

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
Great Bentley Parish Council
6 February 2014
UNAPPROVED**

Present	Councillors; B. Herbert (Chair), L. Edwards, K Plummer. L. McWilliams and C. Warder. Also in attendance were Cllr R Lord (ECC) and 3 members of public.
151-13/4	Apologies for absence: Apologies were received from Cllr G. Wright, Cllr R Taylor and Cllr P Balbirnie.
Questions from the Public	None.
152-13/4	Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the 2 January 2014 were agreed as a true record of proceedings after being proposed by Cllr McWilliams and seconded by Cllr Herbert.
153-13/4	Declarations of Interest: Cllr McWilliams registered an interest in agenda item 157-13/4.
154-13/4	TDC Recycling Presentation: TDC officers April Dale and Jo Foxcroft provided a presentation about the developments relating to Recycle for Tendring. A question and answer session followed. The Chairman thanked them for their efforts.
155-13/4	Information & Reports: None.
156-13/4	County and District Councillors Reports: a) <u>County Councillor:</u> - Cllr R. Lord reported that proposals to address flooding are being developed. The highways projects that had stalled are now again progressing albeit within a reduced budget. The Heckfords Road layby project proposal appears to look promising. The Highway Rangers initiative is working well. Cllr Lord is trying to schedule a meeting Cllr Rod Bass to try to get action on highways locally. The Home/School transport review has disappointingly resulted in a reduction in the service. The latest local wind turbine proposal is cause for concern. b) <u>District Councillor:</u> - Cllr L McWilliams confirmed she has been invited to and will attend a stakeholder meeting organised by Proteus PR Ltd relating to the wind turbine proposal west of Aingers Green. Cllr McWilliams reported that the Oak Cottage flooding issue appears to have been resolved. Cllr McWilliams noted that there have been a couple of highway issues successes as a result of effective liaison between TDC and GBPC. TDC is at the end of its budget setting process.
157-13/4	Other Reports: a) <u>Police Incidents Report in attendance;</u> PC Barnes report was noted. b) <u>Tendring District Association of Local Councils;</u> Nothing to report.

	<p>c) <u>Transport</u>; Verbal report provided including update on school bus review.</p> <p>d) <u>Footpaths</u>; Mr Gollifer's report was noted. Footpath No. 8 has been impassable all winter. RESOLVED: To write to ECC to ask that the footpath is reinstated and that a copy be forwarded to Cllr. Lord in order that he may monitor progress.</p> <p>e) <u>Caretaker</u>; Mr McWilliams report was noted.</p> <p>f) <u>NAP</u>; No report</p> <p>g) <u>Village Events</u>;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Members discussed the Gt Bentley Half Marathon due to be held on 9 February. Agreed to contact Les Barnes and ask for support on Sunday. Contact the organisers and ask them to not to park on the Green. Cllr Herbert noted that he will be in attendance on Sunday and will erect hazard tape to deter parking on the Green. ii. A request from the Gt Bentley Show to organise the event on the Green on 30 August 2014 and to provide the mobile toilets as in previous years was agreed. iii. A request from the organisers of the Gt Bentley Carnival to organise the event on the Green on 28 June 2014 and provide the mobile toilets as in previous years was agreed.
158-13/4	<p>Correspondence:</p> <p>a) <u>Cancellation of blood donor sessions in Gt Bentley</u>. It was agreed write Blood Donor Service to ask them to consider reinstating sessions in Gt Bentley.</p> <p>b) <u>Request to relocate a streetlamp</u>. The Clerk was asked to obtain a quotation. However, approval to relocate the streetlamp was withheld pending further consideration.</p> <p>c) <u>Safeguard our Soils, Mr. Pickles! –Petition</u> – Noted.</p> <p>d) <u>Mill House Drive</u>. It was noted that temporary action to repair the roadways has now been taken.</p>
159-13/4	<p>Clerks Report: The Clerk's previously circulated report (attached as Appendix A to these minutes) was noted.</p>
160-13/4	<p>Finance Report:</p> <p>a) <u>To approve expenditure for the month</u>; the monthly expenditure report (attached as Appendix B to these minutes) was agreed (subject to a minor error being amended) after being proposed by Cllr Warder and seconded by Cllr Plummer.</p> <p>b) <u>To approve requests for non-budgeted expenditure</u>; none this month.</p>
161-13/4	<p>Village Green Working Party: Cllr Herbert provided a summary of his report and this was noted.</p>
162-13/4	<p>Financial Investment Strategy: Further to some discussion about the contents of the Clerk's report, Cllr Warder proposed, Cllr Plummer seconded and it was RESOLVED: To open two new savings accounts as recommended in the report. At that stage, determine how much to invest in each account.</p>
163-13/4	<p>Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) – Partnership Proposal: It was</p>

	agreed to ask Arlesford PC to prepare a proposal. It was noted that any agreement will need to be a tripartite arrangement including the Police as the employer.
164-13/4	Streetlamp Maintenance Report: The maintenance and evaluation reports were considered. It was suggested that the possibility of converting to LED's is raised with Cllr Taylor for consideration. Cllr McWilliams proposed, Cllr Warder seconded and it was RESOLVED: To agree Cllr Taylor's proposals.
165-13/4	Concrete Railway Sleepers: It was agreed to defer this matter until Cllr Wright returns.
166-13/4	Future Agenda Items: None offered.
PUBLIC QUESTIONS	An update of the increasing amount of First Responder cover provided was given, noting that cover is now extending in to other parishes.
167-13/4	Exclusion of the Public: The public were excluded from Part B of the meeting.

PART B

- 168-13/4** **Grass Cutting Contracts:** Members considered the quotations received for the village grass cutting. In so much as there are gaps in the information, members judge that they were unavailable to take a decision at the meeting. The Clerk was asked to attempt to gain the additional information and to put this matter on the agenda next month at which time a decision will need to be taken as the growing season will have commenced.

APPENDIX A

Meeting of Great Bentley Parish Council

REPORT OF THE PARISH CLERK 6 February 2014

1. Old Farm Cottage
I have been informed that further to intervention by TDC, the various parties have been brought together. An understanding has been reached that will result in action that will hopefully resolve the flooding issue at this property.
2. Allotments
Enquiries have been received that are likely to result in letting two of the vacant allotment plots. If so, that will leave just one vacant plot.
3. Station Road Car Park
GBPC's recently erected entrance sign to the car park was damaged by what appears to have been a vehicle reserving in to it. I am informed that a neighbour witnessed the accident but did not make a note of the vehicle registration. Action has been taken to repair the sign and reinstate the damage to the landscaping.
4. Overhanging Tree Branch on Highway
Further to the storms, a report was received of a damaged tree with a large branch overhanging the highway on St Mary's Road. A request was made to TDC and the Highway Rangers dealt with the matter.
5. Salt Spreader

It has not been possible to order the grit spreader as requested as the company will not accept a council order and wanted cash in advance. I would like approval to order a similar model e.g. 'Icemaster Manual 50 Gritter' at a cost of £249.35 (ex VAT) from Glasdens with whom GBPC has an account.

A number of other matters have arisen during January and these are covered as separate items on the agenda.

Kevin Harkin
Clerk to Great Bentley Parish Council

APPENDIX B

						Agenda Item 160a	
<u>Items of Expenditure for Approval 6 February 2014</u>							
06/02/14	SO	Mr K Harkin (mth 10)	A017	Training, Travel & Subsistence	728.00		728.00
06/02/14	DD	E.ON	L010	Energy	266.98	53.40	320.38
06/02/14	DD	Talktalk	A065	CRC Rent, Equip, Maint & General Costs	35.38	7.08	42.46
06/02/14	101407	GBVH (Hall Hire)	A060	Village Hall Hire	22.00		22.00
06/02/14	101407	GBVH (CRC Hire)	A065	CRC Rent, Equip, Maint & General Costs	190.00		190.00
06/02/14	101408	Bentley Admin	A017	Training, Travel & Subsistence	45.00	9.00	54.00
06/02/14	101409	Kier MG Ltd	L020	Call Outs & Repairs	101.72	20.34	122.06
06/02/14	101409	Kier MG Ltd	L020	Call Outs & Repairs	123.80	24.76	148.56
06/02/14	101409	Kier MG Ltd	L020	Call Outs & Repairs	191.41	38.28	229.69
06/02/14	101410	HMRC	A010	Clerks Salary	1,017.13		1,017.13
06/02/14	101411	Signs Made Easy	C030	Car Park/Leveling/ignage	10.00	2.00	12.00
06/02/14	101412	Bruce Landscape	B010	Play Equip.repairs & Maint/Inspections	6,550.00	1,310.00	7,860.00
06/02/14	101413	Mr R McWilliams	A013	Village Caretaker	86.55		86.55
06/02/14	101414	Mr M Dorling (65)	C030	Car Park/Leveling/Notices/Signage	84.00		84.00
06/02/14	101414	Mr M Dorling (66)	G030	Environmental /Trees/Pond/Standpipe	92.00		92.00
06/02/14	101415	Sanden Construction Ltd	G020	Green Reinstatement/Track/Mtce	1,850.00	370.00	2,220.00
06/02/14	101416	Kier MG Ltd	L020		3,801.10	760.22	4,561.32
TOTAL					15,185.07	2,595.08	17,780.15

Great Bentley Parish Council

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE
6 FEBRUARY 2014**

UNAPPROVED

Present	Cllrs J Hills (Chair), B. Herbert, L. McWilliams and C. Warder. In addition, two members of the public were in attendance.		
060-13/4	Apologies for absence: Cllr G. Wright, Cllr R. Taylor Cllr L Edwards, Cllr Balbirnie and Cllr Plummer		
061-13/4	Declarations of interest: Cllr McWilliams registered an interest in application 14/00029/FUL.		
062-13/4	Minutes of last meeting: The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 2 January 2014 were proposed by Cllr Warder, seconded by Cllr McWilliams and agreed as a true record of proceedings.		
063-13/4	Planning applications:		
	Planning Reference No. & Email Link	Application Details	Address/ Location
	14/00018/TPO Mrs A Johnson	1 No. Scots Pine - fell	Brothock House, The Green, Great Bentley
	Comments: It was noted that this application has already been approved.		
	14/00016/FUL Mr E. Fox	Proposed detached open cartlodge.	St Marys Grange St Marys Road Great Bentley
	Comments: No comment and objection		
	14/00029/FUL Mr & Mrs A. Firminger	Replacement Bungalow including replacement garage/car port, changes to access, changes to boundary treatment & hardstanding	The Haven, Aingers Green, Great Bentley
	Comments: No comment and objection.		
	14/00065/FUL Mr & Mrs D. Baldwin	Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of two detached dwellings	Bennetts, St Mary's Road, Great Bentley
	Comments: No comment and no objection.		
	14/00022/FUL Mr G. Wright	New extension/lean-to to agricultural building for housing cattle on straw base.	Brook Farm, Thorrington Rd, Great Bentley
	Comments: No comment and no objection		
	14/00059/FUL TBS Ltd	Proposed car parking to provide 100 additional bays including the removal and relocation of existing young trees to facilitate parking	TBS Distribution Centre, Colchester Road, Frating
	Comments: No comment and no objection		
	ESS/10/13/TEN	Extension of time limit for implementation (by 5 years) of	Lufkins Farm, Thorrington Road, Great

		permission ref ESS/21/08/TEN for the construction of an agricultural reservoir involving the extraction of minerals and the removal of surplus soils	Bentley
Comments: No comment and no objection			

The Chair agreed to consider the two planning applications listed below in order that the Parish Council has an opportunity to comment before the closure of the public consultation exercise.

	13/00835/FUL	Demolition of existing single storey extension and replacement with 2 single storey extensions with rooms in roofs. Extension internal and external alterations to existing residential annexe and erection of 3 bay cartlodge	Moynes Farm, Wick Road, Gt Bentley
Comments: No Comment and no objection			
	13/00836/FUL	Demolition of existing single storey extension and replacement with 2 single storey extensions with rooms in roofs. Extension internal and external alterations to existing residential annexe and erection of 3 bay cartlodge	Moynes Farm, Wick Road, Gt Bentley
Comments: No Comment and no objection			
	13/01467/FUL	Erection of 2 wind turbines with a maximum blade tip height of up to 126.5m, together with associated hardstandings, a substation building, new access junction and connected internal access tracks and other related infrastructure	Park Farm, Clay Lane, St Osyth
Comments: Proposed by Cllr Warder and seconded by Cllr Herbert and unanimously RESOLVED: To object strongly based on the following reasons. 1. The visual impact of an additional two wind turbines 126.5m in height will be completely dominant within both the landscape and the skyline. They will be able to be seen for a considerable distance in all directions, miles in some cases including Great Clacton, Little Clacton, Clacton on Sea and St Osyth. 2. Adding two more huge turbines to the existing five wind turbines very close to this site and together with the cumulative impact of the wind farms with dozens of turbines just off the coast will blight this part of the Tendring peninsula giving the impression that one is surrounded on all sides by these huge imposing structures. 3. It is unfair that the locality is yet again potentially looking at having to have imposed on it these huge structures against its wishes? Residents need the planning authority's support in the face of considerable opposition in order to avoid being overwhelmed by these structures.			

064-13/4	Correspondence:	<p>a) <u>Proteus Public Relations Ltd - Wind turbine proposal near Great Bentley, Essex:</u></p> <p>RESOLVED: To write a letter of objection to Proteus PR Ltd including the same reasons for objection as those outlined in application number 13/01467/FUL.</p> <p>b) <u>Proteus Public Relations Ltd – Stakeholder Meeting:</u></p>
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		Cllr McWilliams and the Clerk agreed to attend.
065-13/4	Planning Matters for Report:	<p>a) Review of “The Tendring District Local Plan: Pre-Submission Focussed Changes (2014)”. The documents were received and circulated prior to the January Planning Committee meeting. RESOLVED: Clerk to write advising that GBPC has no objections.</p> <p>b) Request for support to oppose <i>Planning Application - 11/00328/FUL - The Priory Estate, St Osyth, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex, CO16 8NY</i> Further to a short debate it was proposed by Cllr McWilliams, seconded by Cllr Warder and RESOLVED: to write advising that GBPC’s position has not changed. It objects on grounds previously submitted.</p> <p>c) Notification received that Frating Abbey Farm Road (Frating Level Crossing) will close temporarily from 23:00 on 20 February to 05:00 on 21 February 2014.</p>
	PUBLIC QUESTIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A question “Is thatched cottage still in village envelope” in the amended Local Plan was asked. 2. With regard to the wind turbine proposal at Aingers Green, it was comment that the consultation appears rushed and is insufficient as everyone will be able to see the turbine.

The next Planning Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday 6 March 2014.