

Minutes of Great Oakley Parish Council Meeting

Held at The Village Hall 7.30pm Tuesday 20th September 2016

Present: Mr S Huk – Chairman, Mr T Spurge – Vice Chairman, Mr J Tierney, Mrs J Mason,, Mr B Eaton, Mr M Keating, Mr N Daniels, County Cllr A Erskine

Apologies: Mr M Bransby

Chairman received notification from Miss Booth that she was standing down from Great Oakley Parish Council forthwith. Chairman thanked her for all the hard work she has put in over the years and wished her well for the future.

The vacancy will be advertised and a formal letter will be sent. Proposed Mr Tierney, seconded Mr Daniels, carried unanimously.

Chairman opened meeting at 7.30pm.

Declaration of Interest: Chairman declared an interest regarding the Local Plan.

New Friends Group: Lucy Robinson took to the floor to inform everyone present about the proposed changes going on at the church.

There will be an open day on Sunday 25th September where members of the public can view the proposed plans for a new room at the Church and have their say. The new room will include toilets and a kitchen area for church and community events, such as the Choir, School events, Church events. Half of the money will come from funding and the other half from the proceeds from the Stones Green Chapel. A friends group is being formed which will involve people in the project.

Based upon the current plans presented to the meeting, Chairman expressed concerns that the proposed room is overly dominant and will be attached to the Grade 1 listed building. Lucy Robinson said that they are planning to reduce the pitch of the roof and use a mix of material such as flint instead of red bricks. Chairman also mentioned that we will be having a new Village Hall so will the village need another room Lucy responded by saying the church and this additional room will have different uses to the Village Hall and it will be much smaller.

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

Mrs Ling thanked us for the parking sign which is in the Village Hall car park; unfortunately this hasn't stopped one parishioner particular from using the Village Hall car park.

Mrs Ling reported that the Maybush is holding a Macmillan Coffee Morning.

Mrs Ling also asked about the pavement near the school which is still overgrown. We have raised this with Highways but nothing has been done as yet. Mrs Mason suggests asking the Probation Service to see if this is a project they can take on. Chairman will contact them.

New Village Hall: No new updates.

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 19th July 2016, after being circulated, were proposed as correct by Mr Eaton, seconded Mr Keating, carried unanimously.

Progress Report:

Bulk Gas Tank

Due to the cost of propane gas we decided to do a cost comparison with other suppliers via an online comparison site and our details have been forwarded to an Area Sales Manager who will find the best price for us.

Pot Holes outside Primary School

There are pot holes in the centre of the carriageway outside the School which have been reported. Highways are investigating these.

Village Hall Parking Sign

With cars continuing to park at the Village Hall without permission we had a sign made which has been installed at the car park entrance. Unfortunately, this has not worked yet and cars continue to park there. Further notices have been put on the cars, still with no effect.

Street Light

A street light opposite Partridge Close was staying on through the day so we reported this to our contractor and it has now been repaired.

Harwich Road and Beaumont Road

The pavements along these two stretches of road were becoming overgrown by the grass verges and brambles. We reported these to Highways and again, Highways have said that upon inspection, they don't meet their criteria.

Footpath next to Church

This footpath is also overgrown and has been reported to Highways.

Highways: Mr Eaton reported a pot hole repair opposite his property. Mrs Mason has suggested complaining to Highways as they repaired a minor one and left a dangerous one.

Mr Keating asked if there had been an update regarding the railings at the school. We have put a request into the Local Highways Panel to have them repaired and extended around the school. This will be done but with no date supplied. A suggestion was made to follow this up as it is a safeguarding issue for the school.

Village Hall:

Affinity Water

During the summer we received 'red' Affinity Water bills but did not appear to have received the original one. Affinity Water have been asked to direct all mail to the Clerks home address in the future. Clerk paid the 'red' bill herself to prevent any action being taken against the Village Hall. The amount is for £112.87 and will appear in Accounts for Payment under the Clerks name.

Public Rights of Way: Mr Keating reported 13 issues to Highways with one enforcement action being taken. Mr Keating also reported that there had been an issue with a parent from the Primary School due to parking over a footpath entrance. There had been 21 cars parked around the school at 3pm.

Mrs Mason suggests a letter be circulated to all parents of the school considering it is the start of a new school year and suggest cones are situated around the corner.

TDALC Report: Nothing to report.

Planning:

Application No: 16/01471/TPO

Proposal: 1 No. Horse Chestnut – Remove and replace with Sweet Chestnut

Location: Chestnut Cottage 14 School Road Great Oakley Harwich

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

Application No: 16/01346/FUL

Proposal: Replacement dwelling and conversion of existing dwelling into garage, workshop and storage space,, extension to cartilage

Location: 3 Skighaugh Clacton Road Stones Green Harwich

Great Oakley Parish Council object in the strongest possible terms for the following reasons:

- The proposal to convert one half of an existing semi detached period property into a garage and workshop whilst constructing a new detached dwelling nearby is entirely inappropriate to this rural setting and the integrity of the existing building.
- The impact of the conversion works and proposed subsequent change of use would have a significant and detrimental impact on the amenity and quality of life of the occupants of the neighbouring house.
- We do not believe any measures could be put in place to eliminate the impact of noise and odour from the revised use upon neighbours and the risk from fire or explosion is unacceptable.
- The proposed new build is on agricultural land, outside of any past or proposed Settlement Development Boundary and is inappropriate for this rural setting.

Tendring District Local Plan – Preferred Options Consultation Document 2013 – 2033 and beyond

The latest iteration of TDC's Draft New Local Plan was published in July with eight weeks of well publicised public consultation and numerous public meetings, unfortunately arriving too late for our last meeting.

There does not appear to be any change to Great Oakley from the previous version we saw; however, Stones Green seems to have disappeared from the plan despite numerous previous commitments from TDC that this would not happen. Chairman submitted comments on behalf of Great Oakley Parish Council requesting that Stones Green Settlement Development Boundary as shown in previous drafts, is reinstated.

Applications Received and Determined

Tendring District Council informed all Town and Parish Councils that we would no longer receive weekly emails informing us of planning applications which had been received and determined. The information would be found on their website instead. We submitted our displeasure at this decision as we need to be aware of applications within our Parish and need to monitor those in surrounding Parishes which could impact on us.

We received an update from Tendring District Council to inform us that due to the feedback they have been receiving, the previous arrangements of circulating weekly lists via email will be maintained while the issue is explored further.

Accounts for Payment:

Parish Council Income

Essex County Council	Grass Cutting	£ 529.80
HMRC	VAT Return	£2,280.07
TOTAL		£2,809.87

Parish Council Expenditure

Tendring Signs	Sign	722362	£ 30.00
E-On	Street Lighting	D/D	£ 96.78
E-On	Street Lighting	D/D	£ 96.78
A & J Lighting Solutions	Street Light Maintenance	722363	£ 46.08
A & J Lighting Solutions	Street Light Maintenance	722364	£ 46.08
A & J Lighting Solutions	Annual Maintenance Visit	722365	£ 114.30
Jobsihate	Grass Cutting	722366	£ 918.89
Jobsihate	Grass Cutting	722367	£ 578.90
Lambert Smith Hampton	Recreation Field Lease	722368	£ 275.00

Miss J Bootyman	Wages	722369	£ 248.06
Miss J Bootyman	Wages	722370	£ 248.06
TDALC	Affiliation Fee	722371	£ 10.00
Autela Payroll Services	Payroll	722372	£ 38.55
TOTAL			£2,747.48

Village Hall Income

Hall Hire	Hall Hire	£ 20.00
Hall Hire	Hall Hire	£ 17.00
Toddler Group	Hall Hire	£ 85.00
Dog Club	Hall Hire	£ 136.00
TOTAL		£ 258.00

Village Hall Expenditure

Calor	Standing Charge	400743	£ 20.59
Jayne Bootyman	Affinity Water Bill	400744	£ 112.87
Julia Turner	Wages	400745	£ 156.00
Julia Turner	Wages	400746	£ 156.00
Julia Turner	Expenses	Cash	£ 18.98
TOTAL			£ 464.44

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

Wreath

Remembrance Sunday is very near and we always lay a wreath on behalf of the Parish. Last year we donated £40 and it was agreed we will do the same this year. Proposed Mr Eaton, seconded Mr Tierney, carried unanimously.

Correspondence:

E-mail

We received an email from a resident, concerned that fly tipping has been happening in the ditch along Beaumont Road. This has been reported to Tendring District Council.

Burial Ground

We received a letter from a parishioner asking when a bench and pathways will be installed at the Burial grounds. Chairman commented that there are no plans to install a bench at present and there is no need for any formal pathways to be installed.

There being no further business, Chairman closed meeting at 9.24pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....

