

Minutes of Great Oakley Parish Council Meeting

Held at The Village Hall 7.30pm Tuesday 19th April 2016

Present: Mr S Huk – Chairman, Mr J Tierney, Mr M Keating, Mrs J Mason, County Cllr A Erskine

Apologies: Mr T Spurge – Vice Chairman, Mr N Daniels, Mr M Bransby, Miss N Booth, Mr B Eaton, District Cllr T Howard

Chairman opened meeting at 7.35pm.

Declaration of Interest: There were none declared

Public Participation: Mr Willis attended on behalf of the Football Team who would like to run a number of sporting events and provide refreshments to the public who attend football matches at the Recreation Field. At no cost to the Parish Council, they would like to place a storage container for this purpose and to store sporting equipment. Councillors present agreed to the proposal in principle and requested he comes back with a detailed proposal.

Mr Nicholls informed us that The Maybush will have its official opening on the 7th May. They will need extra tables and chairs to accommodate everyone who will attend and Councillors agreed to loan those from the Village Hall free of charge. Mr Nicholls thanked us and for the previous photocopying we provided. The event is advertised on our website.

Mr Keating has spoken to an allotment holder who is concerned about what will happen to the allotments when the development takes place in this area. Chairman said the allotments are Church land and not affected by the development and we will contact the Diocese in Chelmsford requesting the allotment holders are contacted to reassure them.

Mr Bush asked about the conditions regarding the surgery mentioned at January's meeting. Chairman commented it is his understanding that if the Village Hall is not built, the development will not go ahead. We have not seen the final conditions but it was believed that if the NHS decide to not go ahead with the surgery, the area would be used as green space. We will seek clarification from Peter Thompson.

Mrs Bush has reported an issue near Red Barn Lane to Highways. A parishioner has been putting debris in the ditch and blocking it. The reference number was handed to Cllr Erskine to ask why they haven't cleared the ditch or requested the parishioner to remove it.

New Village Hall: Nothing new to report.

Confirm Minutes of Annual Assembly held on Tuesday 15th March 2016: This will be deferred to next month due to the limited number of Councillors present who were at the meeting.

Confirm Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 15th March 2016: This will also be deferred to next month.

Progress Report:

Post Office

We had received an email from Mr Mistry explaining the change in his circumstances regarding Post Office facilities at The Village Hall. We have written a letter in response with no answer to date. A suggestion has been made that the Community Hub may like to get involved so we will get in touch with them and discuss this further at our next meeting.

Beaumont Sign

We have reported the missing blue Beaumont sign to Tendring District Council with no update so we will endeavour to report about this next month.

Fingerpost and Hedge

We requested a quote for the hedge to be reduced in height around the recreation field which was discussed and agreed, proposed by Mrs Mason, seconded Mr Tierney, carried unanimously.

Pot Hole

The pot hole on Clacton Road Stones Green was reported to Essex County Council and has been repaired.

Resurfacing

Mrs Mason would like to know when Colchester Road Stones Green will be resurfaced. Cllr Erskine reported that Highways are behind schedule due to the weather and they are struggling to do the residential areas of our District. He will take this on on our behalf. He also reported that the resurfacing schedule is for between now and 2018.

School Railings

Our Primary School support our suggestion of continuing the railings around the school corner and having them installed opposite. We have been waiting for a letter confirming this but meanwhile we will contact Essex County Council putting these ideas forward.

Highways: Cllr Erskine brought to our attention the Quiet Lanes Scheme but there are none proposed in our Parish. He also reported that the budget for Highways has been halved.

Mrs Mason reported that the ditch in Red Barn Lane is blocked and causing flooding and erosion. We will inform Essex County Council and the owner.

Finance Report: The finance report for 2015/2016 was circulated to all with no queries raised.

Village Hall:

Hire Fees

After discussion, it was agreed to keep the fees the Village Hall hire charges the same this year. Proposed Mr Tierney, seconded Mrs Mason, carried unanimously.

Public Rights of Way: Mr Keating has researched documents on Essex County Council's website regarding Public Rights of Way. He would like to meet Sarah Potter, the Public Rights Of Way officer to carry out an audit of work which needs to be done. Mr Keating would like to get the footpaths maintained so walkers can be linked to/from the coast, through the village. Cllr Erskine offered to draft a letter of introduction.

Mrs Mason reported a stile which needs attention in PestHouse Lane so the landowner will be contacted.

TDALC Report: Nothing to report.

Planning:

Application No: 16/00397/FUL

Proposal: Erection of two modular dwellings for use and occupation by agricultural workers employed at Brook Farm

Location: Land to the South of Brook Farm Stones Green Road Great Oakley

Great Oakley Parish Council support in principle as they are agricultural dwellings, however the proposed design is not in keeping with its location in greenbelt. If permission is granted we ask the architects to revisit the design to minimise the impact in this rural location and a planning condition imposed to retain the existing hedge to maximise screening from the road.

Application No: 16/00314/FUL

Proposal: Erection of a single storey rear extension

Location: The Granary Farm Road Great Oakley Harwich

Great Oakley Parish Council had no objections to make regarding this application.

Accounts for Payment:

Parish Council Income

Paskell's Funeral Service	Burial		£ 200.00
Santander	Interest		£ 25.43
TOTAL			£ 225.43

Parish Council Expenditure

Autela	Parish Payroll	722339	£ 35.25
All Saints Church	Donation	722340	£ 18.45
A & J Lighting Solutions	Street Light Maintenance	722341	£ 46.08
E-On	Street Lighting	D/D	£ 96.78
Miss J Bootyman	Wages	722342	£ 248.06
TOTAL			£ 444.62

Village Hall Income

Band Practice	Hall Hire		£ 21.00
Floristry Workshop	Hall Hire		£ 17.00
Band Practice	Hall Hire		£ 21.00
Toddlers	Hall Hire		£ 119.00
TOTAL			£ 178.00

Village Hall Expenditure

Mrs Turner	Wages	400734	£ 145.17
Mrs Turner	Expenses	Cash	£ 6.37
British Gas	Electricity	D/D	£ 114.58
RCCE	Village Hall Membership	400735	£ 60.00
TOTAL			£ 326.12

After being circulated, accounts proposed as correct by Mr Tierney, seconded Mrs Mason, carried unanimously.

EALC

The affiliation fee is now due for Essex Association of Local Councils at a cost of £274.89. Proposed Mrs Mason, seconded Mr Keating, carried unanimously.

Correspondence:

Red Barn Lane

We received an email from a resident in Red Barn Lane to say they had been told by the previous tenant that the oak tree in their garden had a Tree Preservation Order on it. They have checked with Tendring District Council who confirm there isn't one and informed the tenant that they can trim the tree as requested to stop it overhanging neighbours properties. We have advised the tenant to keep all correspondence for future reference.

There being no further business, Chairman closed meeting at 9.13pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....