

# Meeting of Great Bentley Parish Council

To be held 7.30pm on 1 August 2013 at Great Bentley Village Hall

## MINUTES

**Present:** Cllr J. Hills (Chair), Cllr R. Taylor, Cllr W. Herbert, Cllr G. Wright, Cllr C. Warder, Cllr L. Edwards and Cllr K. Plummer. Cllrs L. McWilliams and P. Balbirnie from item 049-13/4.

**056-13/4 Apologies for absence:** None.

**057-13/4 Minutes of the last meeting:**

Further to a discussion about the various types' declarations of interests, Cllr Herbert moved the minutes of meeting held on 4 July 2013. These were seconded by Cllr Wright and agreed as a true record.

**058-13/4 Declarations of Interest:**

Cllr G. Wright declared an interest in St Mary's Farm and Cllr L McWilliams registered an interest in the caretaker role.

**059-13/4 Information & Reports:** None.

**060-13/4 Correspondence:**

- i) Green Damage at Station Road: **Resolved**: respond advising that this matter will be given further consideration. The Clerk was asked to include this matter as an agenda item at the next meeting.
- ii) New Allotment Land: **Resolved**: respond thanking correspondent for the suggestion and advising that this matter has been considered and a decision taken to grass, manage and mow the new allotment site in the short term.
- iii) Mill House Drives: **Resolved**: thank correspondent for bringing this matter to the attention of the Council and advise that GBPC will continue to maintain the access roads and monitor the situation.
- iv) Flooding at Old Farm Cottage: **Resolved**: it was noted that the Parish Council has no authority to intervene in this matter as flooding is not one of its responsibilities.

**061-13/4 County and District Councillors Reports:**

- a) County Councillor Cllr R. Lord: Provided an overview of his activities highlighting the issues that he has noted are topical. He visited the proposed wind farm exhibition in St Osyth. Un-adopted roads are an issue that he intends to take-up and tree subsidence is another topical issue. Cllr Lord noted that it would be helpful if any LHP bids are made through him. He supports TDC in its opposition to the additional parking restrictions being introduced across Tendring.
- b) District Councillor Cllr L. McWilliams: agreed to the Chairman's request to abbreviate her report. She advised that good progress has been made with regard to the flooding issue on Thorrington Road. BT, ECC Highways and Anglian Water have all become involved and progress has been made.

**062-13/4 Clerks Report:** The Clerk highlighted a couple of the issues raised in his previously circulated report, which is attached as Appendix A. He was asked to again chase Royal Mail regarding a replacement post box in Plough Road.

**063-13/4 Finance Report**

- a) Cllr Warder proposed, Cllr Herbert seconded and it was **resolved** to agree the

monthly expenditure report attached as Appendix B.

- b) Members agreed that they would like to receive a copy of the budget report on a monthly basis.
- c) It was noted that there was no non-budgeted expenditure since the last meeting.

**064-13/4 Village Green Working Party Report:** The report of the Village Green Working Party was noted.

**065-13/4 Other Reports.**

- a) Police Incidents Report. – No report received this month.
- b) Tendring District Association of Local Councils: Cllr Taylor reported that the minutes to the last meeting have yet to be received.
- c) Transport Representative: Nothing to report this month.
- d) Footpaths: Mr Gollifer's report including the addendum was read out to the meeting.
- e) Caretaker: Mr McWilliams previously circulated report was noted.
- f) NAP: Nothing to report.
- g) Village Events: Nothing that requires GBPC/Police consideration.

**066-13/4 Children's Play Area:** The Clerk reported that the third quotation requested has yet to be received. He was asked to attempt to progress this during the next month.

**067-13/4 Memorial Benches:** There was a discussion about how requests for donated memorial seats are dealt with on GBPC land. It was noted that once the seat has been installed it becomes the responsibility of GBPC and that there is no budget for ongoing maintenance. Cllr McWilliams agreed to speak with the relevant officer at TDC to find out how the District deals with donated seats.

**068-13/4 Essex Village of the Year and Best Kept Village Award:** Cllr McWilliams provided an insight in to the preparations and inspection process. Members **resolved** to thank the team whose hard work has resulted in securing these very prestigious awards. Cllr McWilliams will now consult with others and consider how to invest the £500 + £150 prize money. Improving village signage was suggested for consideration.

**069-13/4 Future Agenda Items:** The Clerk was asked to include the following items.

- i) ECC's highway verges maintenance specification.
- ii) Flooding on Thorrington Road.
- iii) Damage to the Village Green adjacent Station Road.

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

- i) The Clerk was asked to write to ECC Highways regarding the recently resurfaced A133 asking that the road marking hatchings are reinstated at the junction with Heckford Road.
- ii) A question was asked about the timeframe for the development of Simmons Yard. It was noted that outline planning approval was been given but a formal planning application has yet to be submitted.
- iii) It was noted that the damage to the Green by the south-side track is now one metre wide.
- iv) The Clerk was asked to obtain a budget cost for the erection of fence adjacent to the access road to the new allotment site.

## Report of the Parish Clerk Meeting of Great Bentley Parish Council on 1 August 2013

1. Children's Play Area

I have yet to receive the third quotation for a replacement play slide requested by the Council.

2. Highway Verge Contract Specification

I have yet to receive a response to my emailed request for a copy of the contract specification for the ECC highway verge cutting regime despite a telephone reminder.

3. Overgrown Hedges Junction Sturrick Lane and Thorrington Road

I wrote polite requests to both householders on corners of the junction informing them that their hedges were beginning to cause difficulties for pedestrians and/or motorists sightlines at the junction and requesting that arrangements were made to have them cut-back. I am pleased to report that both hedges have now been cut-back.

4. New Allotment Site Perimeter Fence

I met with Roger Wright on 24/07/13 to express the Council's concerns about the delay in formalising the access arrangements to the new allotment site. The concerns being due to the need to access the site to flail it prior to commencing the work to erect a perimeter fence in the last week in August. He acknowledged the position and agreed to chase the solicitors where the delay appears to be.

A contract for the erection of a perimeter fence has been made with Moore Fencing as agreed by the Parish Council at its last meeting and the work is scheduled to be undertaken 26-30 August 2013.

5. Openreach Highway Works on Heckford's Road

Further to a survey by Openreach of the damage caused to The Green by the recent work on Heckford's Road, I received a call to notify me that while there is some uncertainty about the cause of the damage, Openreach will look favourably at a sensible claim for repair work. If the Council agrees, I propose to seek quotations for the repair work.

6. Encroachment on The Village Green

This issue has been raised in the report of Village Green Working Party. I just need to report that have inspected the site and held a brief conversation with the resident of Barima. I subsequently wrote to the person who commissioned the work alerting him to the fact that the paving work appears to be encroaching on the village green there is no authority for the work.

7. Village Post Box

I contacted Royal Mail to request an update on the progress of installing a post box in Plough Road. I was informed that Royal Mail has contacted TDC Planning Department some two months ago giving two options for the location of the post box but has yet to receive a response. The Royal Mail's preferred location for the new post box is between the Cricket Club and The Plough close to the relocated village noticeboard where the old telephone box used to reside. The second option is outside Tesco in The Cut in the vicinity of the cashpoint machine.

I have been informed that TDC has no record of a planning application and so I have written to Royal Mail confirming the details of my conversation and alerting to the fact that TDC has no record of a planning application.

8. New Waste Receptacle (Dog Bin), Opposite the Junction of Plough Road and Weeley Road

Further to a request to have a new dog bin installed, I received a proposal from TDC that a post mounted litter bin could be installed on the post of the public footpath sign at the start of the path. The bin will clearly state that it can be used for the disposal of both general litter and bagged dog waste.

TDC confirmed that an inspection of the surrounding area did not highlight a dog fouling or litter problem and with this in mind should GBPC wish to proceed with the installation, the proposal is for TDC to cover the costs of emptying and disposing of the waste but that GBPC pay the £50.04 cost of the litter bin.

Kevin Harkin  
**Clerk to Great Bentley Parish Council**

APPENDIX B

**GBPC Monthly Expenditure Report, July 2013/14**

Date	Cheque No.	Payee	Code	Description	Total (ex VAT)	Vat	Total (inc VAT)
01/08/13	SO	Mr K Harkin (mth 5)	A010	Clerks Salary	820.08		820.08
01/08/13	101291	Mr K Harkin	A017	Training, Travel & Subsistence	55.46		55.46
01/08/13	101292	HMRC (pd 1-3) income tax & NI	A010	Clerks Salary	784.25		784.25
01/08/13	101293	HMRC (pd 10-12) income tax & NI	A010	Clerks Salary	513.69		513.69
01/08/13	DD	E.ON	L010	Energy			-
01/08/13	DD	Talktalk	A065	CRC Rent, Equip, Maint & General Costs	49.12	9.82	58.94
01/08/13	101294	GBVH (CRC Hire)	A065	CRC Rent, Equip, Maint & General Costs	184.44		184.44
01/08/13	101294	GBVH(CRC Hire)	A065	CRC Rent, Equip, Maint & General Costs	84.44		184.44
01/08/13	101295	Mr M Dorling	G070	Clock/Noticeboards/Benches/Bins	83.98		83.98
01/08/13	101295	Mr M Dorling	G010	Grass Cutting/Green(inc.Gas oil for Tractor)	84.00		84.00
01/08/13	101295	Mr M Dorling	C040	Allotments fencing and access	68.00		68.00
01/08/13	101295	Mr M Dorling	G050	General Repairs/Replacements	9.00		9.00
01/08/13	101295	Mr M Dorling	G010	Grass Cutting/Green(inc.Gas oil for Tractor)	248.00		248.00
01/08/13	101296	Mr B McWilliams	A013	Village Caretaker	69.24		69.24
01/08/13	101297	Conkers Cutters	G010	Grass Cutting/Green(inc.Gas oil for Tractor)	410.00		410.00
01/08/13	101297	Conkers Cutters	P010	Repairs and maintenance	50.00		50.00
01/08/13	101298	Bentley Admin	A010	Clerks Salary	45.00	9.00	54.00
01/08/13	101299	Glasdon UK Ltd	G070	Clock/Noticeboards/Benches/Bins	36.43	7.28	43.71
01/08/13	101300	GT Bentley Methodist Luncheon Club	D010	Methodist Church Luncheon Club Grant	300.00		300.00
01/08/13	101351	Bentley in Bloom	D011	Bentley in Bloom Grant	400.00		400.00

01/08/13	101352	Church Yard and Parish Magazine	D012	Church Yard & Parish Magazine Grant	500.00		500.00
01/08/13	101353	Gt Bentley Youth Club	D018	Youth Club Grant	300.00		300.00
01/08/13	101354	Gt Bentley Youth FC	D019	Youth Football Grant	300.00		300.00
01/08/13	101355	Gt Bentley Cricket Club	D017	Great Bentley Cricket Club	300.00		300.00
				<b>Totals</b>	<b>5,795.13</b>	<b>26.10</b>	<b>5,821.23</b>

## APPENDIX C

### Green Report 0813

**Present** Cllrs C. Warder L. McWilliams B. Herbert and contractor M. Dorling

#### **Seats/** Agenda Item 067 13/4

We will discuss allowing more memorial seats to be placed on the Green at the next meeting. At the moment there are 24 seats. No charge has ever been made for maintenance at the time of purchase, and very little is charged for the installation. Most need decorating now, three of them urgently, which to avoid prosecution means removing from the base and taking away until dry. Only one has been maintained by the family who requested the seat. Most are rarely used. They all interrupt the flow of grass cutting and they all have to be strimmed around. They are a target for vandals, the last one in June 2013, is still unrepaired. Usually the damage is not worth involving our insurance company, and so comes from our budget. For these reasons we do not encourage more seats, but we do not have a policy of no more memorial seats and the most recently installed was in March 2013.

**Southside Pitch:** The fence *was* removed on 25<sup>th</sup> July. The Green Working Group has found a smooth roll that could be towed by the Fergusson and also we will do the first few cuts.

**New Allotment:** The fencing contractors have a start date, we must be ready by then. Cllr. Wright and I have gained permission from Mr. D Hooper to open up the new gateway and The Clerk has spoken to Mr Roger Wright. The land will be flailed by Landscape Services, and levelled by G Wright Farms.

**Old Allotment:** One water tank, supplied by G.Wright Farms is in place and awaits connection.

**Encroachment onto the Green at Barima:** Some encroachment has taken place and I requested that a line was formed in the brickwork to denote the boundary, where all other signs had been removed. This has been done.

**Verge Cutting:** Weeley Road, Aingers Green not done opposite the houses. *Update- now completed.*

**Green Damage and F.O.G.** We considered The Friends of The Green report about damage at the end of Station Road and felt the P.C should consider bollards, wooden posts (both vertical and horizontal) and plastic grass blocks in that area and outside the Methodist Chapel, where erosion is taking place.

#### **Bill Herbert**

Chair, Village Green Working Party

**Great Bentley Parish Council**

**PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Minutes of the Meeting held on 1 August 2013**

**Present:** Cllr J. Hills (Chair), Cllr R. Taylor, Cllr W. Herbert, Cllr G. Wright, Cllr C. Warder, Cllr L. Edwards and Cllr K. Plummer.

**024-13/4 Apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from Cllrs L. McWilliams and P. Balbirnie both of whom are attending a TDC engagement.

**025-13/4 Declarations of Interest:** None received.

**026-13/4 Minutes of Last Meeting:** The minutes of meeting held on 4 July 2013 were proposed by Cllr Herbert and seconded by Cllr Taylor and agreed as a true record.

**027-13/4 Planning Applications.** To consider planning applications, the summary details of which are set out in the table below.

<b>Planning Reference No. &amp; Email Link</b>	<b>Application Details</b>	<b>Address/ Location</b>	<b>Comments</b>
13/00753/TPO Mr M Self	1 No. Purple Prunus - coppice to allow to be maintained as a shrub in the future	Hamilton House The Green Great Bentley	Agreed to object. In the judgment of the Tree Warden this is a quality specimen in a location that would benefit from being maintained as a tree rather than shrub.
13/00768/FUL C. Lukey & K. Cooper	Single and two storey rear extension & front porch extension	1 Elm Close, Gt Bentley	No objection.
13/00735 Mr R Lord	Installation of 1x5kw small wind turbine on a 18m tower	Pilgrims Barn, Weeley Road, Gt Bentley	There appear to be a growing number of wind turbines in Gt Bentley and they are becoming detrimental to the open views across the countryside. The Council supports sustainable energy production but the opportunity cost of this clean energy needs to be considered against the enjoyment of the open countryside. No Objection.

The Chair agreed to consider a late planning application in order to avoid missing the consultation deadline.

13/00835/FUL Mr Jeremy Carr	Demolition of existing single storey extension and replacement with 2 no. single storey extensions. Extension internal &	Moynes Farm Wick Road Great Bentley	No objection and no comment.
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	external alterations to existing annex. Erection of 3 bay cartlodge.		
13/00836/LBC Mr Jeremy Carr	Demolition of existing single storey extension and replacement with 2 no. single storey extensions. Extension internal & external alterations to existing annex. Erection of 3 bay cartlodge.	Moynes Farm Wick Road Great Bentley	Proposed by Cllr Warder, seconded by Cllr Herbert and resolved no objection and no comment.

**028-13/4**      **Correspondence.** None.

**029-13/4**      **Planning Matters for Report:**

Cllr Taylor reported that he had attended the public exhibition in St Osyth organised by Airvolution to introduce its proposal to erect two 131 metre wind turbines at Park Hall.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME WILL BE FOR A MAXIMUM OF 10 MINUTES ALLOWING 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN: None.