

**Minutes of Great Bentley Parish Council Planning Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2010 in the Village Hall**

09/01172/FUL – Bentley Country Park, Flag Hill, Great Bentley

No objections.

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**Present**

Cllr Hills (Chair), Cllr Herbert (Vice-Chair), Cllr Balbirnie, Cllr Gibbon, Cllr Morton, Cllr Fox, Cllr Gibbon, Cllr Wright

**In Attendance**

Kate Mayhew (Clerk) and 2 members of the public.

**Questions from the Public**

**Mick Dorling** – Conservation Appraisal has been budgeted for but why has the car park not been budgeted for. Cllr Hills explained that either scheme may not go ahead and Members felt that the budget was increased quite significantly this year and did not want to increase it further. If the Car Park does go ahead resources will be allocated at the time.

1. **Apologies for absence** - Apologies were received from Cllr Taylor. Cllr Cheung has resigned from her position as Councillor.
2. **Minutes** – To confirm and sign Minutes of the Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2009. All in favour. The Vice Chairman signed the Minutes. Cllr Balbirnie briefly mentioned the altercation that took place at the previous meeting which has resolved itself.
3. **Declarations of Interest** – None
4. **PCSO Report** – The Chairman read out the PCSO's report. Cllr Herbert requested the Minutes of the Meeting with Essex Police and that nothing appears to have improved as a result of the meeting. Cllr Hills suggested we write to Essex Police explaining our disappointment and difficulty in renewing their contract if the matters persist and they continue to ignore our requests.
5. **Clerks Report** -
  - Cllr Cheung has resigned from the Parish Council
6. **Correspondence** – Items of correspondence received for the Councils attention were read out and discussed.
  - General Correspondence File – Circulars, Manuals, General Information for Members to look at.
  - GB Cricket Club – Copy of letter advising the Parish Council that HAM's Burger Bar would like to sell food on the Green during the Biker Nights. Cllr Wright advised that Mr Hamilton has requested this in previous years. Permission can not be given. Mick Dorling advised that the existing vendor is satisfactory. Cllr Wright asked is it fair that only one person be allowed to trade during the Biker Nights. Mick Dorling felt that if there was another vendor there would be associated traffic problems which he felt would undo

the good work already done with the event. Cllr Herbert advised that the event is not run by the Parish Council and permission has been given to Mick Dorling to continue his fundraising event during the Biker Nights. Mr Hamilton has approached other people with his request. Cllr Wright, Cllr Morton and Cllr Hills advised they had not been contacted. Cllr Gibbon has been contacted. Cllr Hills felt that to keep the status quo would be best. Mr Hamilton can not be given permission. Existing vendor is present as part of the fundraising events arranged by Mick Dorling. Cllr Morton asked if it were possible for both Vendors to be sited away from the road to reduce traffic congestion. Cllr Gibbon proposed the status quo remain. Cllr Hills seconded, Cllr Herbert and Cllr Fox supported the proposal.

- St Mary's Church – Letter thanking the PC for their involvement with the Christmas Tree Festival and a Letter complaining about the removal of the PC tree from the Hall. **Clerk to write and apologise.**
- Audit Commission – Advising of Change of External Auditor
- TDC – Advising of Council Tax Base for 2010/11
- GBFC – Request to extend compound fence. **Permission can not be given. Clerk to write and advise the FC.**
- EALC – Training for Independent Auditor

**7. Information & Reports** – Requests from members for additional matters off report or information only to be brought to the attention of the council.

Cllr Herbert advised that on 4<sup>th</sup> December he witnessed some youths jumping over the railway gates when down, it appeared to be for a dare. Clerk to contact Network Rail and ask if there is anything they can do. It never used to happen and it seems to be happening regularly because the new gates are not as high as the old ones. Can they see this on CCTV at Colchester?

The gap between the platform and train continues to be a problem and seems that as the station is only part manned the problem is exacerbated. There are concerns about disabled access and poor weather access and would like confirmation from NR that the platform height conforms with the current DDA regulations, particularly now the station is part-manned.

**8. County and District Councillors Reports**

i) County Councillor – No Report.

ii) District Councillor – There will be no waste collection for GB due to weather conditions this week but they will endeavour to collect Monday next week. Cllr Hills advised that he was unhappy with the rubbish still being in the Heckford Road layby. Veolia were seen in the layby but didn't collect. They can not access minor roads at the moment. Cllr McWilliams explained there were reasons for this which she would advise of after the Meeting. There was an article in the Gazette that some Agency's have Right of Entry into peoples homes. It was thought that local criminals may use this article to their advantage and Cllr McWilliams will be putting something in the Parish Magazine to advise the vulnerable members of the community to check all callers Identification.

Pot Holes in Plough Road near Railway Barriers were reported and ECC contacted, they were filled in but due to weather they may appear. Cllr Balbirnie advised that Sturricks Lane is difficult for pedestrians to access in the snow and salt supplies have dwindled.

**9. Finance** – Expenditure for the month was Approved by Council. No objections.

**10. Highways** – Cllr Gibbon advised the layby in Dial Road has been built up too much and when it rains it moves and slides down. Cllr McWilliams has contact Highways. Clerk to contact Highways and include in our Meeting with Highways.

**11. Website** – Clerk to ensure all copies of Minutes and Parish Magazine are on the site and

accessible. There have been some delays but these should be rectified now.

**12. Village Sign** – Cllr Herbert advised that the sign has been damaged and is with Simon Woods Joinery at the moment and requested he repair it. It was agreed Cllr Herbert should get a price and advise Members accordingly. It has been discussed previously if the sign should be re-painted. Mick Dorling is trying to locate a specialist painter to give a quote for this work.

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

a) Allotments – Play Area – Green

Clock in the School is slow again. **Clerk to arrange with Smiths of Derby to change it.**

b) Planning Applications

**14. Other Reports**

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

b) Transport – No Report

c) Footpaths – The Footpath Rep read out his report

d) Caretaker – The chairman read out the report.

e) NAP – No Report

Meeting closed at 20.06hrs.

**Questions from the Members of the Public**

Peter Harry - The school has been shut twice this week due to weather, some parents were unhappy but will hopefully be open again tomorrow.

**The next Meeting will be held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2010**