

GT. BEALINGS PARISH COUNCIL
(www.greatbealings.co.uk)

**A Meeting of Gt. Bealings Parish Council was held at the Angela Cobbold Hall
on Monday 19th May 2008 commencing at 7.45 p.m.**

PRESENT

Mr Eric Barnett Chairman
Mr Julian Haywood-Smith Vice Chairman
Mrs Sally Johnson
Mr Paul Norris
Mr John Carter-Jonas
Mrs Emily Lynch
Mrs Sarah Cartwright Parish Clerk

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Mr Ken Willcox.

The Chairman welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

2. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS.

The Chairman advised that there was no formal declaration of interest. This was written in the Declarations of Interest book and signed by the Chairman.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON
17TH MARCH 2008.**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 17th March 2008 were approved as a true and accurate record of the discussion at that meeting. The minutes were then put to one side to be signed by the Chairman at the end of the meeting.

Signed
Chairman

4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:-

Mr Eric Barnett was proposed as Chairman for the forthcoming year by Mr Julian Haywood-Smith; and Mrs Emily Lynch seconded this proposal.

Mr Julian Haywood-Smith was put forward for the position of Vice-Chairman for the forthcoming year. Mr John Carter-Jonas proposed and Mr Paul Norris seconded this proposal.

Mrs Emily Lynch was put forward for the position of Footpath Officer. Mr Julian Haywood-Smith proposed and Mrs Sally Johnson seconded this.

The Chairman said he was happy to carry on as Village Hall Representative. This was proposed by Mr Paul Norris and seconded by Mr John Carter-Jonas.

Mrs Sally Johnson said she was prepared to carry on as Tree Warden. This was proposed by Mr Julian Haywood-Smith and seconded by Mr Eric Barnett.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES (Not covered under Agenda items)

WEBSITE

This was now the responsibility of the Clerk and as such should be kept up to date with minutes, reports etc. The Clerk was asked to publicise herself as webmaster in the benefice magazine so that anyone having any queries over the site would know to contact her.

6. LOCAL GOVERNEMENT REVIEW – BOUNDARY COMMITTEE

The U-turn on the Ipswich Unitary Bid meant it was not going ahead. The County Council is in favour of one unitary council for the whole of Suffolk, indeed this could save the most money which meant lower future council tax. Suffolk Coastal District Council on the other hand have supported the East Suffolk, West Suffolk and Ipswich concept. When Mr Peter Bellfield was asked if a single Unitary Council for Suffolk would create redundancies he said that job losses would be reflected in natural wastage of “voluntary” redundancies. He cited Cornwall as an example of single unitary council; there would be opportunities for devolving a lot of decision-making to main local councils e.g. highway issues and planning in particular. When the Chairman asked Parish Councillors which option they would support they opted in favour of one single Unitary Authority for Suffolk. We were advised that the Boundary Committee will consider various concepts and seek the views of local authorities and other stakeholders over the next two months.

Signed
Chairman

7. VILLAGE PLAYING FIELD – Progress Report

Mr Julian Haywood-Smith queried if the planning permission – to extend the Village Hall accommodation - that had been approved some time ago was still valid. Payment for the Boules Court had yet to be settled, half of which was being paid by the Parish Council (£1,500) and half by the John Belstead Playing Field Project. The Parish Council was able to claim the VAT back.

8. HIGHWAYS

Mr John Carter-Jonas had nothing significant to report other than general wear and tear on the edges of roads. The clerk asked if the trial measure of switching off the traffic lights at St Michael’s roundabout in Kesgrave had made a difference to the traffic in the village. No one had noticed any difference. The clerk reported she had asked SCC to put the traffic counter by the church/war memorial rather than by the hump backed bridge but they hadn’t been able to do this. The results from this traffic counter had not been received.

9. FINANCE

The following cheques were written and authorised:-
Sarah Cartwright £31.16

Statement of Accounts 2007-2008 - The Annual Return and Statement of Accounts 2007/08 were approved by Councillors and signed by the Chairman and Clerk. These had been internally audited by Mr John Stroud. A bottle of wine was given to him in recognition of his hard work. The Annual Return will be sent off the week commencing 23rd June. This gives parishioners 5 weeks in which they can inspect the Parish Councils “books” at the Clerk’s home. The precept stays the same. This was proposed by Mr Paul Norris and seconded by Mr John Carter-Jonas.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence will be circulated around Councillors in due course.

Signed
Chairman

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr Julian Haywood-Smith proposed that the Village Hall Management Committee look into getting glass and tin recycling facilities on their premises. Mr Eric Barnett as Village Hall Representative would bring this up at their next meeting on Wednesday, 21st May. The surface of the new footpath linking Great Bealings with Little Bealings needed some attention. Mr Julian Haywood-Smith suggested another litter pick, which was agreed by Councillors.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:-

The next Parish Council meeting will be held in the Village Hall Committee Room on 21 July 2008 at 8.00 p.m.

The meeting finished at 8.12p.m.

Signed
Chairman