

Minutes of Great Oakley Parish Council Meeting

Held at The Village Hall 7.30pm Tuesday 18th December 2018

18/266 Present: Mr S Huk – Chairman, Mr J Tierney, Mr N Daniels, District Cllr M Bush, County Cllr A Erskine

18/267 Apologies: Mrs J Mason, Mr T Spurge, Mr M Keating, Mr C Mayman, Mr M Bransby, Miss J. Bootyman

18/268 Chairman opened meeting at 7.30pm.

18/269 Declaration of Interest: No interests were declared.

18/270 Galloper Update: Representatives from Galloper had requested come to the meeting to update us on their plans for Great Oakley but did not attend. In their absence and in light of their latest (retrospective Planning Application; see below), it was agreed to write to them and ask for details of their short, medium and long term plans for their operations in Great Oakley.

18/271 Public Participation: There were four members of the public present.

A Parishioner thanked Council for attending to the dog bin at Partridge Close that was out of the ground and the metal stump was near the bus stop.

Grass overgrowing the pavement adjacent to Partridge Close on B1414 was reported again

District Cllr Bush updated Council on the situation with the ditch on Beaumont Road saying it is subject to a Section 28 enforcement action.

District Cllr Bush reported on recent works at the Allotment Field site resulting from very shallow Fibre-optic cables which had to be relocated.

A Parishioner suggested we look into having a Christmas tree in the village square next year. It was generally agreed that this was a good idea and should be followed up. Need to check whether we would need Planning Permission.

18/272 New Village Hall: Phase 1 of the development has now been approved. Our comments were ignored and there is nothing in the consent to compel the developer to build the Car Park and New Village Hall. Mr Daniels reported that he had received reassurance from Mr Thompson that the main spine road was to be built early and would be adopted by TDC with the 40 place Car Park to follow, also at an early stage. Mr Thompson confirmed that he still proposed to build the Village Hall as part of the first phase, before the 24th house is occupied. It was agreed we see clarification from TDC regarding the details relating to the Section 106 monies.

The proposed density of street lighting was discussed and it was agreed it would be preferable to keep lighting to the bare minimum to maintain “dark skies”. This may be an issue with TDC adopting the road due to minimum illumination levels.

18/273 Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 20th November 2018, after being circulated, were proposed as correct by Mr Tierney, seconded Mr Daniels, carried unanimously.

Progress Report

18/274 Litter Bin: Following a request for new litter bins in Red Barn Lane, TDC came back with a cost of £50 for the bin plus £67.91 per annum to empty it. The suggestion that they provide the bin free of charge in acknowledgement of the work of the litter picking group and the anti-fly-tipping CCTV in the Parish has been put to TDC. No response to date.

18/275 Dog Bin: The Dog bin at Partridge Close that was out of the ground has been re-installed and broken metal post near the bus shelter has been removed.

18/276 The electric box hanging from telegraph pole near Partridge Close has been reported to UK power Network.

18/277 Chevron Signs: Damaged chevron signs on B1414 just before Exchem have been reported to Essex County Council.

18/278 Road Rally Donations: It was widely publicised that local charities would benefit from the road rally which was held in April of this year but no one really knows who or how much. Clerk has asked TDC for this information.

18/279 Special Constable: Mr Keating suggested getting a Special Constable for our Parish or getting together with other parishes to share one. We contacted EALC to find out if they have any experience with this or know of anyone who has pursued this. EALC said it is best to contact Essex Police which Mr Keating has already done and a meeting has been arranged on Tuesday 29th January with a representative of Essex Police to discuss the possibility of a Village Special.

18/280 Dog Warden: Clerk has previously contacted the dog warden at Tendring District Council following reports of dog waste on the Recreation Field. They responded by saying that because the field belongs to Essex County Council it is classed as private land so they cannot take any action. After pursuing the matter further, they commented they can carry out high visibility patrols but this would just be to act as a deterrent and not in an enforcement capacity.

18/281 Highways: While litter picking, the group found an uncovered manhole on B1414. The area has been visited but no sign of a displaced man hole was found.

Mr Keating sent a message asking if there were any updates regarding the school barrier and the road surfacing. Cllr Erskine reported that nothing had been done to the barrier yet, however in the next financial year the Direct Delivery Team would now look at it as a Safety Issue.

Mr Daniels has received a nine page response from Highways after reporting the poor state of the road repairs. Highways say they have used an “experimental machine” to carry out the works and the surface should have been swept sooner after the work was carried out. They made no response regarding the puddles so Mr Daniels will follow up again.

Cllr Bush reported that the litter picking group will be extending their activities to include Little Oakley as well.

18/282 Public Rights of Way: Mr Keating reported that the wooden foot bridges are particularly slippery this time of year so please exercise extreme caution when crossing.

Cllr Erskine observed that with ECC now only funding one foot path cut per year we should consider methods of self-funding in the future, maybe via the land owners?

18/283 Village Hall: It was agreed to express our thanks to the Caretaker for the Christmas decorations in the Village Hall and to send her some flowers and chocolates as a sign of our appreciation.

18/284 TDALC Report: The invited speakers at last month’s TDALC meeting were representatives from the Chelmsford Motor Club. Mr Clements said 5,000 to 6,000 spectators from outside the area were brought into the District by this year’s Road Rally and raised £200,000. The route is to be extended by a further 5 KM for next year’s Rally to meet National Standards. The efforts of Litter Picking Groups in the District were applauded.

18/285 Planning:

Application No: 18/01872/FUL

Proposal: Proposed free standing mast

Location: Great Oakley Lodge Harwich Road Great Oakley Essex.

This is a retrospective application for a weather station mast that is already in service.

Mr Keating sent in concerns regarding the lack of direct benefits to the community and over the long term plans for the Galloper installation (thus the request for further information from Galloper mentioned above).

After discussion, Great Oakley Parish Council commented that the installation should be removed upon cessation of helicopter operations at the site.

Application No: 18/02038/FUL
 Proposal: Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) - Variation of roof tile.
 Location: The Bungalow School Road Great Oakley Harwich
 Great Oakley Parish Council made no comment on this application.

Decision by TDC:

Application No: 18/01880/TCA
 Proposal: 2 No. Cherry – Reduce by 10%, shape and trim
 Location: Holly Cottage Farm Road Great Oakley Harwich
Approval – Full. 03/12/18 – Delegated decision.

18/286 Accounts for Payment:

Parish Council Income

A Parishioner	Interments x 2	£ 700.00
TOTAL		£ 700.00

Parish Council Expenditure

Marvan's	Grass Cutting (invoiced all year)	722527	£ 528.00
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Lambert Smith Hampton	Recreation Field Lease	722529	£ 275.00
E-On	Street Lighting	D/D	£ 135.19
Autela Group Ltd	Payroll	722530	£ 46.80
A & J Lighting Solutions	Street Lighting	722531	£ 47.82
A & J Lighting Solutions	Street Light Repair	722532	£ 162.42
Miss J Bootyman	Wages	722533	£ 269.02
TOTAL			£1,992.25

Village Hall Income

Post Office	Hall Hire	£ 50.00
Football Club	Hall Hire	£ 100.00
Children's Party	Hall Hire	£ 20.00
Books	Donations	£ 28.03
Table Top & Quiz Night	Hall Hire	£ 34.00
Dog Club	Hall Hire	£ 85.00
Line Dancing	Hall Hire	£ 17.00
Line Dancing	Hall Hire	£ 17.00
Flower Workshop	Hall Hire	£ 17.00
Line Dancing	Hall Hire	£ 17.00
Children's Party	Hall Hire	£ 20.00
Children's Party	Hall Hire	£ 20.00
TOTAL		£ 425.13

Village Hall Expenditure

Julia Turner	Wages	400801	£ 196.65
Julia Turner	Expenses	Cash	£ 16.48
TOTAL			£ 213.13

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

18/287 Society of Local Council Clerks: The membership for SLCC is due for renewal at a cost of £89, proposed by Mr Tierney, seconded Mr Daniels, carried unanimously.

Correspondence:

18/288 From the Litter Picking Group: Requesting a further bin for the Recreation Field for use of the Football Team on match days.

After discussion it was agreed we write to the Manager of the Football Team and suggest they provide bin bags or a wheelie bin on match days.

18/289 Email from Resident: Clerk received an email from a resident asking about the Village Hall being used as a sports hall and questioning our ability to be able to dispose of the hall. Chairman composed a response addressing the concerns raised (a full copy can be viewed via prior appointment with the Clerk).

18/290 Email from Land Agent and from Primary School: Requesting information on the ownership of land between the Great Oakley Allotments, which are owned by their client, and the All Saints School, where some trees are requiring attention.

As the land does not belong to us and we hold no information, it was agreed to take no further action.

18/291 Public consultation on Essex Future Library Services Strategy: Essex Library Services are holding a consultation of the future of Library Services over the next five years. For information about the proposals and to complete the survey, go to www.essex.gov.uk/libraries-consultation. The survey can be completed as an individual or on behalf of an organisation. The deadline for completing the consultation survey is 20 February 2019.

18/292 Public consultation on Essex Fire Service: There is also a consultation on the future of the Essex Fire Service looking at best utilisation of their resources and working arrangements, details of both surveys can be found on the Parish Council Website.

There being no further business, Chairman closed meeting at 9:40 pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....