



March Minutes 2015



GREAT BARDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 11 MARCH 2015

Present: Cllrs Dyson (Chairman), Ruffle (Vice Chairman), Holmes, Hayward, Hockley, Slemmings, Walsh

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations were recorded in respect of Cllr Holmes (Planning) Cllr Hayward (Planning); Cllr Ruffle (Finance) Cllr Walsh (Tree Work applications).

2. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies to record.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 11 FEBRUARY 2015

These were confirmed as a true record of the meeting – proposed Cllr Hayward, seconded Cllr Slemmings.

4. CLERK’S REPORT

2nd Defibrillator: (1) Update from BT that after two months the kiosk has not been used. The Clerk will

Search the website

contact them every two months and if after six months the situation has not changed I will contact BDC and ask if they can release this kiosk. (2) The unit has been collected from Freshwell surgery and is in storage in the parish.

Highways: (1) Sign: Although the directional sign on the Memorial Green was reported to ECC it has still not been attended to and a second incident has taken place whereby a large vehicle clipped the corner as it couldn't negotiate the bend and reversed along Brook Street. (2) Bollards in Braintree Road are now in place. (3) We are still awaiting attention to Beslyns and Bridge Street –which are not considered of immediate concern although the damaged drain in Braintree Road is being prioritised.

The discussion continued in reference to the several incidents where lorries have driven over the corner of the Memorial Green and the Chairman asked for Members to give some thought to a solution for discussion at the April meeting.

Street Lighting Contract: The contractor has confirmed that there is no intention to increase the price again at the end of the year. The last increase was in 2013 and the next is not expected before 2017.

Consultations: (1) Local Plan Issues & Scoping Document and (2) Scheme of Delegation. Responses had been made within the timeframe.

Garage Sale 2015: There had been one response from a resident of Mill Close following the BT report, which was forwarded to Sarah Holland (organiser) for a full response. Cllr Hayward said another resident had spoken to him but had not approached the Clerk.

Dirty Road Signs: BDC have alerted the Highway Rangers and requested the signs are cleaned.

5. FINANCE : March 2015

	PAYMENT TO	AMOUNT	CHQ. NO.	POWERS
1	E-on	£86.36	D/D	Parish Council Act 1957
2	A&J Lighting Solutions	£67.50	S/O	Parish Council Act 1957
3	Boxtor Limited S/O	£24.00	S/O	Local Gov(MP)Act 1976
4	Powergen D/D re Pavilion Supply	£30.00	D/D	Local Gov(MP)Act 1976
5	Anglia Water wef 22.12.14	£7.00	D/D	Local Gov(MP)Act 1976
6	Community Information Point	£70.00	see below	Local Gov Act 1972

7	Viking New printer*	£166.74087	Local 1972	Gov	Act
8	Village Handyman July 14 to Feb 15	£484.25088	Local 1972	Gov	Act
9	BALC Annual Subscription	£18.00089	Local 1972	Gov	Act
16	GBTH CIP Q Rental	£250.00090	Local 1972	Gov	Act
17	Employee 1	£498.63091	Local 1972	Gov	Act
18	HMR&C Tax	£124.80092	Local 1972	Gov	Act
		£1,827.28			
The sum of £1835 to be transferred to meet the above payments					
Proposed Cllr Walsh		Seconded Cllr Slemmings			
COMMUNITY INFORMATION POINT					
</					

Cards & Calendars £52.00

£335.99

ACCOUNT BALANCES AS AT 03/03/15

Treasurers Acc 17956560 £144.90

Business Call Account £53,000.17
00195929

Special Projects Account £6,432.52
00655423

New Pavilion Account £52,102.49
00710238

£111,680.08

(ii) **One off Payment BDC:** A one off payment of £460 is being made to Great Bardfield PC which is an allocation of the estimated surplus on the Council Tax Collection Funds.

(iii) **Tender from CW Low & Son:** A letter to tender for the verge cutting had been received from Mr Low, in the figure of £35 per mile. This remains unchanged and Members agreed to accept – proposed Cllr Walsh, Seconded Cllr Hockley.

6. PLANNING

15/00154/ELD Great Pitley Farm application for continuation of mobile home for independent residential occupation. The Clerk was asked to raise the question as to whether this mobile home was still being used for agricultural purposes. If this were the case then the application could be supported.

15/00170/FUL 8 Alienor Avenue, Proposed demolition of single storey side extension and erection of new dwelling. The intention is to remove an existing extension and slot in a very narrow property. Members were in agreement with Cllr Slemmings’ comments regarding the impact this would have and the precedent that could be set if this were approved. The full comments would be sent to BDC as part of the Council’s objection to this application.

15/00183/FUL The Willows, Bridge Street – conversion of existing garage storage and hobby room into house. This is a large detached garage to converted into a small house which retains the same footprint, maintaining existing openings and roof lights. It was felt that there could be a parking issue and also concerns regarding access for emergency vehicles but otherwise it was felt there were no grounds on which to object.

15/00254/LBC Wellington Cottage Replacement Windows and Doors to Conservatory. The new owners are submitting a retrospective application in respect of work carried out by a previous owner. It was noted that the structure is not detrimental to the building and cannot be seen from the road therefore there was no objection. The decision would be referred to the LBO.

15/00055/TPOCON Place House, removal of Blue Cedar. There was some discussion about the proposal for the felling of this tree from the garden of this significant listed property. Cllr Walsh had carried out an inspection and had no objection, and on balance it was agreed that if it was confirmed by the BDC Officer that its condition was dangerous removal would be supported.

15/00036/TPOCON Merlin, Braintree Road – 3 Cypress conifers to be cut to ground: No objection.

15/00059/TPOCON 8 St Johns Terrace, Brook Street – to reduce crown of Cherry Trees. No objection.

15/00074/TPOCON Houllers, Beslyns Road – Crown reduction to Crab Apple. No objection.

15/00072/TPOCON 32 Durham Close – Work on Crab Apple, Cypress and hedgerow. This application notice was received on the day of the meeting therefore Cllr Walsh had not had the opportunity of a site visit but would respond directly to the Clerk once this had taken place.

7. PARISH ACTION PLAN

Village Information Map: There was now a full scale version for Members to view for comment and any final amendments. There were a number of changes and additions and the Clerk and Chairman would meet with David Meldrum to discuss these. A final version would be presented at the Parish Assembly.

8. PIPERS MEADOW

Cllr Walsh hoped to be able to report progress at the April meeting.

9. PLAYINGFIELDS/PAVILION PROJECT

Playground Project: Meetings have been held with a further two companies to enable a total of three plans to be compared. Each company was given the same brief and ideas for equipment following consultation with parents of toddlers and the Youth Club. The companies have been asked to submit proposals in time for them to be displayed at the Parish Assembly.

Landscaping: Cllrs Slemmings and Walsh met with Tracey Clarke to further discuss the requirements regarding hedging, trees for shading, planting etc. Cllr Slemmings will now liaise with Tracey re submitting the details to Planning.

Fencing: Cllr Hayward reminded Members that he would be able to provide safe storage for the wooden fencing to enable it to be re-used on site.

Ground Works: Cllr Walsh has liaised with the resident who has offered to help with initial work and a

meeting will be arranged to include Cllr Slemmings.

10. POLICE

Forum to be held at Foakes Hall on 25 March 2015 will be attended by either Cllrs Hayward or Walsh and report given at the April meeting.

A letter was received from Nick Alston in response to that written on behalf of both Great Bardfield and Finchingfield. It acknowledged the concerns raised but there were no answers and the bottom line was that the cutbacks resulted in reduced staffing levels.

11. HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT

Matters had been discussed under the Clerk’s Report and there had been no progress regarding Coopers Transport as feedback was awaited from Cllr Judson before further action.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

Nomination Packs for forthcoming election: Details had been circulated and it was the responsibility of individuals to download the relevant paperwork which had to be submitted between 23 March and by 4pm on 9 April.

All other items had been circulated (mainly by e mail) or included in the Agenda items.

13. ITEMS OF REPORT

Resignation: Cllr Hayward announced that he would be standing down at the forthcoming election after 44 years. The Chairman said he had made a significant contribution to the quality of life in Great Bardfield through his work on the Parish Council and that his expertise would be missed. There will be an opportunity to record our appreciation at the Parish Assembly.

Village Spring Clean: Cllr Slemmings said he had noticed how shabby the village was looking at the moment. This is in part due to outstanding Highways’ work, but there are areas that the Parish Council could address with the help of the Village Handyman and residents. The Chairman asked if Members could, when walking around the village, note specific areas so that a short list could be drawn up and a programme of works instigated.

Fly Tipping: Cllr Walsh mentioned the trailer load of conifers that were dumped in Long Green. He reported that Nicholas Reed had cleared this up quickly but it would be advisable to keep a watch on this and report in the BT.

Van: A dark blue van has been sighted driving slowly around the area and concerns have been raised as there have been some recent break-ins. The Chairman would note this in her BT report.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This will be held on 8 April 2015 and will be final meeting of the term of this Council.

Parish Assembly – Friday 24 April at 8.00pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.45 pm

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