



**GREAT OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Clerk: Mr D Land**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, ON TUESDAY, 12<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023 AT 7.00 PM**

**PRESENT:**

**Chairman:** Cllr N Daniels

**Vice Chairman:** Cllr M Bush

**Councillors:** Cllrs S Harris, Y Bailey, C Bush

**District Councillor:** Cllr M Bush

**Essex County Councillor:** Cllr D Land

6 members of the public were in attendance.

**12 / 2023 - 01 | Welcome**

Chairman welcomed Cllrs and members of the public and explained the meeting had been changed to accommodate the carol service and the recent amendments to the hall. It was noted the meeting is being recorded.

**12 / 2023 – 02 | Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Browne.

**12 / 2023 - 03 | Declarations of Interest**

None Declared.

**12 / 2023 – 04 | To agree the minutes of the last meeting (17<sup>th</sup> October 2023)**

**Resolved:** That the minutes be agreed as a true record. Proposed Cllr Bailey Seconded Cllr Harris – all in favour.

**12 / 2023 – 05 | Outcomes from the actions of the last meeting**

Action items recorded in the previous meeting minutes were completed apart from:

BT cover at The Soils is barriered and the hole is covered – still to be fixed: **ACTION:** DL to contact BT for update as well over 6 months ?

DL to provide map of GOPC owned / maintained open spaces

CB - trees on the new development boundary – who are they covered by – will contact relevant parties

CB contacting Land Registry etc to try and clarify land boundaries

CB will contact the allotment association about required clearing

Waiting Oaktree to confirm date for planning 10 new cherry trees – ND

Quotes for Store Room repairs - VHC

Remembrance Sunday was well attended and respected. The knitted display looks fantastic.

**12 / 2023 – 06 | Public Forum**

MOP asked if the developer had pulled out from Beaumont Road? The Parish Council has no knowledge of this.

MOP asked if the chimney had been swept? Decision to be made. Plaques to be reviewed and cleaned.

MOP asked about the buses – problems with road closures, Wix road. **ACTION: DL to investigate what's happening with updates to the app and diversion signs.**



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MOP induction hob queries in the village hall – art group. **ACTION VHC to issue instructions**

**12 / 2023 – 07 | Clerks report / correspondence**

Clerk reported the following matters:

Doctors' hub letter – this is positive, a fee would be asked for **ACTION: write to doctors DL**

Alteration to names on war memorial. **ACTION: write to the memorial trust to seek guidance YB**

TDC booking for village conservation area appraisal - ok

**12 / 2023 – 08 | Chairman's Report**

The Chair reported on the following matters.

- telephone box has been cleared of unwanted fiction once more
- new windows will be looked at in the new year. **ACTION ND**
- Christmas tree and lights are working, risk assessment on website.

**12 / 2023 – 09 | District Councillor Report**

Cllr Bush gave updates on the following points:

- waste contract review is underway and fortnightly collections should remain for black bag waste, rural runs still being considered, legislation is a moving part in terms of recycling, glass could be collected moving forward
- recycling boxes and their replacement is an issue and the council cannot keep giving them out if broken etc. You will be able to get new bins if you can prove they are broken. You can use any plastic box of your own to put recycling in
- TDC land ownership review - two parcels in Great Oakley, although they are muted as not being suitable. Could come back to the PC for lease etc
- The car rally will not take place in 2024 as being asked to pay for use of car parks
- Environment and climate change action plan is in need of review. It will be looked at to achieve cost savings and environmental improvements
- Council tax base is looking at around 3% uplift for 24/25
- 20 million LUFF fund for Tendring to be utilised including Dovercourt.

**12 / 2023– 10 | County Councillor Report / Devolution**

Cllr Land gave an update on the following matters:

- wind farm extension update
- locality fund
- tactile crossing meeting arranged

**12 / 2023 – 11 | Reports**

**Parish Council Maintained Areas**

Cllr Bailey reported the Burial Ground Garden has been cleared and replanted and thanked the memorial garden team volunteers for all their hard work and recommended the new charging regime to be implemented **Action YB**

The new covered waste bin has been installed outside play area and appears to be being emptied. All to monitor to check if capacity sufficient.



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**Public Rights of Way / Highways / Pavements**

Cllr Browne reported that cars are parking on the road verge by Allotments, Cllr Harris updated that an email had gone out to parents recently. Cllr Bush asked if signs could be installed in the area. **ACTIONS: agenda item for next meeting. Consider getting a quote for a mapping service of the village ND. 40MPH sign in Red Barn Lane is down- Check CB has reported on Highways website Water pump - ND to follow up**

**Great Oakley Environment, Villages in Bloom, Planters**

Cllr Daniels reported, a bag of compost will be offered to planter folk in New Year – **Action ND.**

**TDALC**

Cllr Bailey reported a technical issue has meant she was unable to take part in the whole meeting but there was little to report.

**Village Hall and New Community Facilities**

Updates since last meeting have been circulated and motions are on the agenda tonight.

ND gave thanks to those that have put a huge amount of work in.

SH reported: porch improved, windows in porch and door lock renewed, kitchen refurb, hall repainted, community garden is now fenced and improved, step now installed from kitchen to garden, door on electricity box repaired, hand dryers/towel dispensers are up in kitchen and toilets, new booking system is to be launched in January 2024. Price increase to £12 an hour from the new year. We have applied for a grant for a heating system. We have contacted the outgoing caretaker of the hall to confirm GDPR requirements for the email account are met and voiced concern on the "Users" Facebook page – **ACTION ND to circulate formal request and response.** Keys have been put back into the mail box on the hall.

**12 / 2023 – 12 | New Community Centre / Facilities**

Cllr Bush gave an update and explained the challenges of the matter so far. There is approval for the housing but the expiry date has come and gone and owing the delays by TDC there is an extension moving forward to clarify the particulars.

**Agreed the address for the legal document is the village hall**

**Further keys to be cut for post box -VHC will agree collection regime with Clerk**

Questions from Ellisons regarding the S106 were discussed and responses agreed which Cllr Bush will do cc Chair and Clerk. **Action MB**

**12 / 2023 – 13 | To consider planning applications received from Tendring District Council.**

Response to all received were circulated and responded to as required.

**12 / 2023 – 14 | Cheques and finance authorisation**

To consider this month's payments for approval

Proposed by Cllr Harris, Seconded Cllr C Bush – all in favour.

**ACTION: DL to change the bank account for the new year as previously agreed per YB recommendation.**

**ACTION: MB/ND to investigate payments re new rates for post office.**



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**12 / 2023 – 15 | Motions**

To approve motions below on block before the council this evening.

- approve retrospective payment for village hall booking system of £120
- approve payment for flowers for memorial garden of £165.08
- approve a cheque for Christmas Tree of £252
- approve the appointment of a cleaner for the VH (to include 1hr / month Telephone Exchange clean)
- approve new burial ground charges as per YB
- approve a grant of £5.000 to the VH from the Parish Council
- approve expenses of £628.55 for Cllr Bush for VH

Proposed Cllr Bailey Seconded Cllr C Bush - all in favour

**12 / 2023 – 16 | Agenda Items for Future Consideration**

VH Yellow Bin

Parish online article, mapping ND to look into.

Metal wheel in pavement, forge

**Meeting closed 21:20pm**

**Date and Time of next meeting | Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 7.00pm | Village Hall**