

ALL MINUTES ARE UNAPPROVED UNTIL THE NEXT FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of Great Bentley Parish Council Planning Committee Meeting 7.15pm, Thursday 3rd March 2011 in the Village Hall

Present

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

In Attendance - Approximately 15 electors.

1. Apologies for absence – None

2. Declarations of Interest

Members were reminded that they were required to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they knew they might have in items of business on the meetings agenda. They were reminded that they would need to repeat their declaration at the appropriate point in the meeting and to leave the room if the interest was a prejudicial one. Unforeseen interests must be declared similarly at the appropriate time.

3. Public Question Time

Cllr McWillims advised that Planning Officers were recommending refusal on application 11/00116/FUL due to ventilation system.

Roger Adams – 11/00116/FUL – feels application is inappropriate for the area which is already very congested with the Gym, Chinese Take-away, Tesco.

4. Minutes

RESOLVED: That the decisions recorded at the last Meeting on 3rd February 2011 be approved and signed as a correct record.

5. Planning Applications

Planning Reference No.	Application Details	Address	PC Comments
11/00138/FUL	Garage extension/utility area & rear two storey extension.	Heathbern, The Path, GB	No comments.
11/00116/FUL	Change of use from retail to Fish & Chip Takeaway & external cowl.	Former Great Bentley Food Hall, Plough Road, GB	Objects.

The Fish & Chip Takeaway Application was discussed at length by all Members. Cllr Gibbon suggested the application be refused due to the congestion in the area already and the difficulties in parking. Cllr Taylor suggested the PC comment on the litter aspect.

Cllr Gibbon proposed the application be refused – all Members were in favour, there were no objections Reasons against: Congestion, Flue, Smells, Environmental Impact – litter. .

6. Correspondence

There were no items to report.

7. Planning matters for report (for information only)

No matters were raised.

8. Forthcoming meetings

The next Meeting is scheduled for 7th April 2011.

Business having been concluded, the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.39pm.

Signed: Chairman

Date:

**Minutes of Great Bentley Parish Council Meeting
7.30pm, Thursday 3rd March 2011 in the Village Hall**

Present

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

In Attendance

Mick Dorling, Contractor and approximately 19 electors.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME WILL BE FOR A MAXIMUM OF 10 MINUTES AND LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES PER PERSON AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN

Peter Harry – Caravans on lorry's being brought through the village again and an abandoned car on Green – Cllr Herbert advised this had been dealt with.

37. Apologies for absence – None

38. Minutes – RESOLVED: *That the decisions recorded at the last Meeting on 3rd February 2011 be approved and signed as a correct record. Proposed by Cllr Gibbon, Seconded by Cllr Taylor. The Chairman signed the Minutes.*

39. Declarations of Interest – *Members were reminded that they were required to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they knew they might have in items of business on the meetings agenda. They were reminded that they would need to repeat their declaration at the appropriate point in the meeting and to leave the room if the interest was a prejudicial one. Unforeseen interests must be declared similarly at the appropriate time.*

*Cllr Wright declared a Personal & Prejudicial Interest in Item 48 –St Mary's Farm.
Cllr Gibbon declared a Personal & Prejudicial Interest in Item 48 – St Mary's Farm.*

40. Police Report & PCSO – The Clerk read out the Police report.

These are the incidents in Great Bentley for the month of February

*Criminal Damage - De Vere Estate - (Car window smashed on drive)
Heckfords Road - (Windows smashed at football club)*

Nuisance Youth - Plough Road - (Train Station)

Nuisance Other - Sycamore Place - (2 Males in a van had a argument with a resident)

Attempted Burglary Dwelling - De Vere Estate

RTC - Dial Road

Les Barnes PCSO 71909

PCSO – Members discussed the current situation and it was Proposed by Cllr Warder that a Meeting be arranged with EP and Linda Belgrove, Independent Police Authority Member, Seconded by Cllr Herbert. All in favour.

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

- 1) There has been one Allotment given up in the last month which leaves 2 plots available – once these have been reassigned the waiting list will be at 6.*
- 2) The Audit Commission has advised of a change of External Auditor for the PC.*
- 3) The Resource Centre has had a thorough sort out as a result of the sub-let Agreement made with the Pre-School Leader. It has resulted in a plethora of Lever Arch Files becoming available should any Member wish to take some for their PC Filing at home. Several green bins were filled with old papers which I have asked Mick Dorling to burn rather than recycle. There is several folders worth of information that can be taken to the Essex Records Office which I shall do once properly collated. I also came across an old envelope with papers in relating to the New Village Hall which has been passed to Cllr Herbert.*
- 4) The office share has started well and I can report that Allison Hunt from the Pre-School is very pleased and has signed the Agreement and paid the deposit. I shall pass the PC bank details to her and she will arrange for a Standing Order to be paid monthly. It comes at a time when many PC's are making savings and this is quite a significant one.*
- 5) Receipts – There has been 1 receipt to the bank as previously mentioned.*
- 6) I have had confirmation that the nomination papers for the forthcoming election will be received next week and I have already had 1 enquiry of interest in standing for election as a PC. Members have all been furnished with the EALC's Guidance Notes on Purdah.*
- 7) Linda Belgrove has suggested a Meeting be arranged between the PC and EP and herself to come to a suitable informal agreement that supports the generic SSA for a PCSO. Those Members who would like to attend please let me know availability asap.*

Thank you.

*Kate Mayhew
Clerk to Great Bentley Parish Council*

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

- 1) GBCC – Request for use of the Green and provision of 4 portable WC's – Agreed
- 2) GB Show – Request for use of the Green and provision of 4 portable WC's - Agreed
- 3) ECC – Changes to Transportation Services - Noted
- 4) TDC – Half Day Workshop - Noted

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

44. County and District Councillors Reports

- i) County Councillor – Apologies were received from Cllr Robinson.
- ii) District Councillor – Cllr McWilliams – Attended a recent public meeting on gypsy's – are the PC going to make any comments? Appeal is against the 2 sites, not the travellers. Cllr Hills asked Members if they wished to comment for or against the extension of the sites? Cllr Herbert Proposed and Cllr Warder Seconded a comment for refusal of the proposed sites. There was a show of hands for supporting Cllr McWilliams comments – all in favour. The Chairman asked Lynda McWilliams to give a draft of her comments to the Clerk.
Grant funding – could be useful for Car Park. – All Members were in favour to apply for any funding available.

45. Finance – a) Items of approved expenditure for the month were agreed, proposed by Cllr Taylor and Seconded by Cllr Warder. There were no objections.

Monthly Expenditure – March 2011

03/03/11	101018	GREAT BENTLEY VILLAGE HALL	A065	RESOURCE CENTRE RENT	£179.83		£179.83
03/03/11	101019	WEBECK GREAT BENTLEY VILLAGE HALL	A015	COMPUTER SYSTEM	£55.96	£11.19	£ 67.15
03/03/11	101020		A060	ROOM HIRE	£20.30		£ 20.30
03/03/11	101021	M DORLING	M010	GENERAL MAINTENANCE	£190.25		£190.25
03/03/11	101021	M DORLING	M010	GENERAL MAINTENANCE	£168.00		£168.00
03/03/11	101021	M DORLING	P090	ALLOTMENT GENERAL MAINTENANCE	£48.00		£48
03/03/11	101021	M DORLING	P040	TREE MAINTENANCE/REMOVAL	£172.53		£172.53
03/03/11	101021	M DORLING	M020	PURCHASE ROAD PLANINGS/TRACK MAINTENANCE	£214.00		£214.00
03/03/11	DD	E-ON	L010	ENERGY CHARGE	£250.49	£49.49	£299.98
03/03/11	101022	EALC	A017	TRAINING - CLLR WARDER	£66.00		£ 66.00
03/03/11	101023	MAY GURNEY LTD	L020	LAMP REPAIR	£111.93	£22.39	£134.32
03/03/11	101024	TCVS	A100	MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS	£20.00		£20.00
03/03/11	101025	K MAYHEW	A010	CLERKS SALARY	586.34		586.34
03/03/11	101026	K MAYHEW	A014	OFFICE EQUIPMENT - TONER	26.93		26.93

Proposed by Cllr Taylor – Seconded by Cllr Morton

46. Highways – Cllr Herbert – potholes; list to be drawn up by Cllr Herbert. Railing on Weeley Road to be repaired and ditch to be cleared. Clerk to liaise with Cllr Wright and ECC to report. Cllr Balbirnie requested another letter be sent to ECC for Tye Bridge as a matter of urgency!

47. Website – Nothing to report.

48. Allotment Land – The Chairman read out a brief report on the current situation.

49. **Car Park** – RESOLVED: Members unanimously agreed to instruct Fenn Wright to carry out the Pre-Planning Application work.
50. **Community Resource Centre** – Cllr Wright had further comments on the Agreement which although it had been signed the Clerk can alter as per his request and ask the Pre-School Leader sign it again.
51. **Grants Policy** – Cllr Taylor Proposed a motion to adopt the Grants Policy, Seconded by Cllr Herbert. RESOLVED: That the Grants Policy 2011 be formally adopted and put in use with immediate effect.
52. **Housing Needs Survey** – Cllr Taylor Proposed a motion to accept the recommendations contained within the Housing Needs Survey November 2010 and that the PC invites the Rural Housing Trust to investigate potential for building further Affordable Housing after consultation on suitable land taking into account villagers views on location expressed in survey. Members discussed the proposal in detail. Cllr Warder suggested the Proposal not be adopted and it be discussed further with an alternative proposal for the next Meeting to be circulated before the next meeting. Proposed by Cllr Balbirnie, Seconded by Cllr Warder – All in favour.
53. **Village Green Sub-Committee Report** –
- a) **Green Report** – Cllr Herbert read out the Green report.

A Green Maintenance Committee Meeting was held at the Office at 7.30pm on 24th February. Those present were Cllrs B. Herbert, C. Warder and G. Wright and Council Contractors H. Tweed and M. Dorling

Southside Football Pitch

The pitch is in a very poor state with large patches of mud with no grass. The Carnival Committee have expressed concerns over the site where the carnival will be. It was felt by all that we should ask the FC to end games there after the first week of April. The management of the junior teams have already agreed.

Cllr Wright will then spread a fertilizer followed by grass seed in the hope that it will once again look like a village green by the end of June.

We would like The Clerk to write to the FC with this proposal and also to ask that they do not play there, or drive on the south side grass when the ground is waterlogged.

Burger Van

The PC did not give permission for a burger van to park on The Green on Saturdays but it parked there anyway destroying patches of grass. It would seem that it will not be returning.

Play area report

We have received the report and all items are classed as very low to low risk. No action necessary.

The Path, drains.

The occupant of a house in The Path is having problems with the drains to the property. These may cross the site of the old Wades Pond and a camera shows willow roots to be the cause. He has notified the PC of impending remedial works and I will meet with his agent on site. **Now completed –badly constructed connection - no roots**

Play Area

I have and will continue to inspect the Play Area & equipment & pond every week as per the terms of our insurance until a replacement caretaker is employed. Could the Clerk please advertise the post in the magazine.

Work carried out since last meeting.

**Building work damaging the Green - Letters delivered to occupants.*

**Soakaways -Forge Lane . There were already 2 existing s/a`s - removed dirty stone near road and replaced with new. Concrete tracks- 1 new s/a 1200x1200x1500mm deep, filled with 40mm stone, covered with polythene and piped to track.*

Allotment tracks filled in with ballast.

Following a complaint from a resident regarding dangerous branches sticking out at the Spinney it was investigated and rectified.

Tracks levelled at Mill & Southside and beyond concrete tracks.

Meeting ends 8.38pm

Bill Herbert. Chairman of the Green Committee

b) Planning – As above in Planning Meeting Minutes

54. Other Reports

a) Tendring District Association of Local Councils – Cllr Taylor gave a report.

**Great Bentley Parish Council 02/03/11
Report on Tendring District Association of Local Councils 02/02/11**

Census *Last month I was able to give you a verbal report on the presentation to the last meeting by Kim Morrison of the Census on March 27th and leaflets were distributed. Since then the Parish News has carried on article on the Census.*

Gravel Extraction: *Concern was expressed at the meeting over the proposed gravel extractions at Frating and Ardleigh. The Association agreed to give any support it could.*

Standards *The meeting heard of the large number of Parish Councillors who attended a meeting with the Chairman of the Standards Committee and they reported. We all find it difficult over standards at times particularly when councillors are not directly involved with an issues but the public may perceive they are and we are advised to err on the safe side of doubt and withdraw from the debate and voting.
We are now aware that the new Government proposes to change the present arrangements and the standards boards in their present format are likely to disappear. The big question then being “how do we help our Councillors to perform their duties without crossing into illegal acts or being perceived to put personal interest before the community interest”? We may have to decide how within the Tendring area we follow the changes up.*

b) Transport Report – Peter Harry gave his report. New bus service to Clacton.

c) Footpath Report – The Footpath Representative had no report this month.

d) Caretaker Report – The Chairman advised that due to ill health David Tyler has resigned and wanted it noted how thankful the PC were to him for his hard work and detailed and amusing monthly reports. The PC is actively seeking a replacement.

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

f) Village Events requiring Police Attendance – There were no new events to discuss.

Business having been concluded, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.41pm.

Signed: Chairman

Date:

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Mick Dorling, Mary Maskell, George Wright, Alan Coles, David Gibbon and the Chairman discussed the Allotment land and the various current feelings on this.

Matt Plummer commented on the PCSO from the younger generation perspective.

Kevin Plummer – Affordable Housing – over 55's prospective tenants. A brief discussion ensued.

The next Meeting will be held on Thursday 7th April 2011