

Minutes of Great Oakley Parish Council Meeting **Held at The Village Hall 7.30pm Tuesday 15th December 2015**

Present: Mr S Huk – Chairman, Mr J Tierney, Mr B Eaton, Mrs J Mason, Mr N Daniels

Apologies: Mr M Bransby, Mr M Keating, Miss N Booth, Mr T Spurge, County Cllr A Erskine, District Cllr T Howard

Chairman opened meeting at 7.30pm.

Declaration of Interest: There were none declared.

Public Participation: There were no members of the public present.

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 17th November 2015, after being circulated, were proposed as correct by Mr Tierney, seconded Mrs Mason, carried unanimously.

Progress Report:

Overgrown Hedge

A hedge at Stones Green was reported to Highways because it was growing on to the Highway. Highways did contact the homeowner but it appears to have been the wrong property so the correct details have now been provided.

Footpath

The footpath between the church and burial grounds were reported to Tendring District Council. They have referred the footpath to Essex Highways for consideration as this is a public right of way. Mr Tierney reported that the footpath does look clearer but we don't know who was responsible for this.

Village Hall Advert

An advert is being produced which will be placed in Coast to Coast for one month initially.

Telephone Box

Chairman reported that Mr Mayman is still happy to help with the restoration of the phone box in the High Street. Mr Daniels reported the street light is not working next to the phone box.

Village Sign

Chairman circulated a photo of the village sign which is being manufactured by Stowe Forge and should be complete in January. Everyone is happy with the progress that has been made so far.

Highways

Highways issues were reported to Highways, with Mr Eaton's comments being passed on to them.

On Essex County Council Highways website there are six pot holes earmarked for repair on Colchester Road Stones Green within 28 days which would take it to the beginning of the New Year.

Post Box Stones Green

We were asked by Royal Mail who owned the grass verge outside Kiln House. We responded by saying we believed it belonged to Highways.

Highways: Mr Daniels reported the TDC Village Sign had been knocked down and has now disappeared from Beaumont end of the Parish. Clerk to check with TDC to see if they know who has taken it.

Audit Regime: EALC have informed us of changes to how our auditor will be appointed in future. From 2017/18 smaller authorities can choose to have an auditor appointed to them by a new 'sector-led body' or decide to procure on their own. We need to decide by 31st January. All agreed to investigate the cost. Proposed Mr Tierney, seconded Mr Eaton, carried unanimously.

Bench Seat Installation: We have received a quote to install the bench at Stones Green and it was agreed to accept it. Mrs Mason will meet the contractor on site to determine the location. Proposed Mr Daniels, seconded Mr Tierney, carried unanimously.

Village Hall/New Village Hall: The chimney in the Village hall has been swept.

Public Rights of Way: There is nothing new to report.

TDALC Report: Mr Tierney reported that at last months meeting the change in police budgets were raised along with the issue of police staffing.

Planning:

Application No: 15/01727/FUL

Proposal: Demolition of conservatory, rear part one and two storey extension, first floor side extension and porch to side and internal alterations

Location: Pastures Harwich Road Great Oakley Harwich

After discussion, Councillors had no objections to make.

Application No: 15/01774/OUT

Proposal: Erection of up to 8 dwellings, garages and access

Location: Sparrows Farmhouse Sparrows Corner Great Oakley Harwich

After discussion, Councillors agreed to object to the application as his development was not put forward in any of the previous consultations and there is no demand for this additional housing stock within the Parish. Additionally, this site has poor access/egress via Sparrows Corner. The development is likely to cause some significant drainage issues and this is clearly the first phase for further unwanted development.

Application No: 15/01740/TCA

Proposal: G1 – Mixed group including Crab Apple, Holly – fell. G2 – mixed group including Holly, Laurel – reduce by 50%. T1, T2 – Holly, T3 – Cherry, T4 Conifer – fell

Location: Old Scantlings Farm Road Great Oakley Harwich

After discussion, Councillors had no comments to make.

Mrs Mason brought to our attention that following the refusal of the planning application at Marden's Farm for the use of marquees for functions, they have still continued to use them throughout the summer months and it was agreed we report the situation to Planning Enforcement.

Tree Preservation Order

Land to North of Break of Day and Newlands, Beaumont Road, Great Oakley

Tendring District Council have sent us a letter to say the above tree preservation order became effective on 4th August 2015.

Planning Committee Site Visit

Comment to be passed back to the Head of Planning at TDC regarding a Planning Committee site visit to the Allotment Field site, scheduled for earlier today (15th December). Despite the Parish Council being invited to attend, the Planning Committee did not turn up.

Accounts for Payment:

Parish Council Income

Collins & Curtis Masonry	Memorial		£ 100.00
TOTAL			£ 100.00

Parish Council Expenditure

E-On	Street Lighting	D/D	£ 93.65
A & J Lighting Solutions	Street Light Maintenance	722314	£ 46.08
Jobsihate	Grass Cutting	722315	£ 466.77
Autela Payroll Services	Payroll – Quarterly	722316	£ 35.25
SLCC	Membership	722317	£ 77.00
Miss J Bootyman	Wages	722318	£ 220.49
Miss J Bootyman	Wages (4 months underpayment)	722319	£ 110.28
TOTAL			£1,049.52

Village Hall Income

Dog Club	Hall Hire		£ 68.00
Table Top & Quiz	Hall Hire		£ 34.00
Yoga	Hall Hire		£ 17.00
Party	Hall Hire		£ 17.00
Band Practice	Hall Hire		£ 21.00
Band Practice	Hall Hire		£ 21.00
WEA	Hall Hire		£ 170.00
10 0’Clock Club	Hall Hire		£ 102.00
TOTAL			£ 450.00

Village Hall Expenditure

Julia Turner	Wages	400725	£ 145.17
Julia Turner	Expenses	Cash	£ 35.42
John’s Gas & Oil Services	Service and new parts to heaters	400726	£ 218.00
TOTAL			£ 398.59

After being circulated, accounts proposed as correct by Mr Eaton, seconded Mr Daniels, carried unanimously.

Correspondence: There is no correspondence this month.

There being no further business, Chairman closed meeting at 8.55pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....