

Minutes of Great Bentley Parish Council Planning Committee Meeting
Thursday 2nd September 2010 in the Village Hall

Planning Reference No.	Application Details	Address	PC Comments
For Information Only	Tree Preservation Order	Hamilton House, The Green, GB	
10/00967/AGRIC	Grain Store	Hill House Farm, Thorrington Road, GB	No objections.

Minutes of Great Bentley Parish Council Meeting
Thursday 2nd September 2010 in the Village Hall

Present

Cllr Hills (Chair), Cllr Herbert (Vice-Chair), Cllr Gibbon, Cllr Wright, Cllr Warder, Cllr Balbirnie, Cllr Fox, Cllr Taylor and Kate Mayhew (Clerk)

In Attendance

District Cllr Lynda McWilliams, Essex County Councillor Derek Robinson and approximately 15 members of the public. Police Constable D. Heard, Essex Police.

Questions from the Public

Cllr Hills advised that Members had already discussed the Cinder Path issue within a private meeting and did not want to discuss again in great detail.

Mary Maskell – Advised that DG had reported the matter in his previous report and no Members had commented. MM does not feel the Magazine is at fault for the closure of the gates. The Footpath Rep is working on behalf of the PC. She felt the article in the magazine was in the correct place.

David Gollifer – The notices that appeared in the Parish Mag and throughout the village on the Cinder Path issue were incorrect. The proposed application is from the Footpath Rep and not the PC. Cllr Hills spoke on the issue as above.

Mary Maskell – Millennium Clock is out of sync again.

Mary Maskell - Village Calendar pictures, green bin is intrusive on pictures of Pond area and spoil the view. Can it be moved?

- 1. Apologies for absence** – Cllr Morton – work commitments.
- 2. Minutes** – To confirm and sign Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th August 2010. All agreed. Proposed by Cllr Herbert and Seconded by Cllr Warder. Cllr Taylor asked if the previous months Minutes could be sent with the Agenda by the Clerk. Agreed. Cllr Hills signed the Minutes.
- 3. Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Gibbon for the Cinder Path and second Allotment Site Items. Cllr Fox for Allotment Site Item.
- 4. PCSO Report** – Neighbourhood Officer PC Heard read out the report.

Please find below the Great Bentley monthly report of incidents for 29/07/10 to 31/08/10

CRIMINAL DAMAGE - Tesco's, Plough Road - Front Door smashed

*THEFT - Elm Close
Plough Road - Skip Dumper taken
De Vere Est - Disabled Badge taken from car*

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES - Larkfield Road - suspicious phone call about an alarm

RTC - Thorrington Road

Thanks

Les Barnes PCSO 71909

Thorpe Le Soken NPT Eastern, Internal Ext : 487603, External 01255 862843

Email : leslie.barnes@essex.pnn.police, website : www.essex.police.uk

Cllr Hills asked PC Heard if we would still get a Police Rep at the Meetings; he advised he or PCSO Barnes would try to make each meeting. Agenda item will now read Police Report.

5. Clerks Report – The Clerk read out her report (previously circulated)

Clerks Report - September 2010

- 1. Network Rail lease still not arrived despite chasing them on several occasions. Cllr Hills asked the Clerk to chase again and copy Members in on emails.*
- 2. Allotment Agreements are to be delivered soon. There have been a couple of tenants give up their plot but this is not enough to reduce the waiting list significantly.*
- 3. I have spoken to Highways about the weeds and they advised spraying is to be done within the next 2 weeks ending next Friday.*
- 4. I have looked into claiming on the insurance for the bench that was destroyed in the Spinney. They are looking into the cover we have and will contact us back. Cllr Taylor advised they have paid out for this type of damage before.*
- 5. There was a minor accident involving the tractor and 3rd party vehicle. The insurers are aware and are dealing with it.*

Thank you.

Kate Mayhew

Clerk to Great Bentley Parish Council

6. Correspondence Report – Items of correspondence received for the Councils attention.

*Correspondence Report
September Parish Council Meeting 2010*

- 1) Talk Talk – switching us over to Residential Package from 30th September. Are Members still happy to continue using them? Yes, subject to no increase on costs.*
- 2) Civic Service, Sunday 12th September – Members wishing to go? Cllr Taylor and Cllr Balbirnie will be attending in their capacity of District Cllr and Former Chairman.*
- 3) GB Carnival and Fete Committee - £100 donation.*

4) *Verge Cutting – quote from Livertons. Cllr Taylor raised the question of whether any agreement was needed. Advised it had been done at previous meeting.*

5) *Bentley in Bloom – Insurance obtained for some of their equipment.*

6) *J N Atthill Trust – To re-appoint trustee’s to the Charity. **Agreed.***

7) *Mr Irwin – Cinder Path*

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

8. **County and District Councillors Reports**

i) *County Councillor – Attended meeting regarding mineral extraction and sites will be announced at the end of September. Any preferred sites will be put forward to government inspectors for approval but any applications refused can be appealed against. Cllr Robinson will advise us of any sites in our area as soon as he knows. Heckford Road – site meeting on 10th August – suggestions made to alter the layout of the road were not feasible with the safety officer. White lining in Heckford Road – Cllr Robinson agreed with the County’s opinion. Cllr Gibbon asked if it were possible to get Great Bentley removed from Sat Nav? Peter Harry advised you can get Lorry Friendly roads. **Cllr Hills asked Cllr Robinson if he could look into the matter.** Cllr Taylor advised that TDC had investigated the possibilities of doing this but the work was never concluded. At a County level finance is the main concern, funding is due to be cut for particular groups. Cllr Robinson feels that only statutory requirements will be covered. Cllr Balbirnie advised there will be an emergency 40mph limit being installed in Weeley. Cllr Herbert advised there is a large increase of large lorries using Tye Bridge which don’t have GB as their destination and can this be stopped. Cllr Robinson felt not but would ask County Officers to liaise with TDC. Although the signage says unsuitable for large vehicles but unless banned they can still use.*

ii) *District Councillor – Agreed white lines do slow down traffic. TDC also looking at Finance issues and waiting for government to confirm figures. Requested input at NAP item.*

9. **Finance –**

a) *Expenditure for the month was approved by Council. **There were no objections.***

Items of Expenditure for
Approval
2nd September 2010
Great Bentley Parish Council

02/09/2010	100900	K MAYHEW	A010	Clerks Salary	£607.14	£607.14
		CHEQUE BOOK NO 100901 - 100950		LOST IN POST AND CANCELLED	AT BANK	
				REPAIR/MAINTENANCE		
02/09/2010	100951	GW BENNETT	G050	MOWERS	£120.00	£120.00
02/09/2010	100952	M DORLING	G020	STRIMMING	£220.00	£220.00
				GRASS CUTTING VILLAGE		
02/09/2010	100953	M DORLING	G010	GREEN	£203.00	£203.00
02/09/2010	100954	M DORLING	M010	GENERAL MAINTENANCE	£ 32.50	£ 32.50
		GREAT BENTLEY VILLAGE				
02/09/2010	100955	HALL	A065	RESOURCE CENTRE RENT	£171.27	£171.27
02/09/2010	100956	PHILIP LIVERTON LTD	G030	GRASS VERGE CUTTING	£492.50	£86.19 £578.69
		GREAT BENTLEY VILLAGE				
02/09/2010	100957	HALL	A060	ROOM HIRE	£ 19.80	£ 19.80
02/09/2010	100958	D TYLER	A013	CARETAKER	£ 63.00	£ 63.00
02/09/2010	100959	GLASDON UK LTD	C030	RUBBISH BINS	£ 90.14	£15.77 £105.91

02/09/2010	100960	GLASDON UK LTD	C030	RUBBISH BINS	£109.07	£19.08	£128.15
02/09/2010	100961	NFU MUTUAL	G060	TRACTOR INSURANCE	£150.16		£150.16
02/09/2010	DD	E-ON	L010	ENERGY CHARGE	£250.49	£43.84	£294.33
02/09/2010	DD	TALKTALK	A035	BROADBAND CHARGES	£ 19.99	£ 3.50	£ 23.49
02/09/2010	100962	MAY GURNEY LTD	L020	LAMP REPAIR	£ 88.31	£15.45	£103.76

b) *First Quarter Bank Rec was approved by Council. **There were no objections.***

Great Bentley
Parish Council

Bank Reconciliation April - June 2010

Deposit Account

Opening Balance	£18,570.95
Payments to Date	
Receipts to Date	£16.99
Balance Brought Forward	£18,587.94

Balance at 30th June 2010 **£18,587.94**

Current Account

Opening Balance	£15,741.77
Payments To Date	£17,476.46
Receipts To Date	£31,084.90
Balance Brought Forward	£29,350.21
Cheques not Presented	£0.00

Balance at 30th June 2010 **£29,350.21**

10. **Highways** – Heckfords Road – to discuss reinstating white lines. Cllr Hills advised Members of his communications with ECC Highways about not reinstating the lines so as to slow traffic down.
11. **Website** – Nothing to report.
12. **High Speed Broadband – Parish Needs Survey** – Members consulted the public who were in the gallery and they voted as Broadband Delivery being below average. It was agreed not to run a parish survey. All in favour.
13. **Housing Needs Survey** – Members looked at the survey and discussed the format and questions within it. Cllr Hills proposed that PC Members are happy with the format and it can now be returned to RCCE. No objections, all in favour. **Clerk to send to RCCE.**
14. **Carnival Security and Police Report** – Cllr Hills read out the conclusion of the Police Report on the Carnival. Cllr Gibbon advised that a local security firm are happy to provide staff

for the Carnival free of charge. Cllr Hills asked for comments, all in favour. Cllr Taylor suggested we check their insurance cover.

- 15. Private Security for Village** – Cllr Hills declared an interest in the matter as Oakpark Security are tenants. Cllr Fox asked PC Heard on his opinion. PC Heard advised they liaise very well with security firms within the area. There would be no less police response because of having a private firm working. The Clerk advised some firms can issue penalty notices and PC Heard advised they can do so for dog fouling, littering etc. Cllr McWilliams advised Tower Security have issued parking tickets for TDC. Cllr Taylor advised the flower festival abandoned using private security as not happy with service. Cllr Hills asked what Members felt about the idea of using private security? Cllr Taylor felt we may not get the same service as a PCSO. Cllr Fox is in support of the proposal. Cllr Gibbon suggested we get the firms in and tell them what we want. Cllr Gibbon proposed the suggestion and Cllr Fox seconded it. Cllr Wright proposed that Cllr Gibbon and Cllr Fox form a sub-committee. Cllr Gibbon suggested Cllr Wright and Cllr Herbert join the Sub-Committee. **Agreed. A Meeting is to be convened before the next Full Council Meeting to report back to all. Clerk to arrange.**

16. Village Green Sub-Committee Report –

A meeting of The Green Committee took place on 26th August at The Resource Centre at 7.30pm Those present were Cllrs B.Herbert, D. Gibbon, C. Warder and G.Wright. Also the Council's Contractor, M.Dorling. Contractor H.Tweed sent her apologies.

It was felt by all that the PC should immediately seek the advice of our solicitor regarding the legal position with the as yet unused allotments to the south of Plough Road Industrial Estate. (Map from 1986 attached). **Cllr Hills asked if this could be deferred to the next meeting and as mentioned an extra-ordinary meeting will be convened within the month. Cllr Gibbon declared an interest.** Cllr Taylor gave his view of the position as did Cllr Gibbon. Members are to look at the legal situation and Cllr Hills will report back at the next meeting.

Both the new and second Junior Football pitches need attention. Cllr Gibbon will attend to these with harrows and with grass seed supplied by the FC.

Old unused goalposts have been left beside the clubhouse causing difficulty in cutting the grass. **Cllr Warder is dealing with this issue and will report back next month.**

A large pink bus frequently parks beside The Plough. Cllr Gibbon and myself have asked the owner to move it but it returns, taking up valuable parking spaces. It was suggested that four strategically placed bollards at the edge of the hard surface would prevent it going back far enough to avoid blocking the road. The area behind this, where the telephone box once stood, has recently been levelled and is soon to be seeded. Cllr Herbert asked Members if they were happy to purchase the bollards? Proposed by Cllr Gibbon, Seconded by Cllr Warder. No objections.

Cllr Gibbon has deposited between 5000-10000 litres of much needed water in the pond since July.

The new bins have arrived.

It may be possible to replace the broken seat in Plough Road with one which was previously taken to Lodge Farm from the Aingers Green Play Area.

Cllr Gibbon has a proposal to put to the PC regarding Carnival security next year. (From last month)

Highways

There has been a large increase in the number of heavy lorries using Tye Bridge.

Many of these do not have Great Bentley as their final destination and are making a short cut along unsuitable narrow lanes and over a bridge built in 1862. Can anything be done?

Meeting ended at 8.15pm

Bill Herbert

17. Other Reports

a) Tendring District Association of Local Councils -

Great Bentley Parish Council 02/09/10

Report on Tendring District Association of Local Councils 28/07/10

This meeting was largely taken over by a visit by the Chairman of the EALC and Joy Shepherd the Chief Executive. Out of interest I reproduce the Chairman's report

Report by Cllr. John Buchanan, Chairman, Essex Association of Local Councils.

The importance of the Parish Council sector in delivering the Localism Agenda of the new coalition government cannot be understated. Both parties in the coalition have in the past made encouraging noises about the value of empowering local people to make the decisions which affect the delivery of public services in their area. The previous government got as far as making the Power of Wellbeing available to suitably qualified local councils, and also imposed on principal authorities a "duty to involve" local councils in their Sustainable Community Strategies through the Local Strategic Partnerships. So far these two initiatives are just beginning to make their presence felt. If the new government's localism agenda is to gain any credibility in our sector, surely we need to see legislation to place a statutory obligation on principal authorities to transfer funding streams along with responsibility for service provisions at local levels to such town and parish councils as aspire to deliver them. Our National Association staff are working very hard to position the local council sector at the heart of the "Big Society".

The outcome of the general election has effectively brought about the demise of regional government. The Regional Assembly had already been abolished. It was supposed to be replaced by a Leaders' Board and a Regional Strategy Board. The government has revoked the East of England Plan, and cancelled all other regional strategies. Funding for the Leaders' Board and RSB terminates at the end of September. The East of England Local Government Association has been formed and is in the process of closing down those activities. It comprises the 52 principal authorities in the area previously known as the East of England. The Decentralisation and Localism Bill will "abolish the regional spatial strategies and return decision making on housing and planning to local councils." As with most government statements, I assume the reference to "local councils" is to principal authorities, not to local councils as we know them, but that should not prevent us lobbying for our share of influence. I attended the inaugural meeting of the EELGA Assembly on July 2, and lines of communication have been opened between EEAPTC and that body. There is no formal provision for any representation of the parish sector, but it is expected that an informal productive partnership can be established.

It has also been announced that the East of England Development Agency (EEDA) will close down, this is expected to be at the end of March 2012, and that the Government Office for the East of England (GO-EAST) will be wound down. Economic development is to be handled by new Local Enterprise Partnerships. These are to be managed as partnerships between the business community in a specified area and the principal authorities for that area. A team is already working on this for the region, as proposals have to be submitted by September 6. Large swathes of bureaucracy are simply being abolished, such as vast amounts of reporting back to government on performance against centrally determined targets, and this will enable the principal authorities to save millions, and reduce staff, as well as eliminating the central government functions which processed it all.

All this means that the County Council, and the respective Borough & District Councils are even now in the throes of trying to work out what it means for them. The County Council are resurrecting the processes for producing a county structure plan, while district & boroughs, depending on what state they are in with respect to their Local Development Frameworks, are desperately trying to figure out what it will mean for them to get decision making on housing and planning returned to them.

One regional organisation which has not yet been submitted to the axe is the East of England Rural Forum. Six representatives of the parish sector in the region attend the quarterly meetings. The

main output of the forum over the last year is the *Regional Rural White Paper*, which will be officially launched in September.

The EALC is well placed to work with ECC as things develop, as we are full members of the Essex Partnership, worked on the Essex Rural Strategy, and are participating in the delivery of the Local Area Agreement. It is up to our district associations to nourish the relationships with their own principal authorities, and to demonstrate that the parish and town councils are able to continue to be part of integrated local government as the new landscape unfolds.

It all seems to make for exciting times. July 2010.

b) Transport Report – The next PC TR Meeting is in October.

c) Footpaths –

Footpath Report for Great Bentley Parish Council August 2010

The numbering of paths in the parish of Great Bentley is as stated on the “Definitive Map of Public Rights of Way for the County of Essex” dated 1 July 2002, scale 1:10,000. For descriptions of paths please see previous reports.

Notes on paths as at 26/08/10

- 1.
- 2.
3. Path strimmed by Highways
- 4.
- 5.
- 7.
- 8.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.
- 13.
- 17.
- 19.

D.E.Gollifer
(Footpath Representative) 26/08/10

d) Caretaker – The Chairman read out the Caretakers report.

e) NAP Report – Cllr Taylor read out the report.

Great Bentley Parish Council 02/09/10
Report on Neighbourhood Action Panel 8/07/10

Report from Robert Taylor comprising abbreviated minutes of last meeting with items relating to or of interest to Great Bentley.

1. Chairman's report

Our MP Bernard Jenkin has written to the MD of National Express regarding the matter of the young man who fell under a train at Alresford.

Frank has received the minutes from two British Transport Police and Communities Together meetings he attended on the panel's behalf. He has also attended a BTP meeting, which produced some excellent workable ideas for our area. The subject matter of these meetings is safety/crime and security on the railway areas in South Suffolk and Essex covered by National Express; our area featured because of the ASB by youths that drink and misbehave on Station platforms. It is intended to try an experimental alcohol control zone at Alresford Station and the shops near to the

station. Frank is to send specific information to panel members, as he would like the panels support.

There are further reports of trouble at other Stations on the Clacton line.

There is a special operation in the Tendring area to deal with railway related crime. Frank is to provide full details when he has received them from Inspector Nunn and Sgt. Thomson of BTP. The UK Border Agency is also involved in this operation.

- Further news is that the anti-social behaviour reporting line has been closed down to save money and as this panel have been advising people to call this line, it must now be highlighted to call the police number instead; 0300 333 4444 or if it is a crime in progress 999.
- Frank mentioned the tragic fatality at Great Bentley of the young lady from Thorrington. There was discussion around this and Lynda mentioned she has raised issues with the Area Highways on several points residents have raised and awaiting a response. Frazer also commented on the idea of speed limit in the area. Frank is to write to Area Highways giving TRSNAP support to improvements being made along the A133 due to the number of accidents.

2. Great Bentley – Youth Disturbances at Green and Railway Station – Carnival Weekend

Lynda and Robert reported on an ASB issue, due to a large group of 40 or so youths causing a disturbance at the fair and railway station in Gt. Bentley, on the evening of Friday 25th June prior to the Carnival on the Saturday. There was no police or BT police presence as there has been for previously, which gave cause for concern; apart from the general ASB issues, concerns had also been for the underage drinking that took place. Ideas put forward were to consider whether the area of village green where the fair is held should be considered as an Alcohol Free Zone. Fraser is to look into this matter and highlight for the future. Frank is taking up the matter with Chief Superintendent Jon Hayter.

It was agreed to make our Police Priority 3 ASB around Community Events.

3. Alcohol Control Zones – Alresford and Great Bentley

Frank and Robert are to contact the respective Parish Councils regarding Designated Public Place Orders.

4. The next meeting is to be held in the Council Chamber at Weeley on Wednesday 22nd September 2010 starting at 7.30 pm

Robert Taylor

Cllr Hills asked members if they felt the alcohol free zone at the station was a good idea. Agreed. Cllr McWilliams now does Station Watch and has advised BTP there is no PCSO and they are going to be more vigilant. At the next NAP Meeting concerns in our area are to be discussed and listed those she felt were a priority and asked Members if they were happy for herself and Cllr Taylor to continue. Agreed.

- f) **Village Events requiring Police Attendance** - PC Heard advised he will police the Circus. Clerk to advise him of dates.

26th September – RBL re-dedication of War Memorial – a group of people will be proceeding from the Village Hall to the War Memorial.

The Meeting closed at 8.48pm.

Questions from the Members of the Public

Cllr McWilliams – dog fouling – persons can be trained to issue tickets, TDC do the training. Could be linked to the security firms?

Mick Dorling – Survey on limited parking to the village – will it be re-opened when the car park issue is

formalised? Cllr Hills said we needed to wait until the lease had been received.

Mary Maskell – RCCE is a charity, to get funding they have to generate some funding. What sort of Housing? Cllr Hills suggested we wait and see what the survey highlights. Elderly and Young People are in need too.

Mr Hegarty – Can the public find out information on any proposed Housing? There are many issues in Aingers Green that don't appear to be present in Great Bentley such as weeds, speeding, signing etc. Cllr Hills advised that all details will be in the Parish Mag. When do the public get to see information on what the PC discuss? Cllr Taylor explained the process of affordable housing in more detail. Mr Hegarty asked where the information is available in hard copy form. Cllr Hills advised he could get it from the PC at the Meeting.

The next Meeting will be held on Thursday 7th October 2010