Meeting closed at 21:00hrs.

Questions from the Members of the Public

When are parking restrictions going to be done – Clerk advised ECC recently reported this would be done hopefully by the end of the summer holidays.

A surface water drain cover broken. Could a purpose made cover be used now. Cllr Herbert to investigate.

A free car park is supported. Could a bin be placed near the goal posts and the PCSO be asked to educate the children on not littering. This was agreed. Would there be CCTV at the Station. Cllr Gibbon advised this was refused by Network Rail.

A lot of noise recently from youths gathering at the station; Cllr Herbert advised most of the trouble at the carnival came from youths travelling by train.

Will Parish Magazine be sent to Clerk now for inclusion onto the website? Yes. The Church printer can be used if Clerk needs to use it. Police were present at the Carnival Friday but were not seen on foot.

Agrees with proposals for Heckford Road.

The next Meeting will be held on Thursday 6th August 2009