

# Minutes of Great Oakley Parish Council Meeting

Held at The Village Hall Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2019

**19/100 Present:** Mr S Huk – Retiring Chairman, Mr J Tierney, Mr M Bush, Mr P Day, Mr N. Daniels, Mrs Y Bailey, County Cllr A Erskine

**19/101 Apologies:** None

**19/102** Mr Huk, as Retiring Chairman opened meeting at 7.30pm.

**19/103 Co-Option:** Mr Daniels has contacted Council expressing a wish to re-join Great Oakley Parish Council and Mrs Bailey has also expressed a wish to join us. Mr Daniels was proposed by Mr Bush, seconded Mr Tierney, carried unanimously. Mrs Bailey was proposed by Mr Bush, seconded Mr Tierney, carried unanimously and are duly co-opted as members of Great Oakley Parish Council.

**19/104 Election of Chairman:** Mr Huk asked for nominations for Chairman. None were forthcoming from current Councillors due to work commitments and lack of experience. With no nominations, Mr Huk agreed to being co-opted back on to Council on the clear understanding that it was for a limited period to enable a successor to get up to speed which was proposed by Mr Bush and seconded by Mr Daniels, carried unanimously. Councillors were again asked for their nominations for Chairman. Mr Huk was nominated and he accepted on the above basis with a view to mentoring a member of the Council to become Chairman in the future. Proposed Mr Tierney, seconded Mr Day, carried unanimously.

**Vice Chairman:** There were no volunteers for the position of Vice-Chairman. Members were asked to give the matter some consideration and it will be deferred until next month.

**Bank Signatory:** Council request four bank signatories, including Clerk, Chairman, Vice-Chairman and one other. Council agreed that Mr Bush, Mr Day and Mr Tierney would become signatories, joining the Clerk and Chairman. Proposed Mr Daniels, seconded Mrs Bailey, carried unanimously.

**Committees:** Chairman explained that Council currently have sub committees which include Planning, Finance, New Village Hall, Village Hall Admin, Stones Green, TDALC, Public Rights of Way and Recreation Field. Mr Tierney is happy to remain Council's representative for TDALC and Chairman is happy to represent Stones Green and suggested that all Councillors are on all the other committees. Proposed Mr Daniels, seconded Mr Tierney.

**19/105 Declaration of Interest:** There were none declared.

**19/106 Public Participation:** There were twelve members of the public present and the following issues were reported to Council:

- The Soils 50mph speed sign post has corroded through. Clerk will report to local authority.
- A request for the national speed limit to be reduced on B1414 towards Little Oakley. Chairman observed that this road did not meet Essex County Council criteria for a reduction.
- Stones Green Road is breaking up at the edges, causing a drop from the roadside. Clerk will report to Essex County Council.
- Fireworks are being heard regularly from a local business. Clerk will look into regulations regarding the use of fireworks.
- Council were asked for an update regarding the New Village Hall. Chairman reported that Council haven't heard anything new.
- Council were asked if there was any progress regarding the planning for Mill House. Mr Bush said it had been "called in" with no news to date.
- An allotment holder is concerned about the allotment development and asked if the developers have carried out an Environmental Study. Chairman assured everyone that the appropriate surveys have been carried out.
- A Parishioner asked if the current Village Hall Kitchen could be revamped. Chairman said this can be looked into in light of the continuing delay with the New Village Hall.

**19/107** Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2019, after being circulated, were proposed as correct by Mr Tierney, seconded Chairman, carried unanimously.

**19/108 New Village Hall:** Nothing new to report.

### **Progress Report:**

**19/109 Overgrown Pavements:** Council presented a list of issues to the Tendring District Council Rangers who added them to their schedule. The issues included sign cleaning and widening the pavements on Harwich road and Beaumont Road. The work has now been completed.

**19/110 Football Goals:** Following a visual play inspection it was noted the small football goals need to be painted to protect the surface. Council have agreed a price to have the work carried out and the contractor has advised Council it will be completed during the summer.

**19/111 Play Area Fence:** Council have agreed to replace the play area fence, agreeing on the contractor and quote provided. Clerk has sent the information to Tendring District Council as a request to use Section 106 funding. Council are waiting for confirmation.

**19/112 Willow Tree:** At a previous Council meeting Mrs Mason reported the willow tree on the triangle at Stones Green needs maintenance work. Clerk will look into this.

**19/113 Galloper:** For some months Council have been requesting an update from Galloper to find out their intentions regarding the on-going use of the helipad in Great Oakley. Galloper have now responded saying that an agreement between Galloper Wind Farms and their operations contractor Siemens will suspend helicopter operations to the wind farm and from the end of this year will no longer require the Great Oakley facility as a helicopter base for the wind farm.

**19/114 Highways:** Council's grass cutting contractor has asked if he can spray the weeds in the pavement outside the Primary School and at Partridge Close. Clerk was advised to ask Tendring District Council.

Mr Daniels reported the flag on the bus stop opposite the war memorial has been hit and he has reported it to Highways.

County Cllr Erskine said the online reporting for Highways has been upgraded and a reference number will be allocated. If this number is passed on to him the issue will be inspected within seven days.

County Cllr Erskine reported there are too many signs at the School and a review is due to be carried out. Once this has happened it is hoped signs will be reduced. It is also hoped the School will sign up to having a "20 is plenty" sign. Highways will also be reviewing the speed limits in Red Barn Lane and Beaumont Road.

### **19/115 Burial Ground**

**Grass Cutting:** With the amount of rain we had our Contractor couldn't carry out the scheduled grass cutting on time. As a result of this Council received a number of phone calls of complaint. The grass has now been cut and, depending upon the weather, the Contractor can catch up with the cuts.

**Rubbish Area:** Our Contractor contacted Clerk to report a large amount of dog waste, glass and plastic bottles mixed in with the green waste which they are not contracted to remove. They compost the green waste but other waste has a cost involved with removing it. As a temporary measure Clerk has put up a sign to deter this type of waste.

**Paving Slabs:** Clerk has noticed paving slabs on two graves in the new burial ground. The Parish Council don't allow kerb stones or paving in this area due to maintenance so asked the family to remove them. This was declined with the phone call being terminated by a member of the family. Clerk asked if they had gained permission for the paving stones and got told no they just put them there. Chairman suggested writing to the family.

### **19/116 Tree Maintenance**

**Orchard Close:** Mr Bush has been contacted by a Parishioner who reported a large tree is blocking the light into their garden. Mr Bush reported the tree has grown considerably. The contractor that Council uses will cut it back after the nesting season as a one off.

**Hamford Drive/Harwich Road:** The recent bad weather has caused damage to a tree on the greensward at the end of Hamford Drive. Clerk asked a Contractor to inspect the tree for safety reasons and was advised it was safe but will need attention at a cost of £250. The neighbour brought to Council's attention the tree was blocking their side gate. Council accepted the quoted price which was proposed by Mr Tierney, seconded Mr Daniels, carried unanimously.

**19/117 Recreation Field Lease:** Clerk has received a letter from Lambert Smith Hampton, Essex County Council's Land Agents, informing Council of back dated rent increases since the new lease began on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2010 based upon RPI. A new invoice dated 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019 is still at the original cost. Chairman suggested writing back to them pointing out they are responsible for carrying out these reviews at set times, specifically March 2012, March 2015 and March 2018 and there is no provision in the 2010 lease for retrospective reviews. Council happy for Clerk and Chairman to compose a response.

**19/118 Village Hall:** Mr Bush received an email from a Parishioner questioning ownership and disposal of the current Village Hall. Chairman re-iterated that no decision has been made regarding the disposal of the Hall as it's too early to do so. For the avoidance of any further doubt, Chairman read out to everyone present a summary of the Deeds of the Village Hall which clearly show that Great Oakley Parish Council own the Village Hall.

**19/119 Public Rights of Way:** Mr Bush reported a broken foot bridge to the Clerk who reported it to the Public Rights of Way Team at Essex County Council.

**19/120 TDALC Report:** Mr Tierney had nothing to report and the next meeting will be on 24<sup>th</sup> July.

**19/121 Planning:**

Application No: 19/00603/FUL

Proposal: Proposed replacement of agricultural barn with dwelling

Location: Land at Bramble Farm Colchester Road Great Oakley Essex

Councillors had no objections regarding this application.

Application No: 19/00761/FUL

Proposal: Proposed single storey rear extension

Location: Wisteria Cottage Stones Green Road Great Oakley Harwich

Councillors had no objections regarding this application.

**Determinations**

Application No: 19/00498/FUL

Proposal: Proposed extension to Curtilage, new secure garage/garden store & stables

Location: 3 Skighaugh Clacton Road Stones Green Harwich

Given full approval by Tendring District Council

Application No: 19/00620/AGRIC

Proposal: Proposed agricultural storage building

Location: Field No 4989 Colchester Road Great Oakley

Prior approval required – deemed application refused

## 19/122 Accounts for Payment:

### Parish Council Income

R Gwinnell & Sons	Memorial		£ 100.00
Paskell Funeral Service	Interment		£ 500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£ 600.00</b>

### Parish Council Expenditure

EALC	Affiliation Fee	722562	£ 299.08
Great Oaktree Land Services	Grass Cutting - April	722563	£ 400.00
Great Oaktree Land Services	Grass Cutting - May	722564	£ 400.00
Great Oaktree Land Services	Grass Cutting - May	722565	£ 400.00
Lambert Smith Hampton	Recreation Field Lease	722566	£ 275.00
A & J Lighting Solutions	Street Light Annual Visit Repairs	722567	£ 92.76
E-On	Street Lighting	D/D	£ 166.91
A & J Lighting Solutions	Street Light Maintenance	722568	£ 47.82
A & J Lighting Solutions	Street Light Maintenance	722569	£ 47.82
Miss J Bootyman	Wages (May)	722570	£ 269.02
Miss J Bootyman	Wages (June)	722571	£ 269.02
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£2,667.43</b>

### Village Hall Income

Post Office	Hall Hire		£ 50.00
10 O' Clock Club	Hall Hire		£ 187.00
Line Dancing	Hall Hire		£ 17.00
Children's Party	Hall Hire		£ 20.00
Line Dancing	Hall Hire		£ 17.00
Table Top & Quiz	Hall Hire		£ 34.00
Dog Club	Hall Hire		£ 68.00
Line Dancing	Hall Hire		£ 17.00
Garage Sale	Hall Hire		£ 17.00
Children's Party	Hall Hire		£ 20.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£ 447.00</b>

### Village Hall Expenditure

Calor	Gas & Standing Charge	422002	£ 433.90
Mrs Turner	Wages (May)	422003	£ 177.90
Mrs Turner	Wages (June)	422004	£ 177.90
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£ 789.70</b>

After being circulated, accounts proposed as correct by Mrs Bailey, seconded Mr Day, carried unanimously.

### **Insurance**

Council's insurance is due for renewal as the 5 year undertaking is coming to an end. The insurance company has received an updated list of assets for an accurate quote. For one year insurance it will cost £770 or for 3 years it will cost £731.50 per year. Last year Council paid £819. Council agreed to accept the 3 year undertaking. Proposed Mr Tierney, seconded Mr Bush, carried unanimously.

**19/123 Correspondence:** Clerk has received an email from the Scout Group thanking Council for their kind donation.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, Chairman closed meeting at 9.40pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....