

GREAT BARDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 9 DECEMBER 2015

Present: Cllrs Dyson (Chairman), Ruffle (Vice Chairman), Slemmings, Hockley, Graham, Kennedy
In attendance : Cllr Peter Tattersley

PUBLIC FORUM

That Chairman welcomed our District Councillor, Peter Tattersley and invited him to address the meeting.

2016/17 Budget: Cllr Tattersley brought Members up to date on the impact on further cut backs that would need to be in place to respond to the reduction imposed by the government. The exact figure is not known yet but would be in the region of 12% and would impact on the element awarded to parishes under the Localism Fund. It would be for individual parish council to see how this was reflected in their precept submission.

Local Plan: The Call for Sites has raised 344 sites which are capable of accommodating 54,856 homes – four times the number required to meet housing ‘targets’.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Ruffle registered her interest in regard to item 9 on the Financial Statement.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Cllr Walsh (personal reasons).

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 11 NOVEMBER 2015

These were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting. Proposed Cllr Hockley seconded Cllr Kennedy.

4. CLERK’S REPORT

Finchingfield Bridge: There had been no further information following the response from the Cabinet Member at ECC and the public meeting held on 17 November. Cllr Kennedy had a copy of a report that had been produced in January 2010 following an inspection of the bridge and had advised the Chair of FPC that it was available should he wish to have a copy.

Castle Shot: ERH had confirmed that the trees fronting the development were not on the land they owned and therefore it was agreed that the Environment Committee would look at the possibility of future maintenance. It had already been confirmed that the verge would be maintained by MDLandscapes as part of their contract.

Village Map: The Clerk was asked to chase as the a final copy had been expected in time for the December meeting as it was hoped to have this installed early in the New Year.

Pavement Parking – Brook Street: There had been no further communication regarding this; it is understood that CCTV has been installed by the resident concerned.

Co-op Stores – Delivery Vehicles/Gemini Bin: There had been a number of e mails concerning both these items. Evidence of damage caused by delivery vehicles to the Memorial Green had been sent to the responsible office. There had been some movement regarding the damaged bin and, after nearly a year, the Clerk was now dealing with a Claims Handler for the Co-op Insurers. She had to send them background correspondence and would monitor for any response.

5. FINANCE Statement for December 2015

	PAYMENT TO	AMOUNT	CHQ. NO.	POWERS
1	E-on	£124.72	D/D	Parish Council Act 1957
2	A&J Lighting Solutions	£67.50	S/O	Parish Council Act 1957
3	Powergen D/D re Pavilion Supply wef May 15	£18.00	D/D	Local Gov(MP)Act 1976
4	Anglia Water	£9.00	D/D	Local Gov(MP)Act 1976
5	Community Information Point	£70.00	D/D	Local Gov Act 1972
6	MDLandscapes 2 November + Ditch	£326.40	0164	Open Space Act 1906
7	EALC Police P'ship Conference (AWH)	£20.00	0165	Open Space Act 1906
8	SLCC Annual Membership	£103.00	0166	Local Gov Act 1972
9	Employee 2 Feb 15 to Oct 15 131 hrs + £10	£927.00	0167	Local Gov Act 1972
10	Employee 1	£498.83	0168	Local Gov Act 1972
11	HMR&C Tax	£124.60	0169	Local Gov Act 1972
		£2,289.05		

**The sum of £2160.00 to be transferred to meet the above payments
Proposed Cllr Graham Seconded Cllr Kennedy**

COMMUNITY INFORMATION POINT				
	BT Broadband Acc 37324132	£21.00	D/D	Local Gov Act 1972
	BT Landline 810327 Acc 37653521	£23.00	D/D	Local Gov Act 1972
	BT Internet Line Acc 37653522	£26.00	D/D	Local Gov Act 1972
		£70.00		
MONIES RECEIVED				
	Bridge End Youth FC	£25.00		
	Christmas Cards	£60.00		
ACCOUNT BALANCES AS AT 02/12/15				
	Treasurers Acc 17956560	£567.48		
	Business Call Account 00195929	£68,411.48		
	Special Projects Account 00655423	£6,434.46		
	New Pavilion Account 00710238	£52,243.15		
		£127,656.57		

Phone Kiosk: A new light fitting is to be purchased for the kiosk where the defibrillator is stored. The kiosk will be renovated in the New Year. It is in a poor condition and lets in water. The need for this work was approved and an estimate of cost will be obtained.

6. PLANNING

15/1354/OUT Land off Braintree Road, Great Bardfield Essex Following discussions at the November meeting BDC Planning granted an extension for the Council's response until 4 January 2016. Members of the Planning Committee had met and, with the benefit of the response from the external consultant, a full response was being prepared to object to the application. It was agreed that a more proactive stance be taken with publicity on the Community Facebook page and leafleting where appropriate.

15/01467/FUL Three Elms, Dunmow Road conversion to two storey chalet style dwelling and new double garage. This is rather a large extension which exceeds the existing footprint. In view of the scale of the project views expressed by neighbours should be taken into consideration, however, there were no grounds to object.

15/01455/FUL Pump Cottage, Dunmow Road erection of single storey rear extension. This is a small extension to create an enlarged kitchen. There were no objections

7. PLAYINGFIELD/PAVILION PROJECT

The meeting with the company offering to undertake initial groundwork had still not been organised and in Cllr Walsh's absence the Council were unable to be updated on progress. The Clerk would e mail Cllr Walsh in this regard.

Firework Night Event: Cllr Slemmings updated Members on progress. The profits are shared with the PTA and a cheque should be received shortly.

8. POLICE

Nothing to report.

9. HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT

Local Highway Panels: Parish Councils are invited to submit applications for a fresh tranche of funding for 2016/17. This is to cover such items as traffic calming measures, additional signage and dropped kerb.

Road Markings – Brook Street: The Clerk was asked to chase this again; the original request was sent in July and apart from holding e mails from Highways there has been no action.

10. PIPERS MEADOW

Lease: This is due for renewal in the January and the Clerk had sent a request on 31 October to Steed & Steed, solicitors, to start the process but had so far received no feedback – this will be chased.

Maintenance Programme: In the absence of Cllr Walsh there was no update on his liaison with MDLandscapes or BDC.

11. ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Footpaths: Cllr Kennedy gave an update on the work carried out by the Uttlesford Ramblers on Footpath 8 – running behind Mill Close.

Coote House Hedge: The footpath fronting this property has become impossible to use due to the overgrown hedge from that property. The Clerk was asked to write to the owners and request that the hedge be cut back.

Memorial Bench: A request from the Maidman family for a memorial bench on the Memorial Green in memory of Beryl Maidman was considered. As a matter of courtesy the Clerk would liaise with Mr Gell, who maintains the green, for his thoughts on location.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

This had been circulated or included in the Agenda.

13. ITEMS OF REPORT

Disposal of Parish Council Papers: It was agreed that the Clerk could seek prices for the appropriate disposal of Council papers. Signed Minutes and audited accounts are always lodged with ERO and legal documents retained by the Clerk on behalf of the PC. However general correspondence can be disposed after the recommended retention period.

School Council: The Clerk would write to the Clerk of the Bardfield School Council (copied to the Head Teacher) inviting members to attend the March 2016 meeting.

Rural Deprivation: The Chairman referred to an article in Countryside Review that was being circulated which pointed out the many areas and forms of deprivation frequently highlighted by the Council.

Town Hall: Cllr Ruffle gave an update on the fund raising for the new roof. This included the £20K awarded from the Community Initiative Fund, and plans for an event at the Vine. It is hoped the work will be undertaken in the summer of 2016.

Meals for the Elderly: Members were advised of this initiative being undertaken by a group village resident.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This will be held on 13 January 2016

A list of 2016 dates has been circulated to Members.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.40pm

