

Minutes of Great Bentley Parish Council Annual Council Meeting
7.00pm, Thursday 12th May 2011 in the Village Hall

1. **Acceptance of Office for Nominated Councillors** – Actioned.
2. **Opening of Meeting and Welcome by former Chairman**
3. **Election of New Chairman and Vice Chairman** – Cllr Warder was elected as Chairman and Cllr Herbert was elected as Vice Chairman.
4. **Acceptance of Office by Chairman and Vice Chairman** – Actioned.

Cllr Wright asked the prospective new Councillors to give a brief introduction to the Parish Council – Mr Kevin Plummer and Mr Luke Edwards gave their introduction.

5. **Co-Option of New Members** - The Chair advised that there were 3 seats and 4 candidates. Members voted for their preferred candidates by written vote. Jonathan Hills and Kevin Plummer were re-elected with a majority vote and Mr Luke Edwards was elected with the Chairman's casting vote. The Chairman expressed his thanks to Ian Morton and David Gibbon for their support and help during their time as Parish Councillors.
6. **Acceptance of Office of New Members** – Actioned.
7. **Code of Conduct (Previously distributed)** – Acknowledged.
8. **Register of Interests (Previously distributed)** – The Chairman requested all Members sign and return by the next meeting.
9. **Adoption of Standing Orders and Financial Standing Orders** – Cllr Taylor proposed the re-adoption of the existing Parish Council Standing Orders, Seconded by Cllr Hills, all in favour.

Business having been concluded, the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.40pm.

Signed: Chairman

Date:

Minutes of Great Bentley Parish Council Planning Committee Meeting
7.15pm, Thursday 12th May 2011 in the Village Hall

Present

Cllr Warder (Chair), Cllr Herbert (Vice-Chair), Cllr Wright, Cllr Balbirnie, Cllr Taylor, Cllr McWilliams, Cllr Plummer, Cllr Edwards, Cllr Hills and Kate Mayhew (Clerk)

In Attendance – *Approximately 13 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.

Cllr Wright declared an interest in Planning Application 11/00375/FUL and left the room at 19.40hrs.

3. Public Question Time -

4. Minutes

RESOLVED: That the decisions recorded at the last Meeting on 7th April 2011 be approved and signed as a correct record.

5. Planning Applications

Planning Reference No.	Application Details	Address	PC Comments
11/00418/FUL	Proposed detached house.	Land rear of Rose Cotts, Forge Lane	Objection to application due to overdevelopment of site and lack of car parking.
11/00416/FUL	Proposed extension & alterations (amendment to 10/01275/FUL).	Meadowlands, Weeley Road, Aingers Green	No objections.
11/00375/FUL	Proposed two storey extension to form living room, two bedrooms & ensuite.	Brook Farm, Thorrington Road, Great Bentley	No objections.
11/00328 – 00336/FUL/CON/OUT – inclusive	Demolition & development of 203 properties and construction of visitor centre.	St Osyth Priory, St Osyth	Comments below.

Throughout the Local Development Framework process the proposals for development that were put before TDC was that further development would be centred around the growth areas of Clacton-on-Sea and Harwich and these specific areas should be targeted in order that employment was encouraged in these areas.

If development is to be encouraged outside of these areas it will merely create St Osyth as a dormitory settlement to Clacton which will encourage car use and traffic generation. Furthermore the numbers that have been identified in the annual monitoring document do not suggest that growth in this area is required, needed or wanted.

The pressure on the existing health and education provisions will be beyond their capabilities which will either force further development of more services or the re-location of families from the area. The huge increase in traffic will impact on Great Bentley severely and the heavily congested commuter route will be pressurised further which with the level crossing will cause serious delays and upheaval in the village.

The environmental impact on this development is considerable and the Parish Council feels that sites marked as being of special scientific interest are protected at all costs along with the need for areas of outstanding natural beauty to be protected for future generations. It is urged that the District Council consider the European Habitat Regulations in their full provision and use them to protect the development of this site.

Overall the Parish Council strongly objects to all these applications for the reasons mentioned and that the St Osyth Priory has an historical place in our community and the development of the site will negatively impact on the village and surrounding areas and the environment. It has been suggested by members of the public that Great Crested Newts have been spotted on the site.

All members were in agreement with the comments made on the above applications.

6. Correspondence

The Clerk advised that the informal appeal hearing for the Former Little Chef site had been arranged for 10am on 24th May 2011.

7. Planning matters for report (for information only)

No matters were raised.

8. Forthcoming meetings

The next Meeting is scheduled for 2nd June 2011.

Business having been concluded, the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.58pm.

Signed: Chairman

Date:

Minutes of Great Bentley Parish Council Meeting
7.30pm, Thursday 12th May 2011 in the Village Hall

Present

Cllr Warder (Chair), Cllr Herbert (Vice-Chair), Cllr Wright, Cllr Balbirnie, Cllr Taylor, Cllr Plummer, Cllr Hills, Cllr Edwards, Cllr McWilliams and Kate Mayhew (Clerk)

In Attendance

Mick Dorling, Contractor and approximately 12 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

Roger Adams – Spoke on Planning Applications heard – Cllr Hills & Cllr Warder responded.

Mary Maskell – spoke on St Osyth Planning Application from the environmental impact and hoped it could be added to PC's comments. The Chair agreed to do so.

72. Apologies for absence – None – The Chair formally welcomed new members.

73. Minutes – RESOLVED: That the decisions recorded at the Meetings on 7th April 2011 and 21st April 2011 be approved and signed as a correct record. Minutes of 7th April Proposed by Cllr Hills and Seconded by Cllr Taylor. The Vice Chairman signed the Minutes. Minutes of 21st April Proposed by Cllr Balbirnie and Seconded by Cllr Herbert and signed by the Chairman.

74. 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.

75. Police Report & PCSO – Cllr Taylor advised the PCSO arrived for the Meeting at the previous date. The Clerk read out the Police report.

Noise Nuisance - Plough Road - (Plough Inn)

Nuisance Vehicle - Linnet Way - (Motor Bike)

Suspicious Circumstances - Birch Ave - (2 males looking into vehicles)

Burglary Other - St Mary's Road - (Power tools taken)

Criminal Damage - Wood Green Estate - (Cars tampered with)

Attempted Theft From Motor Vehicle - Plough Road

RTC - Plough Road

Les Barnes PCSO 71909, Thorpe Le Soken NPT Eastern, Mobile 07967466876

Tel 03003334444 Ext 487603, Email : leslie.barnes@essex.pnn.police website : www.essex.police.uk

PCSO – Update. The Clerk gave a brief update – PCSO Boyden would not be able to return until a replacement had been found to replace her at Frinton & Walton Town Council.

76. Clerks Report – The Clerk read out her report.

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

- 1) TDC – Gypsy/traveller – unauthorised encampments. **Noted.**
- 2) Queens Jubilee – Request for PC assistance to hold events. – LM advised she would be happy to take the lead on this if the PC were happy to support. **Clerk to place on June Agenda.**
- 3) Southside Football Pitch – Objection to suggested re-levelling of pitch. Cllr Herbert and Cllr Wright had a brief discussion on the matter. **Clerk to chase FC for formal proposals to discuss at June Meeting.**

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

79. County and District Councillors Reports

- i) County Councillor – Cllr Robinson gave his report – For GB the potholes list sent over, all items that do not meet criteria – Clerk to ask Highways for their criteria for each pothole and pass to Derek if we disagree with their opinion. Clerk to liaise with caretaker on this.
- ii) District Councillor – Seasonal dog ban is now in force, 3 new blue flag awards for Dovercourt Bay, Brightlingsea and Martello Bay beaches.

Cllr Balbirnie advised there was a new scheme that offered free smoke alarms via the Fire Authority. Pass to Parish Magazine.

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

Items of Expenditure for
May 2011

12/05/2011	101039	K MAYHEW	A010	CLERKS SALARY	600.24	600.24	
				UNDERPAYMENT OF CLERKS SALARY			
12/05/2011	101039	K MAYHEW	A010	2010-11	228.08	228.08	
12/05/2011	101039	K MAYHEW	A050	POSTAGE	5.52	5.52	
12/05/2011	101039	K MAYHEW	A080	OFFICE EQUIPMENT - NB KEYS	17.80	17.80	
12/05/2011	101039	K MAYHEW	A025	GIFTS/HOSPITALITY - TEA/COFFEE	7.61	7.61	
12/05/2011	101040	CLLR B HERBERT	A013	CARETAKER	65.00	65.00	
12/05/2011	101041	H TWEED	G020	STRIMMING	81.00	81.00	
12/05/2011	101042	M DORLING	G010	GRASS CUTTING VILLAGE GREEN	424.00	424.00	
12/05/2011	101043	GREAT BENTLEY VILLAGE HALL	A060	ROOM HIRE - 12th May	20.30	20.30	
12/05/2011	101044	MAY GURNEY LTD	L040	LAMP INSTALLATION	325.59	65.12	390.71
12/05/2011	101045	BRUCE LANDSCAPES	P070	PLAY EQUIPMENT REPAIRS	110.00	22.00	132.00
		GREAT BENTLEY VILLAGE HALL					
12/05/2011	101046		A065	RESOURCE CENTRE RENT	175.55	175.55	
12/05/2011	101047	ECO PLANNING UK	C070	CAR PARK - PSS	565.00	113.00	678.00

12/05/2011	DD	E-ON	L010	ENERGY CHARGE	250.89	50.18	301.07
12/05/2011	DD	TALKTALK	A035	BROADBAND CHARGES	19.99	3.99	
12/05/2011	101048	TDALC	A100	MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS	15.00		15.00
12/05/2011	101049	R MCWILLIAMS	A013	CARETAKER			
12/05/2011	101050	HMRC	A011	CLERKS INCOME TAX 2010-11	42.61		42.61

81. Highways – Railing on Weeley Road – Clerk to chase a response.

82. Website – Nothing to report.

83. Allotment Land – Cllr Hills advised the PC had entered into an agreement which would provide a suitable outcome to the current situation. Once contracts had been signed the public would be notified but Cllr Hills felt that the public would be pleased with the outcome and thanked Mary Maskell for her support. It is in the hands of solicitors at the moment. Cllr McWilliams requested the outcome be made public as soon as possible with a full explanation. Cllr Warder added that negotiations leading to the agreement had been delicate and total transparency of the situation was not possible so as not to jeopardise the PC's position. Cllr Hills felt that if Cllr McWilliams did not agree she could propose the Parish Council go public to gauge support. Other members disagreed as the situation was too fragile. No proposals were made.

84. Car Park – Cllr Hills gave a brief update and requested Members allow him to discuss the Design and Access Statement with the Fenn Wright in a bid to pursue the formal application. Proposed by Cllr Warder and Seconded by Cllr Herbert.

85. Housing Needs Survey – The Chairman gave a brief update on the position. The Chairman Proposed the Parish Council accept the Report from the Rural Community Council of Essex but look at how any future developments can be further integrated with the community. Seconded by Cllr Hills. Agreed.

86. Big Society Funding Application – The Chairman asked the Clerk to liaise with Members who had been involved with the Car Park for a costing figure to attach to the application.

87. Review of Standing Orders and Financial Standing Orders – Cllr Wright asked which STO's and FSTO's had the PC adopted. Cllr Taylor responded.

88. Appointment of Internal Auditor – Proposed by Cllr Taylor and Seconded by Cllr Balbirnie. No objections.

89. Village Green Sub-Committee Report –

a) **Green Report –** Cllr Herbert read out the Green report.

Green Report 511

No meeting this month.

Veolia Water has re-laid turf over their excavations without watering it.

The turf has dried out and MD has been watering it with Bentley in Blooms bowser, our tractor and his water and time. Should we send them a bill for this?

When making our decision we should remember they have been very helpful to us in the past. MD has met with those in charge of the works and a Veolia bowser is due to arrive today. **Cllr Balbirnie proposed no action for recompense be taken. Cllr Wright suggested we write to them to acknowledge this and the fact they hadn't asked permission to do the work initially.**

Also they have agreed to move two stop cock covers they had placed on the south side track.

We require two more wire litter bins and a new enclosed bin for the play area. Cllr Herbert proposed the PC purchase these, seconded by Cllr Wright.

Play Area – request for repairs to be made to swing seats and matting under basketball. **Proposed Andy Bruce carry out repairs.**

Reminder to sow grass seed when rain is forecast on the bare areas of the green. Cllr Wright to assist.

The vehicle that was left on the road near the War Memorial was reported to both the Police and TDC and has been removed; we are not sure who by.

A plumber is needed for two of the allotment water tanks.

Verge cutting needs to start week of 1st June. The Clerk gave the outcome of the tender process. Cllr Wright suggested the Parish Council accept the tender from the only Contractor offering a price on an hourly rate. Proposed by Cllr Hills and Seconded by Cllr Taylor. Not all members agreed. Vote to accept John Glovers price – 6 in favour, 3 against, carried. Cllr McWilliams requested the service be reviewed officially next year – agreed. No objections.

Highways

Apart from one pothole at Collesbrook, Aingers Green all others on our list were classed as not bad enough to repair

Bill Herbert

- b) **Planning** – As above in Planning Meeting Minutes

90. Other Reports

- a) **Tendring District Association of Local Councils** – No report but Cllr Hills proposed Cllr Taylor continue in his role, Seconded by Cllr Warder, no objections.

- b) **Transport Report** –

One issue to raise please. When you next talk with highways (or a friendly farmer) the exit from Moors Close is an accident waiting to happen. The weeds and hedgerow have completely obscured the 'sightline' for leaving the exit. We now have to edge out into oncoming traffic before you can see clearly into Heckfords road.

- c) **Footpath Report** –

Footpath Report for Great Bentley Parish Council April 2011

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 01/05/11

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 7.
- 8.

- 10.
- 11.
- 12.
- 13.
- 17.

19. Entrance at Hollybush Hill close to houses needs clearance for about 100m. Highways informed.

D.E.Gollifer
(Footpath Representative) 01/05/11

d) Caretaker Report –

Pond

A sign board was deliberately thrown in.

Bottle Banks

Very little litter in the area

Textile Bank

Clear of litter

Other

At the junction with Weeley Road and Tye Road, the island with the chevron, is in need of strimming. There is also a road sign that is obscured with vegetation, along Swallows Row coming towards Great Bentley.

Thursday morning after bikers' night 5th May

I cleared up a number of serviettes and a full ashtray within the area of the Cricket Club.

Play Area

The set of swings, on inspection revealed slight cracking on all four seats and one with a long split. A hole has appeared in the middle of the basket ball matting surface, also to the left hand corner, the matting is lifting up.

Just the usual amount of litter otherwise all was clean, and tidy.

All other areas were clear except; -

AINGERS GREEN St. Marys Road, near the affordable housing, my attention was drawn to the area around the 30 mile speed limit signs, where the local children have used a tree with an old car tyre on a rope as a swing on one side of the road, and on the other side of the road, a tree is being used for climbing. Apart from the litter this generates, the younger children appear to be playing in a dangerous and unsupervised area.

Thursday morning after bikers' night 12th May 07.15

Just the usual amount of litter on the green, with again serviettes and a full ashtray, along with several empty plastic beer glasses within the area of the cricket club. No litter around the spinney, and very little litter in and around the pond. I'm pleased to report all other area's clean and tidy, at time of going to press.

I would like to finish with a more positive note, and thank all those very kind people who pick up any litter they see whilst out walking on our village green. Thank you.

e) NAP Report – No report.

f) Village Events requiring Police Attendance – The Clerk advised she had liaised with PC Heard regarding their strategy for the Carnival and PC Heard would be in contact soon once he had discussed with his Sergeant.

Business having been concluded, the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.27pm.

Signed: Chairman

Date:

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

MD – Spoke on the Allotment Land costs, requested all letters to the PC be read out with a local interest. Parking is a huge problem.

RA – Spoke on affordable housing being discussed as accommodation only.

MM – Spoke on the procedure of cheque signing during PC Meetings, the Southside levelling proposal and the allotments.

MP – Spoke on the FC proposal.

PH – Requested the PC make public how the original land was lost. Cllr Hills responded.

DG – Spoke on the verge cutting in reference to the Conservation Area.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on TUESDAY 31st MAY at 7.00pm in the Village Hall

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 2nd June in the Village Hall