

Minutes of Great Bentley Parish Council Planning Committee Meeting
Thursday 4th February 2010 in the Village Hall

10/00105/FUL – The Corner Cottage, The Green, Great Bentley – Unanimous decision from members that the application go to refusal determination as it is outside of the village envelope and detracts from the entrance into the village. If the officer is minded to approve we request s/he speak to District Cllr McWilliams. Clerk to discuss with Cllr McWilliams.

10/00168/FUL – The Store/Rose Cottages, The Green, Great Bentley – Proposed by Cllr Gibbon and Seconded by Cllr Fox, no objections.

10/00141/TCA – Alpenrose, Weeley Road, Great Bentley – no objections

10/00207/TPO – The Maystead, Weeley Road, Great Bentley – no objections subject to Tree Wardens comments.

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Thursday 4th March 2010 in the Village Hall

Present

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

In Attendance

Kate Mayhew (Clerk), County Councillor D. Robinson, Inspector Paul Morton and 3 members of the public.

Questions from the Public

None

1. **Apologies for absence** - None
2. **Minutes** – To confirm and sign Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th February 2010. Proposed by Cllr Balbirnie All in favour. The Chairman signed the Minutes.

Cllr Balbirnie asked Cllr Wright if the mud on the road outside Grove Farm had been dealt with. Cllr Wright confirmed this had been much improved but due to time of year and weather it was not unexpected.

3. **Declarations of Interest** – None
4. **PCSO Report** – Inspector Paul Morton read out the report on behalf of PCSO Oscroft. Insp Morton asked Members if the reporting situation was satisfactory to them. Cllr Hills said he was happy but it would be nice to have prior to the meetings. Cllr Balbirnie didn't see the benefit and stated he had seen the PCSO quite frequently recently. Cllr Taylor suggested it be emailed to the Clerk in advance. Cllr Hills advised there had been criticism recently of the PCSO but that things had settled down. The request for the PCSO to sign out in the Resource Centre was not well received by PCSO. Inspector Morton advised that this action duplicates work already undertaken through Essex Police and their management of the PCSO. Cllr Wright advised that this issue is important to the PC and explained that as the PC's biggest expense it was a tool for the PC to monitor the PCSO which is important for the public to know. Cllr Hills advised it made the service transparent. Inspector Morton advised that it is not always possible for the PCSO to

start/finish her shift at the V.Hall but he offered to give the PC a copy of her duty book at the end of each month. Cllr Hills agreed as it would negate any future criticism of the PCSO. Inspector Morton also asked that any comments about the PCSO's performance be made outside of Parish Council Meeting's. Cllr Hills agreed and apologised for the situation that occurred at last months meeting but felt a copy of the duty book would improve things. Cllr Gibbon asked if this was done would it be necessary for the PCSO to attend Council Meetings. Inspector Morton felt that the PCSO should still attend meetings. Cllr Hills thanked Inspector Morton for his attendance and advised he was happy with the outcome.

5. **Clerks Report** – Annual Parish and Council Meeting coming up. Member's tour of the new Housing – confirmed 8th April, the Clerk advised there may not be an opening ceremony and if this was the case did Members wish to take the lead? This was agreed in principle subject to Hastoe not doing anything. The Clerk also thanked Cllr Wright for his recent support with Parish Office work.

6. **Correspondence** – Items of correspondence received for the Councils attention were read out and discussed.

- General Correspondence File – Circulars, Brochures, General Information for Members to look at.
- TDC – Parish Council Vacancy – Advert to be placed in the Parish Magazine advertising for a new Parish Councillor – **Clerk to arrange.**
- TDC – Salt boxes – agreed not to purchase.
- TDC – St George's Day Ball Invitation to Members.
- Mr Paul Hammond – Biker Nights – Cllr Herbert advised its nothing to do with PC. Clerk to acknowledge letter but as decision already made it can not be reviewed until July.
- RCCE – Village of the Year & Best Kept Village Competitions – **Clerk to ask Lynda McWilliams if she would enter on behalf of the PC again.**
- Friends of the Green – request approved.
- Mrs Harvey – flooding in The Path – **Clerk to reply.**
- Great Bentley Show – Request for WC's. Agreed. **Clerk to arrange for WC's at both usual events this year.**

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

Tye Lodge – mirrors
Heckford Road layby – rubbish
Tye Lane and Lovers Lane – rubbish
Heckford Road and Shair Lane – rubbish in ditches.

8. **Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plan** – Management Plan, Members to view for the next meeting.

9. **County and District Councillors Reports**

i) County Councillor – Highways meeting next week with Area Manager, all issues to be sent to prior to that meeting and he will address them on the PC's behalf. Peter Markham is new leader of ECC, David Finch, Deputy leader. Cllr Robinson has moved from being Older Persons Champion to Disability Champion.

ii) District Councillor – The District Councillor was not present.

10. **Risk Assessments** – Cllr Hills suggested that in light of the previous Risk Assessments being both out of date and unavailable the PC goes ahead with purchasing the package. Proposed by Cllr Fox and Seconded by Cllr Balbirnie. **Clerk to arrange.**

11. **Village Hall Committee** – Issues affecting the committee are ongoing, Cllr Hills suggested that it

be on the next Agenda but keep tabs on the situation and to ask Cllr McWilliams to remain as the PC's Committee Representative.

12. **Asset List** – Cllr Hills suggested increasing the values of the 2006 List by 15%. Cllr Taylor supported that action. All agreed.
13. **Finance** – Expenditure for the month was approved by Council. Proposed by Cllr Fox and Seconded by Cllr Herbert. No objections.
14. **Railway Gates** – There are long delays still happening. Cllr Hills suggested writing to Network Rail requesting they detail their policy on opening and closing the gates and how long public should have to wait. Cllr Robinson advised there was a similar problem at Alresford and Thorrington and that more weight could be added to the argument if a joint letter were sent. Clerks to write initially but also contact other Clerks in these area's.
15. **Highways** – All matters needing attention to be sent to Cllr Robinson.
16. **Website** – Clerk to look at January Minutes and check why slow to read.
17. **Village Green Sub-Committee Rport**

a) Allotments – Play Area – Green

Soil Test returned, JH suggested the Village Green Committee work out the costs and come back to members before any work being done.

Stopping football during summer months to enable Green to repair, some teams are behind on their games. Cllr Herbert to negotiate with Football Club directly to find a fair solution.

Cllr Gibbon advised the South Side Track was now levelled. Cllr Herbert said the work was done brilliantly and expressed his thanks to Cllr Gibbon.

Allotments are going well at the moment.

Notice Board in Aingers Green broken – Clerk to pass key to Cllr Herbert.

b) Planning Applications

18. **Other Reports**
 - a) Tendring District Association of Local Councils – Cllr Taylor read out the report. Planning issues were discussed. Planning Officer designated to liaise with PC's.
 - b) Transport – No report received.
 - c) Footpaths – No report.
 - d) Caretaker – The chairman read out the report.
 - e) NAP – Cllr Taylor read out a report.

Cllr Wright suggested that the servicing on the tractor be quoted for in future.

Clerk to send the FC an invoice for Rent.

Questions from the Members of the Public

A Memorial tree has been damaged. Windows at FC have been smashed.

Meeting closed at 21.05hrs.

The next Meeting will be held on Thursday 1st April 2010