

# **Minutes of Great Oakley Parish Council Meeting**

**Held at The Village Hall Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

**19/051 Present:** Mr S Huk – Chairman, Mr C Mayman, Mr J Tierney, Mr M Keating, County Cllr A Erskine, District Cllr M Bush

**19/052 Apologies:** Mr N Daniels, Mrs J Mason, Mr T Spurge, Mr M Bransby

**19/053** Chairman opened meeting at 7.30pm.

**19/054 Declaration of Interest:** There were none declared.

**19/055 Public Participation:** There were eleven members of the public present who raised the following issues:

A Parishioner asked Council if there was an outcome for the Red House planning application. Mr Bush Commented that the application has reached senior level and could be on the Agenda at Tendring District Council in March. Mr Bush added that he believes the car park has been taken out of the planning application.

A Parishioner asked Council if we had received any notification regarding the Road Rally. Chairman said Council hasn't received any information. Mr Bush added that the pub in Wix will have to close and the bus service will be affected.

A Parishioner reported a carpet which has been left on the B1414 near the 30mph sign.

Two Parishioners raised their concerns over the lorry movements and early start to the Allotment Field Development as they are using the track near the allotments. There is also concern that the track has deteriorated with heavy use. Clerk will raise the issues with the landowner and ask if there are any restrictions.

A Parishioner noticed that while walking from Sparrows Corner into the village every car was going over the speed limit. The police will be notified.

Finally, a Parishioner reported that the pavement at Partridge close was still overgrown. Chairman said that the Rangers have committed to carry out this work but haven't provided a start date. The same Parishioner reported that the grass was looking really good following the cut which was recently carried out.

**19/056 New Village Hall:** There is an update under Agenda item Planning.

**19/057** Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2019, after being circulated, were proposed as correct by Mr Tierney, seconded Mr Keating, carried unanimously.

## **Progress Report**

**19/058 Partridge Close Street Lights:** There are two street lights not working in Partridge Close. These belong to Highways. Clerk has reported the lights via their website.

**19/059 Dog Signs:** Council are considering putting signs up requesting dogs be kept on leads due to the amount of dog waste being left on the Recreation Field and pavements. Clerk is trying to find out if this is a viable option.

**19/060 Christmas Tree:** At Decembers meeting, a Parishioner asked Council if a Christmas Tree could be provided near the War Memorial. Clerk has been seeking advice from the EALC. They have said that many Parishes have Christmas trees which can bring the community together. Council's insurance company would need to be notified and a risk assessment taken. The other option is to plant a tree instead as a mark of celebration. Council will defer this until after the election.

**19/061 Letter:** Mrs Mason maintains an area in Stones Green on behalf of the Parish. Unfortunately vehicles have been parking on the grass which is making maintenance quite difficult so Clerk, along with Mrs Mason, has provided a letter requesting people desist from parking there.

Chairman reported that the willow tree which is in this area is damaged. Clerk will get prices for the work and will liaise with Chairman. Mr Keating suggested having small posts with chain link to prevent vehicles parking on the grass. Clerk will also look into this.

**19/062 Special Constable:** At last month's meeting, Council committed to an allowance for two Special Constables. Mr Keating has been finding out about publicity for finding a volunteer.

**19/063 Galloper Update:** For some time Council have been asking Galloper for an update on their operations at Great Oakley Airfield. Galloper have informed Council that they are still waiting to hear back from their operations partner before they can update us.

**19/064 Village Sign:** One of the blue village signs is in need of restoration which Mr Daniels has offered to facilitate. He has provided Councillors with some designs and a unanimous decision was made on one design. Mr Daniels will carry this project forward as time allows.

**19/065 Highways:** Council received an email from Cllr Erskine saying that Essex County Council will be investing an additional £700,000 this coming year in footway defect repairs. The officers are working on the details of how the investment can be best administered and delivered. Cllr Erskine reported that this fund was for dangerous pavements with pot holes that mean the most to residents. Highways will make the final decisions of any defects put forward.

Cllr Bush reported a broken cover to BT who rectified the problem in good time.

Cllr Erskine said that Tendring District Council are campaigning to get "20 is plenty" signs around the Primary School, but the school has to join the scheme. The initiative will be publicised in the newspapers to encourage schools to respond.

Mr Keating asked Cllr Erskine about the metal barrier outside our primary school. Highways have told Cllr Erskine that the barrier has been made safe.

Council have been informed of urgent resurfacing work being carried out on 21<sup>st</sup> March for two nights on the A120 eastbound between A12 junction 29, Crown Interchange to Harwich road, Pellens Corner. There will be a diversion in place.

**19/066 Grass Cutting Contract:** Clerk received all the grass cutting tenders for a three year contract and circulated them all to Councillors. One contractor received more votes and has been awarded the contract.

**19/067 Recreation Field Boundary Hedge:** A Parishioner attended last month's meeting requesting the boundary hedge of the Recreation Field adjacent to their property was reduced in height. Clerk circulated all the information to Councillors giving them the opportunity to visit the area and make their own judgements on the situation. The feedback Clerk received was as follows:

- Last year the hedge was reduced in thickness, the area tidied up and trees were taken out. The Parishioner was content with the work which was carried out so Councillors feel that no further work is required at this time.
- Councillors also thought the hedge was not causing any issues at this time.

Based on this information Council agreed to not carry out work on this hedge but will monitor the situation. Council invited the Parishioner to cut back any overhanging vegetation as necessary and place on the Recreation Field which Council will remove, with notification.

### **Recreation Field Main Hedge**

The main boundary hedge to the Recreation Field is due a reduction in height. Council received a price of £500. Proposed Mr Mayman, seconded Mr Tierney, carried unanimously. Due to early nesting birds this year the work will be carried out later in the year.

### **Play Area Vegetation/Trees**

The trees and vegetation beside the play area are becoming a safety issue as they are encroaching on the play area. Council received a price of £150 to have it cut back and made safer. Proposed Mr Tierney, seconded Mr Mayman, carried unanimously.

**19/068 Play Area Fence:** Council previously agreed to use current 106 monies to upgrade the play area fencing. Council have received prices for metal, wooden and recycled fencing. One price stood out as being the most competitive and most suitable option. Mr Mayman requested a price for a slightly different style of fencing as recommended by ROSPA and to include double emergency vehicle access gates. The price will be reviewed at Councils next meeting.

### **Football Goals**

The small football goals are in need of maintenance to the paintwork to prevent further chipping. Council has received a price of £350 + VAT. Proposed Mr Mayman, seconded Mr Tierney, carried unanimously.

Mr Mayman raised the issue of the bars being too far apart as raised on a previous play area inspection. The action recommended was to monitor the situation so this will be done on a regular basis.

**19/069 Play Area Inspection:** Mr Mayman has brought to Councils attention that the zip wire is in need of attention. Council agreed to wait until we receive the annual inspection report before a decision can be made. Mr Mayman reported that dog waste on the Recreation Field is increasing and Council may have to reconsider allowing owners to exercise their dogs there. Mr Mayman also advised Council that a new sign is required for the play area and he won't be standing as Councillor in the Elections in May. Chairman thanked him for all the work he has done in his role as Councillor.

**19/070 Public Rights of Way:** There is nothing new to report.

**19/071 Village Hall:** There is nothing new to report.

**19/072 TDALC Report:** The next meeting will be tomorrow night. Mr Tierney reported at the last meeting it was mentioned that there will be a highways devolution pilot scheme which will run for a year giving Parishes funding to carry out repairs.

**19/073 Planning:** Mr Daniels composed a letter to Tendring District Council regarding the Allotment Field Development and the provision of the new Village Hall. They have provided a copy of the S106 Agreement which includes a requirement that the car park, doctors surgery, Village Hall and village shop, be provided prior to the occupations of no more than 25 dwellings, no other specific time line applies to this provision. The doctors surgery element of the proposal together with the open space, car parking, Village Hall and village shop have been given full planning permission and therefore it is not possible to revisit the parking provision unless there are changes to the scheme, which would require further consent.

Councillors are extremely concerned that Council have not been included within the planning process and Cllr Bush has informed the planning committee at Tendring District Council that the Village Hall might never get built because it is now part of the second phase instead of the first phase. Chairman commented that if this happens he would like to see a sub-committee formed with members of the public as well as Council members to make sure any future transition moves smoothly.

### **Planning Determinations**

There is one determination as follows: 19/00006/FUL Single storey rear extension at Wisteria Cottage, Stones Green Road was refused.

### **19/074 Accounts for Payment**

#### **Parish Council Income**

Santander	Interest	£ 24.64
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#### **Parish Council Expenditure**

TDALC	Affiliation Fee	722543	£ 10.00
A & J Lighting Solution	Street Light Repair x 2	722544	£ 436.62
Marvan's	Grass Cutting	722545	£ 528.00
A & J Lighting Solutions	Street Light Maintenance	722546	£ 47.82
E-On	Street Lighting	D/D	£ 155.79
Lambert Smith Hampton	Recreation Field Lease	722547	£ 275.00
Miss J Bootyman	Wages	722548	£ 269.02
Marvan's	Grass Cutting Feb Invoice	722549	£ 528.00
Marvan's	Grass Cutting Extra Cut	722550	£ 528.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£2,778.25</b>

### Village Hall Income

Post Office	Hall Hire		£ 50.00
Flower Workshop	Hall Hire		£ 17.00
Line Dancing	Hall Hire		£ 17.00
Dog Club	Hall Hire		£ 68.00
Table Top & Quiz Night	Hall Hire		£ 34.00
Line Dancing	Hall Hire		£ 17.00
Line Dancing	Hall Hire		£ 17.00
Pet First Aid	Hall Hire		£ 20.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£ 240.00</b>

### Village Hall Expenditure

RCCE	Membership	400809	£ 60.00
Julia Turner	Expenses	Cash	£ 12.47
Julia Turner	Wages	400810	£ 169.65
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£ 242.12</b>

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

**19/075 Correspondence:** Council have received an email from The Oakleys and Ramsey Scout Group advising us that they have changed their name to be more inclusive in the local area. The Executive Committee have discussed the requirement to purchase a new sign for the Headquarters and new flags for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts with the new Group name. They wondered if Council would like to make a donation to assist them with their purchases. Council agreed to donate £50. Proposed Mr Keating, seconded Mr Tierney, carried unanimously.

There being no further business, Chairman closed meeting at

Signed.....

Dated.....