

Minutes of Great Oakley Parish Council Meeting

Held at The Village Hall 7.30pm Tuesday 21st June 2016

Present: Mr S Huk – Chairman, Mr J Tierney, Miss N Booth, Mr M Keating, Mrs J Mason, Mr B Eaton, Mr N Daniels, District Cllr T Howard

Apologies: Mr T Spurge, Mr M Bransby, County Cllr A Erskine

Chairman opened meeting at 7.30pm.

Declaration of Interest: Mr Tierney expressed a non pecuniary interest regarding one of the planning applications. Mr Daniels expressed an interest regarding a letter to Highways

Public Participation: There were five members of the public present.

Mrs Ling requested a sign to say “No parking apart from users of the Village Hall” to be placed at the entrance to the car park as members of the public continue to park there. A question was raised regarding a barrier and Chairman said it wouldn’t be cost effective and we should try the signs in the first instance.

Mrs Sewell reported the grass cutting is not up to standard at Partridge Close. Chairman commented that he met with Mark from Jobsihate to discuss the issues that have been raised. One of the issues the contractor experienced was that one of their machines had broken down putting them behind schedule. The burial ground is now much improved. Jobsihate have been requested to pay a little more attention to detail.

Mrs Sewell asked if the planning conditions have been passed regarding Mr Thompsons development and the Chairman said they had been. In response to a further question regarding whether we would be leasing the new hall rather than owning it, as rumours have suggested, Chairman reiterated that it was our understanding that once completed, ownership of the hall would be transferred to the Parish Council.

Mrs Sewell also reported fly tipping at the Soils which will be reported to Tendring District Council.

Mr Brown reported that the new bus timetable has been displayed at the bus stops. The 104 service has no change but the last one will travel through Dedham. Pocket size timetables are available on line and from Holly Trees House in Colchester.

New Village Hall:

Mr Daniels provided an update from Mr Thompson. The detailed design for the new Surgery has been agreed and construction of the Village Hall and Surgery is planned to start before the end of 2016.

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 17th May 2016, after being circulated, were proposed as a true record by Miss Booth, seconded Mr Daniels, carried unanimously.

Progress Report:

Fly Tipping

Fly tipping at The Soils was reported to Tendring District Council.

School Railings

We contacted Essex County Council regarding repairing the railings at the school along with extending them around the corner. This is an issue for the Local Highways Panel and a request has now been submitted.

Yellow Zig Zags

We previously requested the zig zag markings outside the school have a traffic regulation order placed on them so anyone parking on them can be prosecuted. The Parking Partnership have said that the site will be remedied in early 2017 when they are in a position to devise and advertise all of this year's board approved requests for parking schemes and restrictions. We will be contacted closer to the time as a statutory consultee.

Stones Green

Mr Daniels has asked what Highways long term plan is and when the centre of Stones Green will be resurfaced. We have passed these questions on to Highways Customer Services Team and we await their response.

Car Park near War Memorial

Tendring District Council have asked us if we know who owns the area of car parking around the war memorial; we have sent a request to Land Registry to find out what their records show.

Marsden's Farm

We had previously reported to Tendring District Council that the planning decision regarding events being held at Marsden's Farm has been ignored. An inspector has visited the property and we are chasing the outcome.

Partridge Close

A resident reported rutting on the greensward at Partridge Close. We contacted the grass cutting contractor to find out the extent and whether it is an issue for them. They feel it is not significant and doesn't need levelling for cutting. In light of further comments received, contractor to be requested to review again.

Recreation Field

Following a request for permission for a storage container to be placed on the Recreation Field, we have passed this on to Essex County Council to ensure this is allowed within the terms of our lease on the field.

Highways:

Resurfacing of the B 1414

Mr Daniels brought to everyone's attention the issues Exchem experienced with the re-routing of HGV's while the resurfacing work was going ahead on the B1414. They have asked for Great Oakley and Little Oakley Parish Council to contact Highways to reinforce and support the points made in the letter from Exchem. Cllr Howard mentioned that he had also made a formal complaint over the same issues as they effected businesses in Little Oakley and would send us a copy. It was agreed to write to Highways and Gavin Jones at ECC to support both letters.

Drain – Back Lane

The owner of Appletree Cottage contacted us to inform us that they have contacted Highways to report the blocked and flooded drain outside their property. Highways have said this work will be done but can't give a date as to when. We will pass the incident number to Cllr Erskine who can track and hopefully expedite this issue.

Miss Booth reported a water meter cover near the school has not been put back properly, causing a trip hazard. This will be reported to Affinity Water.

Miss Booth also reported a hole in the middle of the road outside the school and Mr Eaton reported the increasingly large pot hole in Stones Green yet again, both of which will be reported.

Post Office: Following the ongoing issues with the Post Office, the Community Hub have expressed an interest in The Maybush hosting the Post Office facilities; the Post Office Contracts Manager will make contact with them directly.

Audit: Chairman read through the Audit to everyone present who agreed all was correct. As a consequence of the review of the Audit document, it is apparent we should review the valuation of our Assets to ensure it is up to date.

Our internal auditor does not charge for the work they do for us so it was agreed to arrange a gift up to the value of £25.00 as a “thank you”, proposed Mr Tierney, seconded Mr Daniels, carried unanimously.

Burial Ground Gates: We have asked the contractors who quoted for new gates for clarification on design and material specification. The Mayflower Project said they will use the same design as the existing ones and will be made from oak.

The post for the gate between the Old Burial Ground and the Church yard has been broken off at ground level. The gate itself is sound but will rot if left on the ground for any length of time. During his recent meeting with Mark from Jobsihate, the Chairman requested the post be reinstated and the gate re-hung as soon as practicable to prevent further damage.

Village Hall: We have received notification from our Payroll Company that the Village Hall Caretaker seems to have a tax obligation due to her tax code. A sum has been deducted from her wages and we are required to pay the same amount to HMRC. The Caretaker has been informed and will need to take steps to resolve any issue.

Public Rights of Way: Mr Keating has met with Sarah Potter from Essex County Council to carry out a survey of our public rights of way. An overhanging tree was pointed out which has already been dealt with. The problems with the kissing gates have been repaired.

Mr Keating reported that the P3 programme is not suitable for us due to a lack of volunteer man-power. ECC carry out a survey every 10 years, the next one due in 5 years time. In the mean time, any issues to be reported as and when identified.

Chairman reported the public footpath between the church and our burial ground is overgrown and impassable. This will be reported.

TDALC Report: Mr Tierney gave a brief report to the issues raised at the meeting, as follows:

- Gary Guiver to be invited to attend a TDALC meeting to explain devolution and neighbourhood plans.
- One local Parish is on the way to completing their new Parish Plan at a cost of £15,000.
- An HGV was spotted on a weight limited road so was reported and Trading Standards were informed.
- Our membership payment has been received by TDALC.
- Police hubs are not to be used by the public; they are a place where authorities can meet together.
- A commissioner has been drafted in for 6 months to address the drug and gang culture in Clacton.

Planning:

Application No: 16/00727/FUL

Proposal: Demolish existing side conservatory extension and construct new proposed conservatory extension

Location: Coram, Sparrows Corner, Great Oakley, Harwich

Great Oakley Parish Council had no objection to make.

Application No: 16/00795/LBC

Proposal: Removal of machine-made pan tiles from main house and replacement with handmade clay plain tiles. Alteration of 1969 pan tiled dormer window (s.w elevation) to match slate dormers on rest of house.

Location: Gay House, Pest House Lane, Great Oakley, Essex

Great Oakley Parish Council support the proposed alteration.

Accounts for Payment:

Parish Council Income

Hunnaball Funeral Directors	Memorial		£ 100.00
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Parish Council Expenditure

A & J Lighting Solutions	Street Light Maintenance	722347	£ 46.08
E-On	Street Lighting	D/D	£ 96.78
Autela Payroll Services	Payroll	722348	£ 38.55
Lambert Smith Hampton	Recreation Field Lease	722349	£ 275.00
Suffolk Acre	Insurance	722350	£ 984.99
Land Registry	Search	722351	£ 4.00
Miss J Bootyman	Wages	722352	£ 248.06
Miss J Bootyman	Expenses (3 months)	722353	£ 36.18
TOTAL			£1,729.64

Village Hall Income

10 'O Clock Club	Hall Hire		£ 51.00
Dog Club	Hall Hire		£ 51.00
Table Top & Quiz	Hall Hire		£ 34.00
Tending District Council	Election		£ 250.00
TOTAL			£ 386.00

Village Hall Expenditure

Calor	Gas	400738	£ 627.98
Julia Turner	Wages	400739	£ 154.60
HMRC	Tax	400740	£ 4.00
TOTAL			£ 786.58

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

Gas price

Clerk to check unit price being paid for the Village Hall gas and report back at next meeting

E-on

We have been notified prices are rising from 1st July and we could benefit from a fixed term contract. We will investigate and report back.

SLCC – National Salary Award 2016 – 18

The National Joint Council for Local Government Services has reached agreement on the following:

- New pay scales for 2016-2017 to be implemented immediately and backdated to 1st April 2016
- New pay scales for 2017-2018 to be implemented from 1st April 2017

The new pay scale rate will be £8.717 per hour (was £8.613). Proposed Mr Daniels, seconded Mr Eaton, carried unanimously.

Correspondence: No correspondence to report.

There being no further business, Chairman closed meeting at 9.11pm.

Signed.....

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