

Minutes of Great Oakley Parish Council Meeting

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

Present: Mr S Huk – Chairman, Mr J Tierney, Mr B Eaton, Mr M Keating

Apologies: Mr N Daniels, Miss N Booth, Mrs J Mason, Mr M Bransby, Mr T Spurge, County Cllr A Erskine

Chairman opened meeting at 7.30pm.

Declaration of Interest: There were none declared.

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

Mrs Ling asked when the sign will be put in place asking unauthorised vehicles to not park in the Village Hall car park. Chairman advised it will be installed before our next meeting.

To try to deter the same vehicle being parked in the Village Hall car park we will contact the owner and request they desist. Proposed Mr Eaton, seconded Mr Keating, carried unanimously.

Mrs Sewell reported the pavement along Harwich Road is getting narrower as the grass is encroaching on it. This will be reported to Tendring District Council. Mrs Sewell also reported that the footpath from Swan Yard had been “opened up” by the passage of local walkers.

New Village Hall: There is nothing new to report.

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 21st June 2016, after being circulated, were proposed as correct by Mr Tierney, seconded Mr Eaton, carried unanimously.

Progress Report:

Stones Green Update

Mr Daniels asked us to contact Highways to find out their long term plans for Stones Green. A report will be provided under ‘Highways’.

Fly Tipping

We reported fly tipping at The Soils to Tendring District Council and this has now been cleared.

Bus Timetable

Mr Brown our transport representative provided us with a bus timetable for the Colchester to Harwich service and we have requested more from the bus company.

Drain in Stones Green

Mr Eaton reported the drain outside his property once again as it is in danger of collapsing. This was passed on to Highways.

Water Meter Hazard

The cover to a water meter on School Road was reported to Affinity Water. The problem has now been resolved.

Pot Holes outside School

Miss Booth reported pot holes in the centre of the carriageway outside the Primary School. We passed this on to Highways.

Present for our Auditor

Everyone agreed to send our Auditor a present for checking our accounts which Clerk arranged.

Street Light Electricity Price

We received notification that the cost of our unmetered street lighting supply was increasing. Unfortunately we don't use enough electricity to be put on a fixed tariff. At present we don't pay a standing charge but on a fixed tariff we would so the overall cost would increase.

Calor Gas Prices

Clerk has been on a comparison website to compare gas prices for the Village Hall. We are waiting for the results.

Footpath next to the Church

Chairman reported that the footpath between the Church and our burial ground is overgrown. This will be reported to Essex County Council.

Village Hall Parking Sign

It has been agreed to place a sign at the Village Hall car park to discourage non users from parking there. This will be completed before our next meeting.

Car Park adjacent to War Memorial

We were asked by Tendring District Council who owned the parking area around the War Memorial. We sent a request to the Land Registry who hold no records in respect of the property. In light of this, we are unable to pursue this matter any further.

Village Hall Caretaker/Cleaner

Our payroll company advised us there was a tax obligation for our caretaker/cleaner due to a low tax code. The tax code has now been changed so there is no tax obligation. The amount deducted from wages last month has been added on to this months. The cheque which was issued to HMRC has now been cancelled.

Highways:

Beaumont Road

We received a letter from a resident to report the overgrowing vegetation along Beaumont Road encroaching on the pavement. This has been reported to Highways.

Stones Green Update

A few months ago Mr Daniels requested we contact Highways to find out what their long term plans were for the carriageway through Stones Green as this stretch of road has been neglected for a number of years.

Highways have replied to us saying that the carriageway running through Stones Green has deteriorated more than other roads within the parish. The section of carriageway in question will need a more in-depth maintenance treatment and has been put forward for a Road Recycling Scheme. It is in their programme of works for potential delivery this financial year. A site investigation and a full design will be carried out initially.

August Meeting: We usually have a meeting break in August. Proposed Mr Tierney, seconded Mr Eaton, carried unanimously.

Village Hall: There is nothing to report.

Public Rights of Way: Mr Keating is continuing to monitor our Public Rights of Way and reports any issues that arise.

TDALC Report: The TDALC meeting is on Wednesday 20th July 2016.

Planning:

Planning Determinations

16/00560/FUL – 3 Council Houses Clacton Road Stones Green, Proposed 2 no. outbuildings in rear garden (following demolition of existing outbuilding) – Approval Full

16/00727/FUL – Coram Sparrows Corner Great Oakley, Demolish existing side conservatory extension and construct new proposed conservatory extension – Approval Full

Mardens Farm

This application had been refused by Tendring District Council planning department but following reports this had been ignored. We contacted TDC who said the following:

“The GDPO allows for the use of land for 28 days for marquee events providing there are no permanent structures in place. I understand the marquee is removed after each event and the land is returned to its previous use. There are poles which are used for the support of the marquee but these are not visible from the main highway and do not constitute a breach of planning control.”

TDC have been advised that the marquee is not removed when not in use and this is being investigated.

Accounts for Payment:

Parish Council Expenditure

Jo Mason	Mower Repairs	722354	£ 27.43
EALC	Subscription	722355	£ 274.89
E-On	Street Lighting	D/D	£ 93.65
A & J Lighting Solutions	Street Light Maintenance	722356	£ 46.08
Jobsihate	Grass Cutting	722357	£ 817.81
Jobsihate	Grass Cutting	722358	£1,107.80
Jobsihate	Bench Installation	722359	£ 187.23
Miss J Bootyman	Expenses	722360	£ 32.83
Miss J Bootyman	Wages	722361	£ 248.06
TOTAL			£2,835.78

Village Hall Income

10 'O Clock Club	Hall Hire		£ 68.00
Tendring District Council	Hall Hire		£ 250.00
Dog Club	Hall Hire		£ 153.00
Table Top & Quiz	Hall Hire		£ 68.00
Village Hall Books	Donation		£ 7.50
TOTAL			£ 546.50

Village Hall Expenditure

PRS for Music	Music Licence	400741	£ 135.44
Julia Turner	Wages	400742	£ 160.00
TOTAL			£ 295.44

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

Correspondence:

Burial Fees

We have received correspondence regarding our burial fees for residents and non residents. A request was received from a family requesting the parishioner fee when they moved away from the parish 26 years ago.

Clerk asked for clarification from Council how and when to apply the different fees.

All those present agreed that 26 years away from the Parish was too long to be classed as parishioner.

The guideline for parishioner is for anyone living within the Parish at time of booking a plot or time of passing away, or those who have moved into a nursing home straight from the Parish (or otherwise left the Parish after many years of residence due to circumstances beyond their control).

The non-parishioner fee is for anyone not living within the Parish at time of booking or passing away.

There being no further business, Chairman closed meeting at 8.36pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....